



UNIVERSIDAD TECNICA
FEDERICO SANTA MARIA

Dirección de Asuntos Internacionales

| Valid for the calendar year: | 2026 |
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| General information about the university (Location, Number of students, Faculties) | Location: Chile, 5 campus Founded: 1931 Type of institution: Private non-profit university, member of the Chilean Universities President Council (CRUCH) Accreditation: 6 years (2022–2028), granted by CNA-Chile Students: ~21,000 undergraduate and ~3,000 postgraduate Programs: 74 undergraduate and 30 postgraduate programs Main Areas of Study: Engineering, Architecture, Business, and Sciences The USM is widely recognized for its excellence in science and technology education. |
| Website | Universidad Técnica Federico Santa María (usm.cl) |
| Our Campuses and programs | <ol style="list-style-type: none">Valparaíso – Main Campus: Architecture, Electronics, Industrial Eng., Informatics, Business, Mechanical Eng., Metal and Materials Eng., Chemical and Environmental Eng., Mathematics, Civil Engineering, Chemistry and Physics.Santiago – Campus San Joaquin: Architecture, Electronics, Informatics, Mechanical Eng., Metal and Materials Eng., Chemical and Environmental Eng., Mathematics, Civil Engineering, Chemistry and Physics.Santiago – Campus Vitacura: Comercial Aviation, Business, Industrial Eng.Sede Viña del Mar: Technical, applied science and engineering programsSede Concepción: Technical, applied science and engineering programs |
| Director of International Affairs Name Title Address Phone E-mail address | Lydia DroegeMueller Director of International Affairs Avenida España 1680, Valparaíso, Chile (56) 32 265 4511 lydia.droegeMueller@usm.cl |
| Contact for outgoing exchange students Name Title Address Phone E-mail address | Karin Schwerter Outgoing Exchange Coordinator Av. Vicuña Mackenna 3939, San Joaquin, Santiago, Chile +56 2 23037024 intercambio.saliente@usm.cl |
| Contact for incoming exchange students Name Title Address Phone E-mail address | Paz Aranibar Sánchez Incoming Exchange Coordinator Av. España 1680, Valparaíso, Chile +56 32 2654717 incoming@usm.cl |
| Website for exchange students | Exchange at the USM |



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| Website for course offering | Academic Offer at the USM Note: while a very small selection of courses may be offered in English, our official language of instruction is Spanish |
| Is it possible to take courses from different areas of study? | Yes. Students may take courses from different departments, provided they meet the prerequisites for each course. However, they should focus their studies at a single USM campus. Note: Exceptions are allowed only when combining courses between: a. Viña del Mar + Valparaíso campuses, or b. Santiago campuses (San Joaquín + Vitacura) In these cases, students should factor in local transportation time. |
| Course offering: Language course | A two-week (50 hours) Spanish intensive course is offered before the beginning of each semester. An additional fee applies as this course is not part of the regular academic offer. Also, multiple levels of Spanish courses are offered for foreign students as part of the regular academic offer during each semester. Some courses in other languages are also offered; see academic offer for details. |
| Full time studies per semester | Exchange students taking courses must take a minimum of 15 SCT credits per semester, with a recommended maximum of 30 SCT credits. |
| Website for application process | Application for exchange at the USM - Chile |
| Semester Dates | Semester 1-2026: March – July Semester 2-2026: August – December |
| Nomination Deadline | Nomination deadlines for Exchange at USM Please send nominations to: incoming@usm.cl |
| Application deadline(s) | Application deadlines for Exchange at USM |
| Language requirements for undergraduate and graduate students. | Every non-native Spanish speaker should have a minimum of 3 semesters of college-level Spanish before beginning regular classes at the USM. A Language Requirement Form is requested for non-native Spanish speakers, which must be signed by the student and a representative from the Spanish department at their university. Alternatively, Spanish level can be certified by an international proficiency test certificate (DELE, SIELE or CELU). For both options a minimum of B1 (CEFR) Spanish level is requested. Applicants with A2 level of Spanish at the time of application will be exceptionally admitted only if participating in the pre-semester Spanish intensive course. |
| Housing assistance | Students must find their own housing. We have some suggestions on our website, and student tutors are available to assist in this search. |
| Website for housing | About Chile Check in Accommodation. |
| Insurance information | Students must provide proof of international medical insurance, valid for the duration of their stay at the university, in their application. |
| Visa information | Visa requirement for Chile Visa requirements differ depending on nationality and duration of stay in Chile. We request all students who apply for a temporary visa to send us their application number after the request is submitted. |