



# BALTIC INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY

LATVIAN REPUBLIC



# FACT SHEET

ACADEMIC YEAR  
2024/2025

[www.bsa.edu.lv](http://www.bsa.edu.lv)

**Erasmus CODE/PIC Number: LV RIGA28, PIC number 948816365**

**4, Valeria Seile Street, Riga, LV-1003, Latvia**

**Website: <https://bsa.edu.lv/en/>**


<b>Name of the institution</b>	Baltic International Academy	
<b>Address</b>	4, Valeria Seile Street Riga, LV-1003, Latvia	
<b>Erasmus CODE/ PIC number</b>	LV RIGA28, PIC number 948816365	
<b>University website</b>	<a href="https://bsa.edu.lv/en/">https://bsa.edu.lv/en/</a>	
<b>Website for incoming students</b>	<a href="https://bsa.edu.lv/index.php/en/international/exchange-under-cooperation-and-bilateral-agreements/560-incoming-exchange.html">https://bsa.edu.lv/index.php/en/international/exchange-under-cooperation-and-bilateral-agreements/560-incoming-exchange.html</a>	
<b>BIA International Affairs Department (IAD) Contact Information</b>		
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<b>Ms. Viktorija Petlak</b>	Erasmus+ Coordinator	<a href="mailto:viktorija.petlak@bsa.edu.lv">viktorija.petlak@bsa.edu.lv</a> tel. +371 67100603
<b>Ms. Anzhelika Bula</b>	Erasmus+ Assistant Coordinator	<b><u>ERASMUS+ issues:</u></b> <a href="mailto:erasmus@bsa.edu.lv">erasmus@bsa.edu.lv</a> tel.:+371 67100603
<b>Ms. Diana Cibisova</b>	Manager of Visa and Temporary Residence Permits (TRP) Department	<b><u>Visa and TRP issues:</u></b> <a href="mailto:visa@bsa.edu.lv">visa@bsa.edu.lv</a> tel.: +371 67100610
<b>Language of instruction</b>	English, Latvian Depending on the study year, program and cycle (BA, BSc, MA, MSc, PhD)	
<b>Required language skills</b>	<p><a href="https://bsa.edu.lv/index.php/en/admission/english-language-requirements-for-applicants.html">https://bsa.edu.lv/index.php/en/admission/english-language-requirements-for-applicants.html</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- IELTS Academic – 5.5 or Level B2 (minimum 5.5 in all subscores);</li> <li>- TOEFL iBT – 75 (minimum 18 in all subscores);</li> <li>- TOEFL PBT – 540;</li> <li>- TOEL CBT – 205;</li> <li>- Cambridge First Certificate in English (FCE) – 160;</li> <li>- Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (CAE);</li> <li>- Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE):</li> <li>- ECL – Level B2;</li> <li>- Duo Lingo - 100</li> </ul> <p>The Home Institution is responsible for verifying the student's language proficiency. Written evidence of English language proficiency is not required unless the student is coming on an exchange programme and does not have an international language certificate. In this case, official written confirmation of the student's English language proficiency is required from the Home Institution.</p>	

<b>Academic Calendar</b>	<b>Fall Semester 2024/25: September 2, 2024 – February 8, 2025</b>		
	September 16 – September 20	<b>Fall International Freshmen Orientation Week</b>	
	September 16	First day of classes for 2nd, 3rd, and 4th-year bachelor's students	
	September 20	First day of classes for all master's, and PhD students	
	September 23	First day of classes for bachelor's freshmen	
	October 11	Last day to register for international freshmen	
	December 21	End of classes in the fall semester	
	January 6 – February 1	Winter exam session	
	February 3 – February 8	Winter vacation	
	<b>Spring Semester: February 10, 2025 – June 30, 2025</b>		
	January 27 – January 31	<b>Spring International Freshmen Orientation Week</b>	
	February 10	First day of classes for all bachelor's students	
	February 14	First day of classes for all master's and PhD students	
	March 14	Last day to register for international freshmen	
	May 31	End of classes in the spring semester	
June 2 – June 30	Summer exam session		
July 1 – August 31	Summer vacation		
<b>Nomination and application deadlines<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>II Semester 2024/25 (February - July)</b>	<b>I Semester 2025/26 (September - January)</b>
	<b>Nomination</b>	November 15	<b>June 13</b>
	<b>Application</b>	December 13	<b>July 18</b>
<b>National and Public holidays</b>	<b>Fall Semester:</b>		
	November 16 – BIA 32 <sup>nd</sup> Anniversary celebration November 18 – Independence Day December 23 – January 4 - Christmas Holidays and New Year's Eve and Day		
	<b>Spring Semester:</b>		
	April 18 – 21 - Easter Holidays May 1 – 5 - Labour Day and Independence Restoration Day June 23 – 24 - Midsummer Holidays (Līgo evening and Jāņi)		
<b>Study information / Classes timetable</b>	We will email international and exchange students the study program curriculum and class schedules before the beginning of classes. We will also post this information in each student's account on our "My BIA" platform <a href="https://bsa.edu.lv/index.php/en/studies/lecture-schedule.html">https://bsa.edu.lv/index.php/en/studies/lecture-schedule.html</a> .		

<sup>1</sup> Deadline depends on mutual agreement with Partner University.

<b>Course selection</b>	Students should select courses based on the curriculum they receive and discuss their choices with representatives of the international departments and programs at the Home and Host universities based on their preferences and the possibility of transferring credits upon completion of the exchange program or studies.		
<b>Welcome on arrival</b>	The International Affairs Department staff will welcome international students by assisting with registration and accommodation in a student hotel, providing information about the Academy, Riga and Latvia and organising campus and city tours.		
<b>Welcome and Orientation Days</b>	<p>The International Affairs Department staff organises Orientation Weeks for all international full-time and exchange students a week before the beginning of classes.</p> <p><b>Participation in these weeks is mandatory for all international students.</b></p> <p>The programs of these weeks aim to integrate international students into the study environment and to inform them about practical and academic issues, such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Practical information (visas and temporary residence permits, identity cards and student cards, internal rules and regulations, emergency services and health insurance, money and banking services, internet and mobile phones, accommodation, public transport, food and markets, leisure activities, etc.);</li> <li>- Academic issues (study schedule, Moodle system and individual accounts, study organisation, meetings with program directors, etc.).</li> </ul>		
<b>Language courses</b>	For interested international students, the Academy offers the possibility to attend additional language courses for an extra fee. International students can also obtain an international language proficiency certificate on a paid basis after completing the language course.		
<b>Grading system</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Grade Definition</b>	<b>Correspondence with ECTS grades</b>
	10	Outstanding	A
	9	Excellent	A
	8	Very good	B
	7	Good	C
	6	Almost good	D
	5	Satisfactory	E
	4	Almost satisfactory	E/FX
		- last positive grade	
	3-1	Unsatisfactory	FAIL
<b>Visa support</b>	<p>The Academy's Visa Department assists international students in applying for student visas or temporary residence permits by issuing official letters of invitation and registration numbers from the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs.</p> <p>We advise our international students to visit the websites of Latvian Consular Departments in their Home countries for information on how to make an appointment at a Consular Department, how to obtain a visa and what documents are required for a successful visa application.</p>		



<p><b>Cost of living in Riga</b> (Monthly expenses: meals, accommodation, etc.)</p>	<p>The cost of accommodation depends on the level of offered amenities and the number of people living in a room, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• basic amenities – around 300 - 350 euros/month;</li><li>• better living conditions – 400-500 euros/month;</li><li>• the cost of accommodation in a private flat – approx. 20-30 euros/m<sup>2</sup>.</li></ul> <p><b>Meal expenses</b> depend on individual needs, but on average, they are approx. 2.5 - 3 euros per lunch and approx. 10 euros per day.</p> <p><b>Public transport:</b> The cost of a monthly transport card for all types of transport, except for trains, for all days of the month, is 16 euros for students. Students can purchase a monthly pass that costs 15 euros only at Riga Satiksme service centres upon presentation of a valid ISIC card and proof of student status from the Academy. The most convenient way is to use a Code Pass, which international students can purchase and download via a mobile application, or a Time Pass, which allows you to get to and from your destination within 90 minutes.</p> <p>A 90-minute pass costs 1 euro and 50 cents, and a one-day pass costs 5 euros.</p> <p>Information on pass types, prices, conditions of use, and purchasing, including interactive maps and schedules, is available on the Riga Satiksme website by scanning this QR code.</p>  A square QR code with a small black silhouette of a duck in the center, used for scanning to access public transport information. <p><b>Personal expenses</b>, incl. entertainment around 150 – 200 euros</p> <p><b>Utilities and services:</b> at around 100 euros</p> <p><b>Other useful information</b> is available in the “Practical Information” section of our official website <a href="https://bsa.edu.lv/index.php/en/international/practical-information.html">https://bsa.edu.lv/index.php/en/international/practical-information.html</a>.</p>
<p><b>Accommodation</b></p>	<p>There are several options for international students arriving in Riga. International students can live in dormitories, student hotels, or hostels; rent a room or a flat.</p> <p>The Baltic International Academy offers the following student hotels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hotel “DUCK REPUBLIK”</li><li>• Hotel “PRIMA”</li><li>• Hotel “TOMO”</li><li>• Apartments “SHED Co-living Riga”</li><li>• Hotel “Mavadi”</li></ul> <p>Students can also rent a furnished room or a flat for the mid to long-term using the Spothome platform.</p> <p>Additional information is available at <a href="https://bsa.edu.lv/index.php/en/admission/accommodations.html">https://bsa.edu.lv/index.php/en/admission/accommodations.html</a>.</p>



### Health insurance

International students coming to Latvia to study must have a valid health insurance policy that covers health services in Latvia. International students must provide their health insurance when applying for a visa.

Please note that Latvian Consular Departments will not consider insurance policies that do not contain the required information or do not meet the specified requirements. Lack of health insurance may be a reason for refusal of entry to Latvia.

For further information, please visit <https://bsa.edu.lv/index.php/en/international/practical-information/448-health-insurance-for-incoming-and-outgoing-students-academic-and-administrative-staff.html>.