During the holiday season, the University of Amsterdam (UvA) is closed from Tuesday, 24 December 2019 up till and including Wednesday, 1 January. On Thursday, 2 January, we’re there to answer your questions.

We wish you happy holidays and a successful and happy New Year!
Pick-up service

On Wednesday, 29 January 2020, between 07:00 and 15:00, the UvA offers new international students a free pick-up service from Amsterdam Schiphol Airport, also for students arriving by train.

- The shuttle bus will take you to the university to have an all-inclusive Start appointment.
- If you are renting with De Key or DUWO, you will also collect your key.
- Please sign up now for this Pick-up service (available beginning of December), and check the video for an impression of your arrival at the UvA.

Sign up ➔
Start appointment

To ensure a smooth start in Amsterdam, all international students are invited for a Start appointment to get help with University and government formalities.

Book your Start appointment now

Insurance

You are required by law to have appropriate health insurance for the duration of your stay in the Netherlands. If you do not have insurance, you risk having to pay a penalty. You may also receive a notice from the Dutch government organization CAK Netherlands Healthcare Institute that you are not insured and will be fined, even if you have already arranged insurance for your stay in the Netherlands, through e.g. AON or EHIC. When you get this letter (in Dutch) you always have to act. Read how to appeal against this letter on our Insurance website.

Read more on uva.nl/insurance

Tuition fees
The tuition fees must be taken care of before 1 February 2020. You can either pay the whole amount at once, or authorise the UvA to debit your tuition fees in monthly instalments.

For this option, you will need a bank account from within the SEPA territory. If you wish to pay in instalments, but do not have such a bank account, the UvA will help you set up a Dutch bank account.

Read more on uva.nl/tuitionfees →

IND study monitoring

You will have a residence permit which is valid for the duration of your studies. By law, you are allowed to keep this residence permit when you obtain at least 50% of the required credits for each academic year. The UvA therefore needs to check your progress and report this to the IND.

If you do not obtain the 50% threshold, the IND will cancel your residence permit. This does not apply to Premaster’s students. A Premaster’s programme has to be completed within one or two semesters and a residence permit for a Premaster’s programme cannot be extended.

We will inform you on this progress and any steps you may need to take later in the year. You can find more info on the IND website.
Expect to spend about €900-€1,500 a month on living expenses in Amsterdam or surroundings (tuition fees not included). For a rough breakdown, go to the link below.

Make sure you can cover all your expenses before you come to Amsterdam, because it’s not easy to find additional funding once you’ve arrived. Most scholarships, for instance, have to be applied for while you’re still in your home country.
Student finance

You might be eligible for student finance from the Dutch government. Whether you qualify for student finance depends on your age, course and nationality or residency status. It’s worth your while to check your eligibility.

DUO website about Student finance →

University Sports Centre

Futsal, boxing, bouldering, martial arts, water polo: the University Sports Centre (USC) offers more than 80 sports at discount rates for students. The main building Universum has a large gym, a climbing wall, squash courts and other facilities.

Go to the USC →
Dutch weather

If you want to see the weather forecast for the Netherlands, there are, of course, many websites you can check. One specific website on a typical Dutch phenomenon, namely rain, is very useful. The website Buienradar (meaning: Rain radar) tells you where and when you can expect rain.