Exchange Scheme with the University of Washington Seattle, USA

Where is the University of Washington Seattle?
Founded in 1861, the main Seattle campus is located in the University District above Montlake Cut of the Puget Sound region in the Pacific Northwest. Home to over 32,000 undergraduate students and an additional 15,000 postgraduates.

Who can go?
- **Two places** will be made available to York undergraduate students in 2020/21. Priority will be given to History students.
- This will replace your 2-nd year of study at York for credit-replacing programmes (or the 2-/3-nd year of study if you are on a 4 year programme). Please speak to your department about the availability of extended degrees that allow you to take an additional year to study abroad.
- Please consult the [Opportunities by Subject](#) webpage to see if your department is eligible for exchange.

Courses
- Students will be expected to take a minimum of 12 to a maximum of 18 credits per term (x3). However, we do not recommend that students take more than 16 credits to avoid excessive workload.
- Students should consult with their department when creating study plan regarding taking any credits outside of their discipline.
- The course catalogue serves as a general guide to the courses available. However, not all courses may be available in each term and some may be restricted.
- The course catalogue can be accessed here as a guide: [http://www.washington.edu/students/crs_cat/](http://www.washington.edu/students/crs_cat/)

How will my marks be assessed/converted?
- Grade Conversion Tables for each institution will be made available to successful applicants. Grade will only be converted for credit replacement students.
- University of York staff can access Grade Conversion Tables here: [york.ac.uk/students/study-abroad/accepted/#tab-5](http://york.ac.uk/students/study-abroad/accepted/#tab-5)
- Please ensure that you are fully aware of how your grades will be converted on your return to York. Students on additional years will have different arrangements to those on credit-replacing exchange.

Costs
- **Tuition Fees**: Students will pay no tuition fees to Washington and in 2019/20 their University of York fees were reduced to 15% of the full academic fee.
- **Visas**: There are two fees associated with the visa application. The application fee itself is approximately $160. There will also be a $350 (F-1 students) and $220 (J-1 students) SEVIS Fee payable in advance of the
visa application. SEVIS is the US immigration system that tracks foreign and exchange students. You will be advised which visa you have been given by your host university.

- **Medical insurance**: All exchange students on the F-1 or J-1 visas are required to purchase the UW International Student Health Insurance Plan (ISHIP). You are advised to purchase this insurance for the entire year so that you will be covered whether or not you are enrolled each quarter. [https://iss.washington.edu/student-life/health-insurance/](https://iss.washington.edu/student-life/health-insurance/)
- **Additional costs to consider**: flights, accommodation, travel insurance, living costs (food, books, money for additional travel/activities)

### Financial Assistance

- **York Futures Scholarship** new for 2019/20. Support for personal and professional development. Funding of up to £6000 available to students applying to study abroad in 2020/21. There are two rounds of applications for this funding, Autumn Term and Easter Vacation/start of Summer Term. We recommend that you apply for the first round of funding to secure this before you have received confirmation of your study abroad place. For more information please see the following web pages: [york.ac.uk/students/work-volunteering-careers/skills/work-experience/yfs/](http://york.ac.uk/students/work-volunteering-careers/skills/work-experience/yfs/)
- Information on this and other funding can be found on our [Exchange Finances and Funding webpage](http://www.washington.edu/studyabroad/visitingexchange/practical-matters/funding/).

### Visa

*Please be aware that Centre for Global Programmes staff are not qualified to offer consultations or in-depth advice regarding visa applications. Immigration laws are complex and subject to frequent changes. Therefore if you do have any further questions about the process of applying for your visa you will need to contact the appropriate Embassy directly. The information below is intended as guidance only and unless otherwise stated applies only to UK citizens without exceptional circumstances.*

- The International Student Service (ISS) will be the main point of contact for all items relating to visa and maintaining your immigration status at Washington Seattle
- Students will be required to pay a SEVIS fee as well as a visa fee.
- As an exchange student you will enter the US on a J-1 visa and should familiarise yourself with the rules and regulations of this visa category.
- You will be required to go to the US embassy in London (or your home country) in order to process your visa application, which you are responsible for organising.
- International students going on exchange are advised to apply for a US visa in their home country and not in the UK.
- In order to receive a visa you must show that you have sufficient funds available in your bank account, or are able to supply details of a third person who will support you.

### What’s it like to study there?

- This is a new exchange for 2020/21; please contact us if you would like more information about what it is like to study there. You can also read the information on the other USA partners.

### Where will I live?

- Incoming exchange students at the University of Washington are free to make their own housing arrangements.
- Options available include:
  - Homestay; a short-term option where host families support incoming students during a transition period to UW and Seattle
  - Early arrival housing for students who require housing prior to official campus moving in date.
  - On campus housing
  - Off campus housing
- Further information is available on the following web pages:
  - [https://hfs.uw.edu/Live/Undergraduates%E2%80%94Living-on-Campus](https://hfs.uw.edu/Live/Undergraduates%E2%80%94Living-on-Campus)
**Is it the right choice for me?**

- When thinking about choosing your destination for studying abroad please look through the [Considerations Checklist](#) on our web pages.
- This will help you find the best opportunity for your degree and personal circumstances.

**Contact details at Union**

- Your principal source of general advice at Washington Seattle will be Sarah Homer Exchange Program Manager, Email: uwexchanges@uw.edu
- Address: UW Study Abroad, 459 Schmitz Hall, Box 355815, 1410 Campus Parkway, Seattle, WA 98195

**Useful web links**

- Main Washington Seattle Site
- Washington Seattle Information for Exchange students
- American J-1 Visa Application
- Global Graduates
- Foreign Commonwealth Office Advice
- Alternative accommodation site
- Cost of living Comparison Site

*Please note: The websites listed here are not intended to represent a comprehensive list. The Centre for Global Programmes cannot be held responsible for the content of external websites.*

All information included in these guidelines correct at time of printing, November 2019

Students are responsible for researching their own exchanges and making sure that they have considered all costs and the compatibility of the overseas programme to their own degree, in discussion with their departments and supervisors. The Centre for Global Programmes are here to offer support.