

The differences between ISEP Exchange and ISEP Direct

	ISEP Exchange		ISEP Direct	
Description	Around 100 universities in approximately 50 different countries participate in the ISEP Exchange program. As part of this program, students from the University of Freiburg receive a financial aid to cover some of their costs, such as accommodation on campus, meals and enrolment fees.		Around sixty universities worldwide participate in the ISEP Direct program. Under this program, students pay the full registration and tuition fees.	
Unifr conditions	- You must have paid your registration fee and be enrolled at Unifr. * ** - You must have obtained at least 60 ECTS credits by the time your mobility placement starts and fulfils the conditions of your faculty. - You must have the consent of your mobility coordinator/academic advisor. - You must have sufficient language skills. Please refer to the host universities' terms and conditions. - Please note that ISEP requires you to have a TOEFL certificate to optimise your eligibility for as many English-speaking universities as possible. Make sure you have this certificate by the end of January or mid-August. - You must meet the specific requirements of the ISEP universities (choose 'More filters and tick 'ISEP Exchange' or 'ISEP Direct').			
	* You will be exempt from paying registration fees at your host university.		** You will also need to pay the registration fee to the host university.	
ISEP selection	The number of places is limited. You cannot be certain that you will be selected for your first-choice university. Select seven to ten universities and ISEP will allocate you a place according to the number of places available and your academic requirements. Further information about the chances of placement .		If you meet the academic requirements and are selected by the International Relations Office, there is an excellent chance that you will be placed at your chosen university.	
Unifr application deadlines	For the autumn semester of the following academic year:	For the spring semester of the following academic year:	For the autumn semester of the following academic year:	For the spring semester of the following academic year:
	31 October: Submit your mobility application online to the International Relations Office. Early December: You will receive notification from the IRO as to whether you have been selected.			

Application to Unifr	1. Visit the ISEP website and use the ISEP search engine to find partner universities that offer courses in your field of study. 2. Browse the courses on offer at partner universities on their website. Ensure that they are comparable to those at Fribourg. 3. Go to the “Mobility – Outgoing” tab on the MyUnifr portal to find out about the different steps you need to take before submitting a mobility application. 4. Collect all the requested documents and complete the online mobility application form. 5. Get your academic advisor to sign the application and upload it to your MyUnifr portal . 6. The IRO will check your application.			
ISEP application deadlines	15 February for the autumn semester of the following academic year April: reply from ISEP concerning your placement at the host university	15 August for the spring semester of the following academic year October: reply from ISEP regarding placement at the host university	15 February: submission online of applications on the ISEP website. The ISEP Direct reply deadlines vary from university to university.	15 August: submission online of applications on the ISEP website. The ISEP Direct reply deadlines vary from university to university.
ISEP application	If you have been selected for the ISEP program, the IRO will send you instructions about your ISEP application. 1. Create an account on the ISEP website to begin your online ISEP application. 2. Once the ISEP coordinator at Unifr has approved your request to start an application, you can submit your application online (see deadlines above). 3. After submitting your application on the ISEP site, the IRO will check it and validate it, if it is complete. 4. ISEP will email you instructions on the steps to follow. You will be informed of your placement directly by ISEP. Further information about the different steps in the ISEP application and placement process is available on the ISEP website.			
Registration fees	Pay your registration fee to Unifr. You are exempt from registration fees at the host university.		Pay registration fees to Unifr and the host university.	
Mobility costs and subsidy	1. ISEP registration fee: USD 100 payable to ISEP at registration – non-refundable fee. 2. ISEP placement fee: USD 495 payable to ISEP upon placement at a university - non-refundable fee. These taxes (registration and placement) will not be refunded in case of cancellation. Further information on ISEP fees You must take out obligatory ISEP health insurance before your departure. Allow for around USD 100 per month. Plan your budget			
	3. Contribution to the ISEP program: Billed costs per semester: CHF 4,500.-. The actual cost ranges between CHF 9,000.- to CHF 12'000.- but you will receive a Unifr subsidy, the amount of which is calculated every year. These costs will be billed to you before your departure and include accommodation on the university campus, meals, and info sessions, etc. Click here for further information on the ISEP website	University costs depend on the individual ISEP university and must be paid in full by the student (there is no subsidy from Unifr). These costs include the host university's registration fee, as well as accommodation, meals, etc. For more information, please consult the website of the relevant ISEP Direct university using the Isep Program Finder (search engine ISEP). Please note that some universities may bill you for additional costs. Click here for further information on the ISEP website .		

Support included in the programme	ISEP Exchange support	ISEP Direct support
Useful information	United States: the academic year is divided into semesters or trimesters, starting in late August or early September and ending in late May. Southern hemisphere countries: the 1st semester starts in February/March, the 2nd semester in July/August.	

IRO/July 2026