INFORMATION ON BACHELOR AND MASTER STUDENT EXCHANGE SELECTION 2022-2023

A total of 423 students applied for Bachelor and Master Exchange for the academic year 2022—2023 (2021: 312, 2020: 303). There were 442 exchange places available in 126 universities around the world. 192 students applied for a Bachelor level exchange and 231 for a Master level exchange (2021: 173 BSc and 139 MSc).

40 applicants applying for MSc exchange had BSc status at the time of application. Applicants had a possibility to select up to 10 exchange preferences in their application.

The most important selection criteria was the so called “success in studies index”. The formula is credits * GPA / present semesters.

Study success index was calculated on the basis of the courses that student has completed during the right to study at BIZ and that have been entered into the Aalto student register by the deadline, the average grade of these studies, and the number of terms student has been enrolled as an attending student.

For students selected for degree studies through Open University Route to a Degree in Economics and Business Administration the study index calculation include also open university route studies (60 ects). And for students selected for degree studies through transfer application: the study index calculation included studies completed before the official study right at Aalto University School of Business, provided that the studies are transferred to the degree and are part of student’s personal study plan (HOPS).

78 applicant’s previous exchange was cancelled due covid-19 pandemic, and they were applying for exchange again. Their study success index were compared to previous index, and better option for student was taken into account. 24 applicant’s new index was better, and 54 applicant’s old index was better.

The ranking of the students was done according to the indexes. After this, language skills and other requirements set by the exchange universities were evaluated.

Applicants who had a grade point average less than 3 were rejected. Also applicant who did not provide requested documents was rejected. Applicant who cannot be granted an extension of the study right on the basis of an exchange, was rejected. Applicants who did not meet the selection criteria or who had a lower index than required for selection in their exchange choices and did not want to be offered any other destination were not placed to any university. A Total of 17 applicants were selected to CEMS programme and were therefore not offered a place in the regular Master exchange programme.

Applicants, who are offered a place at a university that requires TOEFL language test or similar, must take the test and get the score required by the exchange university. Until then, the offered exchange place is conditional. Bachelor students who were selected to Master exchange will also be selected conditionally until they graduate with Bachelor diploma. A few applicants were selected conditionally until they meet the language skills required for the university in question.
Most popular exchange universities according to the first choices in the applications (total number of applicants in parentheses) were:

1. Università Commerciale 'Luigi Bocconi’ di Milano                Italy  43 (150)
2. Universidade Nova de Lisboa
   National University of Singapore
   Portugal  20 (120)
   Singapore  20 (78)
3. LUISS                    Italy  15 (102)
4. Queensland University of Technology
   Keio                      Australia  12 (65)
   Japan  12 (31)
5. Universität St. Gallen
   ESCP Europe
   Universidade Torcuato di Tella
   Switzerland  11 (78)
   France  11 (65)
   Argentina  11 (27)
6. Auckland University of Technology
   University of San Diego
   New-Zealand  10 (60)
   USA  10 (53)

The most popular countries according to the first choices were Italy, Australia and USA. On this application round 58 students applied to Italy as their first preference, to Australia 46 and to USA 38 students.

Places offered:

- Exchange place is offered to 382 applicants (90 % of the applicants)
- 173 applicants are offered a place from their first choice (45 % of the selected applicants)
- 258 applicants are offered a place from their first, second or third choice (67 % of the selected applicants)

39 applicants are offered a place based on the wild card option – the applicants did not get a place from any of the alternatives on their application, but they had marked on the application that they wish to be considered to other exchange universities as well.

All selected students will receive an exchange scholarship. The amount of the scholarship in bilateral destination (ie. destinations outside Europe and outside the Erasmus program) is 1500 euros. In Erasmus countries the minimum amount is 1500 euros. The total amount the scholarship in these destinations depends on the length of the stay (days). All of the scholarships will be paid in two instalments. The payment of the scholarship is dependent on separate requirements. Students will be notified of the requirements later.

All the applicants will receive an email regarding the application result. The exchange place offered can be checked from the application portal: (https://aalto.moveon4.de/form/520dd6ac0f9d309f06000000/eng) (‘offered destination’). Please note that all the selected students will have to either accept or decline the offered destination in the portal by Friday March 11!
In this application round, there were more applications than ever before, and especially the number of master level exchange applications increased. This is probably due to the fact that after two years of a pandemic, life seems to be normalizing. And the exchange aims of many students have been canceled or otherwise postponed last couple of years, so when the exchange is now relevant, a larger number of applicants are already in their master level studies. However, there might still be effects of the pandemic on student mobility, eg. entry restrictions to some countries. Due to Russia’s invasion to Ukraine, Aalto University does not recommend going to Russia for an exchange in 2022-2023, so students who applied to Russia were allowed to change their destination to another option.

Due to the unprecedented number of applicants, the sufficiency of the exchange places was put to the test. Most of the places that were not filled required specific requirements or were places that are currently considered insecure. Also noteworthy in this application round was the fact that the autumn seats in the popular destinations were not allocated because there were no applicants for the autumn (for example, NUS Singapore).

As a result, the second round application will not take place in March this year, as there are not much places to apply, and schedule does not allow to open fall term places. If the situation allows, a second round application will be held in early autumn, if possible. We encourage everyone who was offered a place to be open-minded about the place offered, even if it is not destination of their dreams. Before rejecting the place offered, we strongly recommend that you read travel reports written by students who have previously been in the same university. After a couple of difficult years - also in terms of student exchange - every exchange destination is a great opportunity.

Students who accept the offer will receive acceptance letter later by email.

If you have any questions, please contact

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