

Dear Partner,

I hope you are well and your semester is going well.

I am going to send out the 'Nominations are open' email later this week but we have an important update below regarding our College of Engineering of Physical Sciences (EPS) for 2026/27 that I wanted to communicate with you separately - please read through the information and let us know if you have any questions:

College of Engineering and Physical Sciences (EPS) for 2026/27

The courses taught by all schools within our College of Engineering and Physical Sciences (EPS) are open to full year study abroad and exchange (SAE) students.

The courses in the following schools within EPS are **not open to one semester SAE students:**

- **Chemical Engineering**
- **Chemistry**
- **Mathematics**
- **Physics and Astronomy**

The courses in the following schools **are open to one semester SAE students, but we recommend nominating them for the second (spring) semester:**

- **Computer Science**
- **Engineering (Civil, Electrical and Mechanical)**
- **Metallurgy and Materials**

First (autumn) semester only students in these three schools, will be subject to the special arrangements for their assessments. The schools will not be offering alternative assessments that previously had taken place in December, before the students returned home for the Christmas break.

In the 2026/27 academic year, our first (autumn) semester ends on 11 December, and the examination period will take place during the first weeks of January 2027. If students need to transfer credits back to their home institution from these three schools' courses studied in the first semester before January 2027, the following options are available:

Option A: Students may remain in Birmingham to sit the January 2027 examination period, provided their selected courses include exams scheduled at that time. Please note that students will need to arrange their own accommodation, as first semester housing contracts typically end a few days after the semester finishes in December. For the first semester courses assessed during the May–June 2027 exam period, Option B will apply.

Option B: Students may arrange for their first semester exams to be invigilated at their home university during either the January or May–June 2027 assessment periods. Examinations must be taken on the same dates as those scheduled for the University of Birmingham students. The EPS will provide and mark the examination papers, which will be identical to those taken in Birmingham. We are happy to collaborate with our partners to ensure the smooth delivery of this process.

If a student can only attend one of these three schools for the first (autumn) semester due to a fixed study plan, please inform us so that we can notify EPS in advance. We will also communicate directly with the student prior to their arrival to ensure they fully understand the special examination arrangements outlined above.

Please note that it is the student's responsibility to communicate with and obtain approval from the relevant office or department at their home university if they wish to have their assessments invigilated there.

Thank you for your time.

Kind regards,

Neil Driscoll (pronouns He/Him)

Global Partnerships Coordinator (Incoming Exchanges International)

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For the most up-to-date-information, visit: www.birmingham.ac.uk

If you are an incoming study abroad fee-paying student, incoming exchange student or a colleague from one of our partner universities, you can speak to one of our team by joining our weekly Zoom sessions:

Monday 15:00 UK time: <https://bham-ac-uk.zoom.us/j/89090619360>

Wednesday 10:00 UK time: <https://bham-ac-uk.zoom.us/j/85155393392>