



UNIVERSIDAD TECNICA FEDERICO SANTA MARIA

Dirección de Asuntos Internacionales

Valid for the calendar year:	2026
General information about the university (Location, Number of students, Faculties)	<p>Location: Chile, 5 campus</p> <p>Founded: 1931</p> <p>Type of institution: Private non-profit university, member of the Chilean Universities President Council (CRUCH)</p> <p>Accreditation: 6 years (2022–2028), granted by CNA-Chile</p> <p>Students: ~21,000 undergraduate and ~3,000 postgraduate</p> <p>Programs: 74 undergraduate and 30 postgraduate programs</p> <p>Main Areas of Study: Engineering, Architecture, Business, and Sciences</p> <p>The USM is widely recognized for its excellence in science and technology education.</p>
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 Joaquín: 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 programs Sede 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 Joaquín, 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.