

## STUDENT HANDBOOK

2023-2024

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## 1 & 2

#### WHAT IS UMAP?

University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific (UMAP) is a consortium of Higher Education Institutions and partners, collaborating to increase opportunities for study abroad across the Asia Pacific region through a variety of short and long-term in-person and virtual exchange opportunities, as well as Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) experiences.

The 25 members represent countries in and around Central Asia, South Asia, and the Pacific Rim, including East and Southeast Asia, Australia, and North, Central and South America. Since UMAP's founding in 1991, membership across the region has grown steadily. UMAP strives to facilitate greater understanding of member countries' cultures, economies, and societies through collaborative partnerships and increased exchange activities.

#### STUDENT ELIGIBILITY & PARTICIPATION

To participate in UMAP programs, students must be enrolled at a <u>UMAP member institution</u> and their applications must be nominated by that institution. Students of any nationality are eligible to participate in UMAP exchanges as long as they are enrolled in a UMAP member institution. Students from non-member institutions are not eligible for participation.

#### **UMAP PROGRAMS**

UMAP offers semester-long exchange opportunities, as well as short-term programs of one to eight weeks, and virtual programming, including Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) courses, micro-credentials, and virtual research and internship opportunities. The main categories of UMAP programs are:

#### **Program A**

An exchange program through which UMAP participating institutions send and receive up to two students with tuition waivers each semester

#### **Program B**

A negotiated bi-lateral exchange between two institutions that have agreed to exchange more than two students per semester.

#### **Program C**

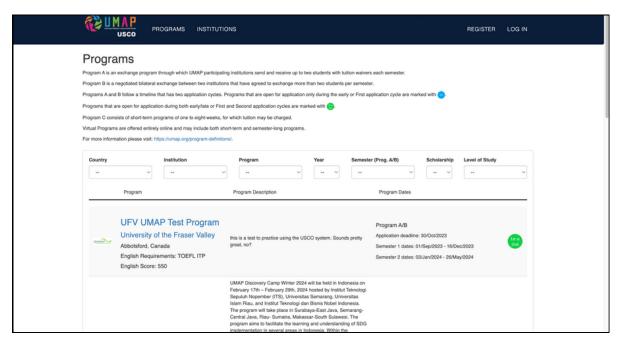
Short-term programs of one to eight weeks, for which tuition may be charged.

#### **Virtual Program**

Virtual programs offered entirely online and may include both shortterm and semester-long programs.

#### **WHAT IS USCO2?**

The UMAP Student Connection Online (USCO) application management platform was introduced in 2019 as a "one-stop-shop" to manage all programs offered by UMAP member institutions, student applications, the application review processes, information sharing, and member networking and communications. It was revised in 2022 as USCO2. In general, the terms USCO and USCO2 will be used interchangeably to refer to the system now in use.

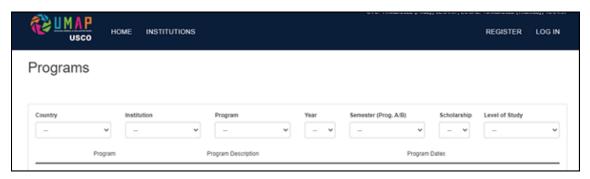


**Good to know!** After you submit an application, your home institution must review it. It is strongly recommended that you contact the UMAP Coordinator at your home institution as you begin the application process. If you are unsure who what is, the International Programs office or an office with a similar title is a good place to start.

#### **GETTING STARTED**

#### **Step 1: Explore Available Programs**

Go to: <a href="https://usco2.umap.org/">https://usco2.umap.org/</a> to find the USCO2 landing page. This is where program offerings are available to search and apply to.

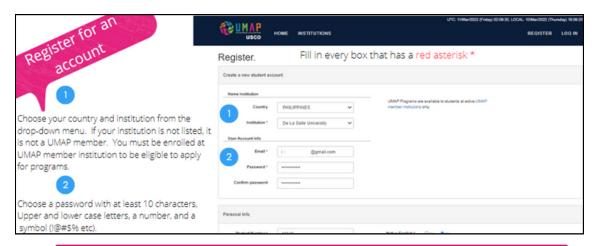


All current and recent program offerings will be available on this page.

#### **Step 2: Register an Account**

When you are ready to log-in and apply to programs, you will first need to register for an account.

**Good to know!** You can register for an account any time, but you can only apply to programs during the designated application period. Please see 'Apply to Programs' below for more information.



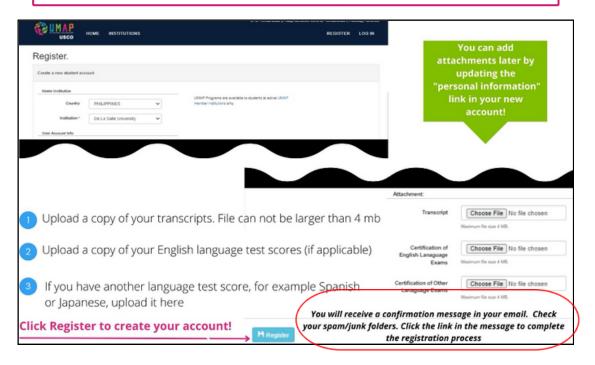
**Good to know!** It works better if you use your Institutional email address to register your account, instead of a Gmail or another general email provider.



The information you use to create an account is your personal information. It will automatically be added to every application. You cannot change the information in most of the fields once it has been saved. You will only be able to change your graduation date and attachments. Please make sure this information is correct before you submit it.

Some fields are required. These will have red asterisks \*. You will not be able to SAVE or SUBMIT your application until all required items are completed.

**Good to know!** It is best to avoid using ALL CAPITAL LETTERS. Use upper and lower case (e.g. John Smith, not JOHN SMITH). Also, make sure that you spell your name/institutional name correctly and in English characters; Special characters and accents such as ä, é, ç, ñ may not input correctly.



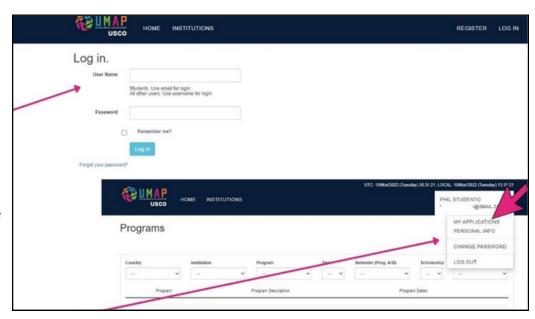
#### Step 3: Confirm your account

Once you have clicked on register your account, you will receive a confirmation message in your email. Check your spam/junk folders if you do not receive it right away in your inbox. Click the link to verify your address and complete the account registration process. **The confirmation link is only good for one hour. If you do not confirm your account in this time, you will have to start over.** Once you have confirmed your account, return to USCO2.umap.org to Log In.

Log in using the email address and password that you used to create your account.

Once logged in, hover your mouse over the box on the upper right corner.

This will show the menu of actions you can take.

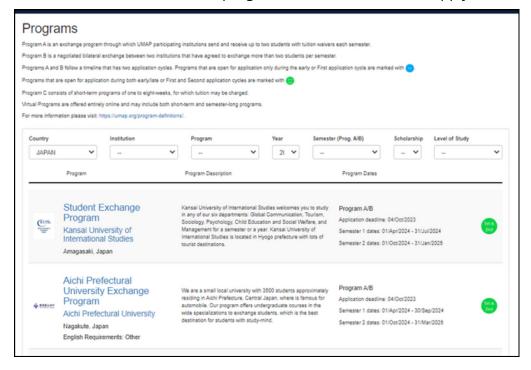


**Good to know!** You can search the Programs page at any time, but you must be logged in to begin the application process.

#### **APPLY TO A PROGRAM**

#### **Step 1:Search Available Programs**

- Use the drop-down menus to filter Program information for programs you are interested in.
- You can filter by Country, Institution, Program, etc. It will work best if you only search for one or two options at one time.
- Program refers to Program type: semester-long exchanges (A/B), short term (C), or Virtual.
- Year refers to the year that the exchange program starts.
- For level of study, you can indicate Undergraduate or Graduate.
- Click on the name of the program to read the details or apply.



#### Step 2: Review details for programs you wish to apply to



Click on othe Institution Name to see the Institutional Profile

Read the Program Description to learn about the program

If you have questions, send a message to the listed Contact person

Look for language proficiency and grade requirements to make sure you are eligible to apply

Program fees will explain how much the program costs

Check out any links for additional useful information

	Facilities and Resources	None
	Scholarships Available:	No
	Scholarship Information	N/A
Program Fees (All values are in USD)	Tuition or Program Fee	\$2750.00
	Average Housing Cost	\$300.00 average per month.
	Local Transportation	\$0.00 average per month. This can include cost of buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation.
	Other Program Fees	\$0.00 excluding tuition. These may include activity, lab imaterials, or other fees.
	Cost of Living	\$0.00 average per month. This can include meals, pocket money, and entertainment.
	Medical Insurance	\$0.00 per month.
	Visa	\$0.00
	Additional Program Information	Students have the option to work on a four to six-week project at a local company to put into practice what they have learnt in class.
Supplementary Links	Program brochure	Link
	FPT Semester Abroad Factsheet	Link
	Semester Abroad Course List - Fall 2023	Link
Program A/B Information	Additional Information	NA
	Required GPA	NA
Program Schedules	1st Semester Start Date:	01/Sep/2023
	1st Semester End Date:	31/Dec/2023
	2nd Semester Dates:	01/Jan/2024
	2nd Semester End Date:	30/Apr/2024
	Credit Transfer	Yes, 3-4 credits per course UCTS Calculator
	Number of Tultion Waved Participants	1
	Additional Number of Students Accepted	30
	Number of Fee Paying Students Accepted	30
	Add to My Applications	

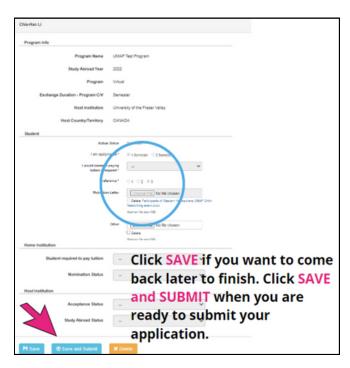
#### **Step 3: Apply to Programs**

After reviewing the program information and confirming with your home institution, you can apply for the program. Click on the blue "Add to My Application" button.

You will not see the blue button if you are trying to apply outside of an official application period. Check the Program A/B timelines for more information about the dates of student application periods: <a href="https://umap.org/timelines/">https://umap.org/timelines/</a>. The application period for Program C or Virtual programs will be listed in the program description.

You can apply for up to **three** Program A/B opportunities each semester. There is no limit to applications for Program C or virtual programs.

**Good to know!** If you are selected for Program A, you will not need to pay tuition. You will still need to pay for travel, local transportation, housing, meals, pocket money, etc. The fees section will outline those costs. If you are applying for Program C or Virtual programs, tuition may also be charged.



On the "Edit Application" Screen, you will need to:

- Choose the length of the program (Program A/B only)
- Select if you are able to pay tuition. You will be required to pay any tuition shown in the fees section for Programs B, C, and Virtual
- For program A/B select your preferred ranking. You can submit up to 3 applications.
  Each must be ranked.
- Upload your Motivation Letter, see below for more information
- The "Other" section can be used to upload any additional documents required by the host institution.

The **Motivation Letter** is optional, but is an important document. Your motivation letter can make you stand out and show your potential host institutions why you are a good fit for their program. The Motivation letter should be approximately one page long and should describe the relevant skills or experience you would bring to the program, why you are interested in their program or subject, and what makes your application special or strong.

**Good to Know!** You cannot make any changes to your application after you have submitted it. Please double check to make sure all the information is complete and correct before you submit.

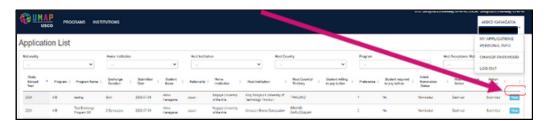
After you submit, your application will be reviewed by the UMAP Coordinator at your home institution. If your application is nominated by your home institution, it will automatically be sent to the host institution coordinator for review.

#### **CHECK APPLICATION STATUS**

After you submit, your application will be reviewed by the UMAP Coordinator at your home institution. If your application is nominated by your home institution, it will automatically be sent to the host institution coordinator for review.

To check the status of your draft or submitted applications: Go to "MY APPLICATIONS."

• Click on the blue View button to open an application.



Check the Home and Host Institution boxes at the bottom to see the status of your application:

#### **HOME INSTITUTION REVIEW STATUSES**

#### In Review

The application has been received and they are reviewing it.

#### **Nominated**

The home institution supports and has endorsed the application.

#### **Declined**

The home institution has declined to support the application.

#### **HOST INSTITUTION REVIEW STATUSES**

#### In Review

The application, has been nominated, and is now eligible for review by ranked institutions.

#### **Selected**

A host institution has selected the application.

#### **Declined**

A host institution has declined the application.

#### Unavailable

An institution has selected an application and lower ranked applications are no longer available for selection.

#### **Pending**

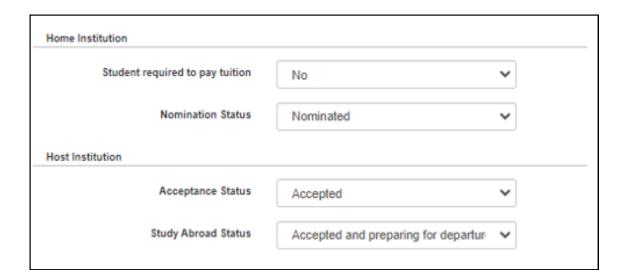
The application has not yet opened for that institution to decide on. This refers to the ranking of programs on the application.

#### **Skipped**

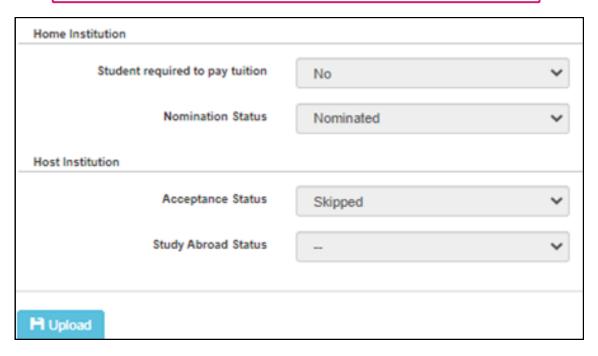
An institution did not make an acceptance decision during their review period and the application passed automatically to the next ranked institution for consideration.

#### **Cancelled**

The application has been withdrawn and is no longer active.



**Good to know!** You can add a document to the "Other" field using the blue Upload button if your host institution requires any additional paperwork.



## 8 & 9 & 10

#### **PERSONAL INFO**

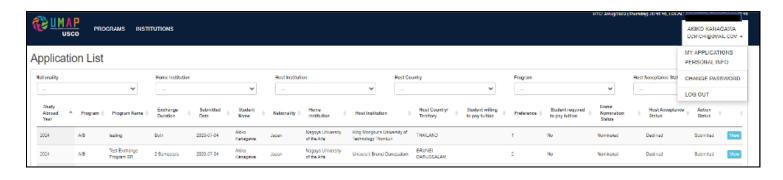
Go to "Personal Info" to add or update your transcripts or language scores.

#### **CHANGE PASSWORD**

Change Password allows you to re-set your password. The new password will require: 10 or more characters, lower case and CAPITAL letters, a number, and a symbol (@#\$%^)

#### **LOGOUT**

Click "Log Out" to exit the USCO2 system.





UMAP.org USCO2.UMAP.org