



BALTIC INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY

LATVIAN REPUBLIC



FACT SHEET

ACADEMIC YEAR
2023/2024

www.bsa.edu.lv

Erasmus CODE/PIC Number: LV RIGA28, PIC number 948816365

4, Lomonosova street, Riga, LV-1003, Latvia

Website: <https://bsa.edu.lv/en/>

Name of the institution	Baltic International Academy	
Address	4, Lomonosova street Riga, LV-1003, Latvia	
Erasmus CODE/ PIC number	LV RIGA28, PIC number 948816365	
University website	https://bsa.edu.lv/en/	
Website for incoming students	https://bsa.edu.lv/index.php/en/international/exchange-under-cooperation-and-bilateral-agreements/560-incoming-exchange.html	
BIA International Affairs Department (IAD) Contact Information		
Ms. Inta Buka	Vice-Rector for International Affairs	inta.buka@bsa.edu.lv tel.:+371 67100203
Ms. Viktorija Petlak	Erasmus+ Coordinator	viktorija.petlak@bsa.edu.lv tel. +371 67100603
Ms. Diana Alekseyeva	Erasmus+ Assistant Coordinator; Manager of Visa and Temporary Residence Permits (TRP) Department	<u>ERASMUS+ issues:</u> erasmus@bsa.edu.lv tel.:+371 67100603 <u>Visa and TRP issues:</u> visa@bsa.edu.lv tel.: +371 67100610
Language of instruction	English, Latvian Depending on the year of study, study program, and level (BA, BSc, MA, MSc, Ph.D.)	
Required language skills	https://bsa.edu.lv/index.php/en/admission/english-language-requirements-for-applicants.html <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – IELTS Academic – 5.5 or Level B2 (minimum 5.5 in all subscores); – TOEFL iBT – 75 (minimum 18 in all subscores); – TOEFL PBT – 540; – TOEL CBT – 205; – Cambridge First Certificate in English (FCE) – 160; – Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (CAE); – Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE): – ECL – Level B2; – Duo Lingo - 100 <p>The Home institution is responsible for checking students' language proficiency. Any written confirmation of English language proficiency is not required unless the student is coming on an exchange program and does not have an international language certificate. In this case, official written confirmation of the student's English language proficiency is required from the Home institution.</p>	

Academic Calendar	Fall Semester 2023/24: September 4, 2023 – January 27, 2024		
	September 4 – September 9	Fall Resit Week	
	September 18 – September 22	Fall International Freshmen Orientation Week	
	September 18	First day of classes for 2nd, 3rd, and 4th-year bachelor's students	
	September 22	First day of classes for all master's, and Ph.D. students	
	September 25	First day of classes for bachelor's freshmen	
	September 29	Last day to register for international freshmen	
	December 16	End of classes in the fall semester	
	December 18 – January 2	Winter Break	
	January 2 - January 27	Winter exam session	
	Spring Semester: February 5, 2024 – June 22, 2024		
	January 29 – February 2	Spring International Freshmen Orientation Week	
	February 6	First day of classes for all bachelor's students	
	February 16	First day of classes for all master's, and Ph.D. students	
	February 20 – February 24	Spring Resit Week	
February 23	Last day to register for international freshmen		
May 25	End of classes in the spring semester		
May 27 – June 22	Summer exam session		
July 1 – August 31	Summer holidays		
Nomination and application deadlines¹		I Semester (September - January)	II Semester (February - July)
	Nomination	June 14	November 15
	Application	July 15	December 16
National and Public holidays	Fall Semester: November 16 – BIA 31 st Anniversary celebration November 18 – 20 - Independence Day December 24 – 26 - Christmas Holidays December 31 - January 1 - New Year's Eve and Day		
	Spring Semester: March 29 – April 1 - Easter Holidays May 1 - Labour Day May 4 – 6 - Independence Restoration Day June 23 – 24 - Midsummer Holidays (Līgo evening and Jāņi)		
Study information / Classes timetable	We will email the certain study program curricula and classes timetable to international and exchange students before classes begin. We will also post this information in the individual students' accounts on our 'My BIA' platform. https://bsa.edu.lv/index.php/en/admission/programmes.html		

¹ Deadline depends on mutual agreement with Partner University.

Course selection	Students should select study courses based on the curricula received, discuss the chosen study courses with Home and Host Universities' representatives of international departments and study programs, taking into account their preferences and opportunity to transfer credit points after the completion of the exchange program or studies.		
Welcome on arrival	Baltic International Academy's International Affairs Department staff will welcome international students by providing them with assistance in registration and accommodation in a student hotel, information materials about the Academy, Riga, and Latvia, and organizing campus and city tours.		
Welcome and Orientation Days	<p>Baltic International Academy's International Affairs Department staff organize Orientation Weeks for all international and exchange students a week before the start of classes.</p> <p>Participation in these weeks is mandatory for all international and exchange students.</p> <p>Programs of these weeks aim at integrating international and exchange students into the study environment, informing them about practical and academic issues, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> practical information (visas and temporary residence permits, ID and student cards, internal rules and regulations, emergency services and health insurance, money and bank services, internet and mobile phones, accommodation, public transport, food and markets, leisure time, etc.); academic issues (study schedule, using the Moodle system and individual accounts, study organization, meetings with study programs management, etc.). 		
Language courses	For interested international and exchange students, the Academy offers the possibility to attend additional Latvian, English, German, or Russian language courses for an additional fee. International and exchange students can also obtain an international language proficiency certificate on a paid basis after successful completion of the language course.		
Grading system	Grade	Grade Definition	Correspondence with ECTS grades
	10	Outstanding	A
	9	Excellent	A
	8	Very good	B
	7	Good	C
	6	Almost good	D
	5	Satisfactory	E
	4	Almost satisfactory - last positive grade	E/FX
	3-1	Unsatisfactory	FAIL
Visa support	The Academy's Visa and Temporary Residence Permits Department supports international and exchange students in applying for a student visa or temporary residence permit by issuing official invitation letters and registration numbers from the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs. International and exchange students should visit the website of the Latvian Consular Departments in their countries to find out about the procedure for registering at the Consular Department, obtaining a visa, and the documents that must be submitted for a successful visa application.		

<p>Cost of living in Riga (monthly expenses: meal, accommodation, etc.)</p>	<p>The cost of accommodation depends on the level of offered amenities and the number of people living in a room, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • basic amenities – around 300 - 350 euros/month; • better living conditions – 400-500 euros/month; • the cost of accommodation in a private flat – approx. 20-30 euros/m2. <p>Meal expenses depend on individual needs, but on average they are approx. 2.5 - 3 euros per lunch and approx. 10 euros per day.</p> <p>Public transport: The cost of a monthly transport card for all types of transport, except for trains, for all days of the month, is 16 euros for students. The price of a single ticket in ticket trade outlets of “Rigas Satiksme”, stalls of Narvessen, and ticket vending machines at bus stops, in the e-shop is 1,15 euros.</p> <p>A single ticket can also be purchased from a driver, but its price will be 2 euros.</p> <p>A time ticket for students – is an hour ticket for any tram, bus, or trolleybus route. The price for students is 30 Eurocents.</p> <p>Additional information is available by the link: https://bsa.edu.lv/index.php/en/international/practical-information/444-public-transport-in-riga.html</p> <p>Personal expenses, incl. entertainment around 150 – 200 euros Utilities and services: at around 100 euros Other useful information is available in the section “Practical Information” of our official website by the link: https://bsa.edu.lv/index.php/en/international/practical-information.html</p>
<p>Accommodation</p>	<p>There are several options for international and exchange students arriving in Riga. International students can live in dormitories, student hotels, or hostels; rent a room or a flat.</p> <p>The Baltic International Academy offers the following student hotels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hotel “DUCK REPUBLIK” • Hotel “PRIMA” • Hotel “TOMO” • Apartments “SHED Co-living Riga” • Hotel “Mavadi” <p>You can also rent a furnished room or a flat for mid to long-term using the Spotahome platform.</p> <p>Additional information: https://bsa.edu.lv/index.php/en/admission/accommodations.html</p>
<p>Health insurance</p>	<p>International students, who enter the territory of Latvia with the purpose to study, must have a valid Health insurance policy, which guarantees that the costs of healthcare services in the Republic of Latvia will be covered. The health insurance policy must be presented to receive a temporary residence permit or visa.</p> <p>Please, take into account that insurance policies not containing necessary information or not fulfilling the indicated requirements of the Latvian Consular Department not be considered, but the absence of a health policy may serve as the ground for denying an entry into Latvia.</p> <p>Additional information: https://bsa.edu.lv/index.php/en/international/practical-information/448-health-insurance-for-incoming-and-outgoing-students-academic-and-administrative-staff.html</p>