



STUDENT GUIDE TO **BELGIUM**

STUDY ABROAD REFERENCE · 2026/27 INTAKE

ABOUT BELGIUM

- Belgium sits at the **heart of Europe** and hosts the EU institutions, with **Brussels** as the capital.
- Home to around **11.7 million people** and three languages — Dutch, French and German.
- Universities like **KU Leuven** rank among the world's best.
- A **growing range of English-taught** master's degrees.
- The **Euro (€)** is the official currency.
- Some of the most popular student cities:

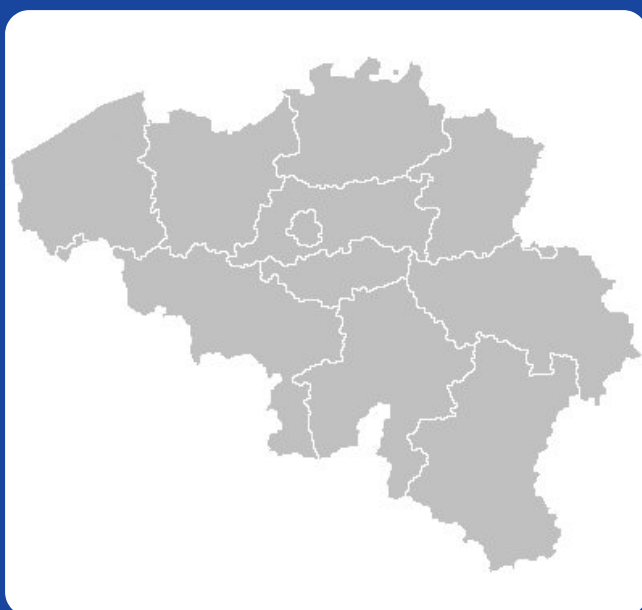


INDIA TO BELGIUM

CURRENCY

Euro (€) · 1 EUR ≈ ₹100 (indicative)

Delhi	≈ 8h 30m	Belgium
Mumbai	≈ 9h 30m	Belgium
Bengaluru	≈ 10h 30m	Belgium
Chennai	≈ 11h 00m	Belgium
Hyderabad	≈ 10h 00m	Belgium

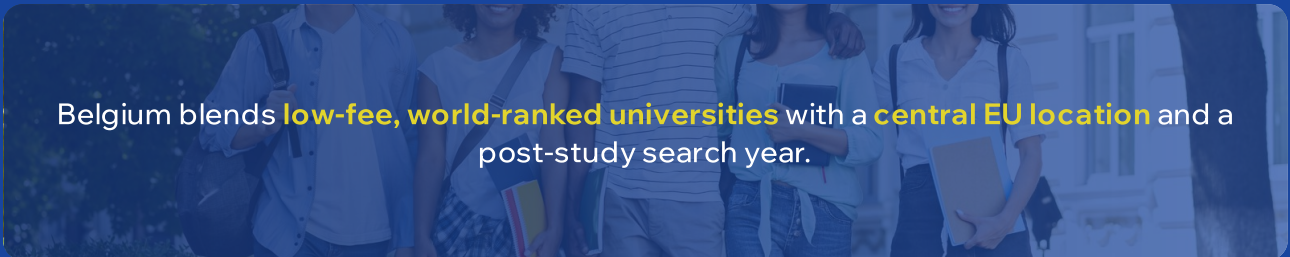


FACTS

- Capital: **Brussels**
- Flight distance: ~6,500 km
- Time zone: **CET (UTC+1)**
- Tuition: €900–5,000 / yr
- Proof of funds: ~€8,600 / yr
- Main intakes: **Sep · Feb**

Low public tuition; non-EU rates vary by community. Figures indicative; verify per intake.

WHY STUDY IN BELGIUM?



TYPES OF INSTITUTIONS

- Belgium has a bilingual, high-quality higher-education system.
- They fall into three broad groups:



UNIVERSITIES

Research-led institutions in each community.



UNIVERSITY COLLEGES (HOGESCHOLEN)

Applied, career-focused programmes.



BUSINESS SCHOOLS

Management and MBA (e.g., Vlerick).



Brussels
Campuses in , and .

TOP UNIVERSITIES

- Belgium hosts several **globally recognised** universities.
- Admission is **merit-based** and competitive.

KU Leuven**LEUVEN**

Belgium's top-ranked, historic university.

Ghent University**GHENT**

Strong research across disciplines.

University of Antwerp**ANTWERP**

Sciences, business and medicine.

UCLouvain**LOUVAIN-LA-NEUVE**

Leading French-community university.

Vrije Universiteit Brussel**BRUSSELS**

English-taught programmes in the capital.

University of Liège**LIÈGE**

Broad research university.

Indicative selection — confirm each programme's entry requirements and intake before applying.

POPULAR FIELDS OF STUDY

- Belgium is strong in **engineering, business and EU-focused studies.**



ENGINEERING & TECH

Electronics, mechanical and materials.



BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT

International business and MBA.



COMPUTER SCIENCE

Software, data and AI.



LIFE SCIENCES & PHARMA

Biotech and medical research.



INTERNATIONAL & EU STUDIES

Politics, law and EU affairs.



DESIGN & ARTS

Fashion, design and fine arts.

TUITION & COSTS

- Belgium's **public tuition is low**, especially compared with English-speaking destinations.

Undergraduate
non-EU, per year

€900–4,175

Postgraduate / Master's
per year

€900–5,000

Some English master's
per year

higher, varies

Living costs
per year

€10,000–12,000

Proof of funds for visa

~€8,600 / yr



Master Mind (Flanders) and university scholarships support strong international students.

COST OF LIVING

- Students need around **€720 a month** (the proof-of-funds benchmark).

Accommodation kot / shared flat	€400–650
Food & groceries	€250–350
Transport student pass	€40–60
Health & insurance	~€60
Phone, internet & leisure	€120–180
Estimated monthly total	~€850–1,200

Figures indicative for 2026 — costs vary between the capital and smaller cities.

SCHOLARSHIPS & FUNDING

- Community-level and university scholarships help fund study in Belgium.

Master Mind Scholarships

GOVT (FLANDERS)

Awards for excellent master's students.

ARES Scholarships

GOVT (FRENCH)

Funding for development-focused master's.

University Scholarships

INSTITUTIONAL

Merit awards from individual universities.

Erasmus+

EU MOBILITY

Grants for eligible study periods.

Eligibility, deadlines and amounts change each cycle — confirm on the official scholarship pages.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

BACHELOR'S

- **12 years** of schooling with a strong Class 12 record.
- **IELTS 6.5** or French/Dutch for local-language courses.
- Subject prerequisites for some courses.
- Apply directly to each university.

MASTER'S

- A recognised **bachelor's degree** in a relevant field.
- **IELTS 6.5** (no band below 6.0).
- Statement of purpose and references.
- A strong academic record for competitive courses.

INTAKES

- **September** — main intake — widest choice of courses
- **February** — second intake at some universities
- **Rolling** — apply early for visa and housing

STUDENT VISA & FUNDS

1

OFFER & ACCEPTANCE

Accept your offer and pay any fees.

2

PROOF OF FUNDS

Show ~€720/month for living costs.

3

APPLY FOR VISA

Apply for the Type D long-stay student visa.

4

DOCUMENTS & BIOMETRICS

Submit documents at the visa centre.

5

APPROVAL & TRAVEL

Receive approval and travel to Belgium.

6

RESIDENCE CARD

Register with the commune on arrival.

WORK & POST-STUDY

- Students work **20 hours a week**, then get a **12-month search year** to find work after graduating.

Part-Time Work

20 HRS/WEEK

Permitted during term time.

Search Year

12 MONTHS

Stay to find work after graduating.

Single Permit

SKILLED ROUTE

Combined work-and-residence permit.

In-Demand Sectors

GROWTH AREAS

IT, engineering, pharma and EU affairs.

HOW TO APPLY

1

SHORTLIST

Choose universities and English-taught programmes.

2

PREPARE DOCUMENTS

Transcripts, IELTS, SOP and references.

3

APPLY

Apply directly to each university.

4

OFFER & FUNDS

Accept your offer and arrange proof of funds.

5

VISA

Apply for the Type D long-stay student visa.

6

DEPARTURE

Arrange housing and register with the commune.



Your Belgium study journey — one step at a time.