

# Information Sheet - Virtual Student Exchange Programs

2025-26 School Year



## What is a student exchange?

These educational experiences are facilitated by Education and Childcare's Student Exchange Programs. An Alberta student will be paired with a student from a region where their target language of study is spoken.

The students will participate in on-line meetings twice per week over a period of six weeks.

Exchange partners will take turns hosting meetings and discussing a variety of topics provided by the exchange coordinator and self-chosen topics.

Exchange Country	Program Dates
Japan	November 3 – December 14, 2025
Ukraine	November 3 – December 14, 2025
Italy	February 2 – March 15, 2026
Quebec	February 2 – March 15, 2026
Spain	February 20 – April 3, 2026
Germany	April 13 – May 22, 2026

"I enjoyed talking to my partner every week and getting to know her family as well. I learned a lot about Germany and improved my language skills through our meetings."

## Cost

There are no costs associated with applying to and participating in the virtual exchange.

## Eligibility

Grade 9 – 12 students studying French, German, Italian, Spanish or Ukrainian and Grade 10 – 12 students studying Japanese are eligible to apply.

For more information, go to: [www.studyabroad.alberta.ca](http://www.studyabroad.alberta.ca)

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Classification: Public

Students must be recommended by their language teachers based on language proficiency, academic standing and personal qualities such as maturity and openness to other cultures. Although some students with lower proficiency may apply, we are happy to have eager applicants.

"I enjoyed the student-led nature of the exchange. I loved meeting my partner and becoming friends; we even cooked together online! I was really able to improve my Japanese."

## Benefits

Virtual exchanges provide valuable personal and academic experiences to students, such as:

- Structured meetings with an exchange partner that allows the student to develop and showcase their language skills;
- Flexibility in scheduling virtual meetings that allows the student to continue athletic or academic extra-curricular activities without interruption;
- Opportunities for developing inter-cultural awareness and appreciation through discussions with exchange partners;
- Building leadership and career skills through preparation and hosting on-line meetings;
- A cost-free way to continue language and cultural development; and
- Preparation for an in-person study abroad experience at a later point in the students' education.

## Applications

For more information, speak with your language teacher or



visit <https://www.alberta.ca/student-and-educator-exchange-programs>.

Interested students must ensure that their application is emailed to [studyabroad@gov.ab.ca](mailto:studyabroad@gov.ab.ca) by the deadline listed on the virtual student exchange guidelines posted on the web link provided above. Application instructions and forms are available on-line.

## Contact

Education and Childcare  
International Education Services  
Student Exchange Programs  
Phone: 403-297-5896

E-mail: [studyabroad@gov.ab.ca](mailto:studyabroad@gov.ab.ca)

Website: <https://www.alberta.ca/student-and-educator-exchange-programs>.

