



Francis Marion University – Practical Information



Founded in 1970 in Florence, South Carolina, Francis Marion University consists of three schools: the School of Business, School of Education, and School of Health Sciences. Home to 4000 students from 36 states and 16 foreign countries, the University is committed to providing an intimate yet diverse learning environment. The 470-acre campus—originally a plantation—is located 12 kilometres from downtown Florence.

Website

<http://www.fmarion.edu/>

Contact

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Application Deadlines

- Fall semester (September – December): Application must be completed between February and April
- Spring semester (January – May): Must be completed between September and November

For application and additional forms, see:

<http://www.fmarion.edu/academics/exchangestudents>

For academic calendar, see: <http://www.fmarion.edu/calendar/academiccalendar>

Courses

Incoming exchange students must maintain full-time status, which means enrolling in at least four 3-credit courses. To view course handbooks, see:

<http://www.fmarion.edu/enrollment/swampfox> (or, on the main website, click on the “Quick links” scroll-down menu, then click “Swampfox for Students”) It is a good idea to select a few alternative courses, in case your first choices are already filled.

Housing

FMU provides on-campus housing for exchange students. Forest Villas apartments are four-bedroom suites with one kitchen/common area and laundry facilities. Bedrooms have a desk and chair, wardrobe, and closet. On-campus housing costs approximately \$3000 per semester. For more information, see: <http://www.fmuhousing.com/>

If you do not wish to cook your own meals, FMU offers several meal plans, the most comprehensive of which includes 19 meals per week. These plans range from \$425 - \$1725 per semester. For more information, see: <https://fmarion.campusdish.com/>

Visa and Travel Information

Exchange students are required to obtain a J-1 Visa in order to study in the United States. For more detailed information, see: <https://www.internationalstudent.com/>

For United States travel advice and advisories, see:
<https://travel.gc.ca/destinations/united-states>

Insurance

Exchange students must submit to FMU proof of personal health insurance that will be valid during their time in the USA. Some students may be eligible for an insurance plan that has been pre-negotiated by FMU. For more information, see:
<http://www.fmarion.edu/academics/exchangestudents>

Cost of Living in Florence (American Dollar)

Restaurants	
Meal (inexpensive restaurant)	\$12.50
Meal for 2 (mid-range restaurant, three-course)	\$45
McDonalds combo	\$6.50
Markets	
Milk (1 litre)	\$0.85
Loaf of bread (500g)	\$2
Rice (1kg)	\$4
Eggs (12)	\$2.70
Local cheese (1kg)	\$7.80
Chicken breasts (1kg)	\$7
Beef Round (1kg)	\$13
Apples (1kg)	\$5
Potato (1 kg)	\$3
Transportation	
One-way ticket (local transport)	\$2
Monthly pass	\$27

Other

Student Handbook: <http://www.fmarion.edu/students/handbook>