

Western Law



Western Law Exchange Fact Sheet

law.uwo.ca/international

2026-2027

About Us

The University of Western Ontario (also known as Western University), established in 1878, is one of the oldest and most beautiful campuses in Canada. Western prides itself on having a strong sense of community and offers exceptional amenities. The Faculty of Law, established in 1959, offers a unique blend of academic study, practical experience, and extracurricular academic activities.

- Program: 3-year Juris Doctor – JD degree
- Number of Western Law students: 570 with 185 admitted annually
- Mean “Last 2” average GPA on admissions: 3.7
- Total number of Western students: approximately 38,000 undergraduate and graduate students. Including more than 4,800 international students from 130 countries.

Application Requirements

Nomination and Application Deadlines

- Applicants must be nominated by their home institution. Nominations occur through an online form, sent to partners in early February. The nomination deadline for Full year, Fall term AND Winter term is **April 15th, 2026**.
- Nominated students will receive a link to an online application. The application deadline is **April 30th, 2026**.
- Students should be in good academic standing, with no failing grades on their transcript.

Language Requirements

Proof of proficiency in English will be required prior to acceptance for all students whose home school instruction is not in English. Please check with your home university's International Office for more details. If required, acceptable test scores are listed below. Other recognized language proficiency tests may also be considered.

- TOEFL: 92 – 95 with no individual score below 20
- IELTS: minimum 6.5 with no individual score below 6.0

Acceptance Information

Acceptance letters and pre-arrival information will be provided directly to students via email by end of May 2026.



Program Dates 2026-2027*

- **Fall Term 2026:** September 9 – December 18, 2026
- **Fall Study Break:** October 12 – October 16, 2025 (no classes)
- **Winter Term 2027:** January 12 - April 23, 2027
- **Winter Study Break:** February 15 – 19, 2026 (no classes)

These dates include the examination period.

**Note – exact term dates are subject to change*



Orientation

All exchange students are required to attend a one-day Western Law exchange orientation the day before term begins. In addition, Fall and Full year students are invited to join in our first-year Law orientation activities happening during the first week of term. Winter term students are invited to participate in the campus-wide international student orientation at the beginning of January.

Fees

Students will pay tuition to their home university. Some supplementary fees are required for visiting exchange students at Western Law.

The fees listed below are approximate and may vary slightly pending budget approval mid-summer 2026.

- \$318 – London Transit bus pass, including special exam shuttles
- \$50 – WesternONE student card fee
- \$25 per term – Western Law Student Legal Society Fee

Health Insurance

While in Canada and registered at Western, all exchange students are required to be enrolled in the University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP). Enrollment will be completed upon arrival. For information about UHIP and what is included in the coverage, please visit: <http://uhip.ca/>

- The UHIP fees for 2025-26 were: \$264 for a four-month term / \$792 for an eight-month academic year

While the UHIP plan covers most doctor visits and hospital costs in Ontario, it does not include any supplemental coverage for services such as prescription medications, dental care, eyeglasses nor most out-of-country expenses. We encourage you to review the health insurance plan details on the UHIP website and strongly recommend purchasing supplemental coverage in addition to the UHIP plan.



Visas

Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) Requirements

The eTA is the Citizenship and Immigration Canada entry requirement. Citizens of all visa-exempt countries (excluding the United States) require an eTA before boarding a plane to Canada.

For more information about the eTA requirement and to apply, please visit: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/visit-canada/eta.html>

Study Permit

Most foreign nationals **studying in Canada for more than six months require a Study Permit**. More information about the Study Permit can be found at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada/study-permit.html>

Course Information

Course Offerings

- The Faculty of Law offers over 100 courses each year. All courses are taught in English.
- Exchange students must enroll in a full-time course load equal to 14 – 16 Western Law credits for one semester, and 29 credits for a full year of study. Students must also ensure they meet the credit minimums set by their home university.
- Courses are usually 2 – 4 credits each.
- Incoming exchange students can only enroll in Law courses and cannot take courses from other Faculties.
- Enrollment in compulsory courses (those required by our students to receive the JD degree) will not be available to visiting exchange students, due to demand from our students.

Courses NOT available are:

- Corporate Law
- Civil Procedure
- Administrative Law
- Legal Ethics & Professionalism
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Indigenous Law



Below is a list of example courses. An official course list will be released in June 2026.

Business & Private Law	Public Law	Advocacy, Procedural, Specialty and Legal Theory
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Commercial & Insolvency▪ Common Law and Equity▪ Intellectual Property & Information Technology▪ International Business▪ Labour & Employment▪ Private International Law▪ Property	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Administrative▪ Constitutional & Human Rights▪ Criminal▪ Family▪ Public International Law▪ Tax	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Competition/Anti-trust▪ Ethics and Professionalism▪ Law, Language and Literature▪ Legal Theory▪ Litigation/Advocacy▪ Research

Course Selection

July 2026: Course selection is completed by students via a secure portal. Courses for the entire 2025/26 academic year are chosen in July, including Fall term, a January intensive course & Winter term. The exam schedule will be included with the course selection materials. Students should plan their departure around their exam schedule.



Housing

Western University cannot guarantee on-campus housing to visiting exchange students for the 2026-27 academic year. We are optimistic that on-campus housing will be available to visiting exchange students, however, students should be prepared for the possibility of having to privately secure off-campus housing. Information about available on-campus housing will be released in June 2026 directly to incoming students.



On-Campus Housing

Information about on-campus residence arrangements may be viewed at: https://residence.uwo.ca/resources/international_exchange_student_guide

- Most exchange students apply to stay in Elgin Hall, a suite style residence.
- Note that all other University residences are primarily occupied by first-year undergraduate students (that is, most residents are 18-19 years of age). Some residences will require the purchase of a meal plan and will have more rules regarding visitors and overnight guests.
- If students have an accessible housing request (medical, mental health or religious), they are encouraged to contact the housing department as soon as they receive their acceptance to Western Law (housing@uwo.ca).

Off-Campus Housing

- Western University is in a residential area with many housing options close to campus. Western's off-campus housing office provides a wide range of services including listings for off-campus housing rentals; average rental prices for various types of accommodation in London; and advice and translation of rental agreements, terms and conditions. Staff are also available to provide personal assistance via email or phone.
- Off campus housing office: <https://offcampus.uwo.ca/>

Campus Facilities

Western Law exchange students will have access to all Western facilities including wellness counselors, health services, libraries, campus internet, and printing facilities (for a fee), academic support, athletic facilities, intramural sports teams, university eateries, and university clubs.

Buddy Program

Western Law facilitates a buddy program through which incoming exchange students are paired with Western Law students. The Western Law students serve as a resource for incoming students before they arrive, answering questions by email, and are a friendly face on campus to welcome exchange students to our campus community.



For more information, contact:

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Website: law.uwo.ca/international

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