# Practical Information for International Students







## **UDD**

Universidad del Desarrollo is known to be one of the best private universities in Chile. It has 5 modern campuses, 2 in Santiago and 3 in Concepcion. Its faculty stands out not only for its academic excellence but also its significant and active contribution to the country's development.

The Entrepreneurial Spirit, Leadership and Public Responsibility are key in the education provided by the University. It also promotes academic openness and exchange and has therefore signed important agreements with prestigious universities around the world.

Personalized treatment is a distinctive seal of UDD. The ongoing contact between professors and students facilitates learning in an open and close university environment.

Extracurricular activities complement the heavy academic load. Students can participate in a wide variety of athletics, recreational activities, drama, social activities, community aid workshops and student events, which are a fundamental part of their formation as integral individuals and professionals.

## **The Global Challenge**

UDD promotes and fosters the development of teaching, research and exchange through academic cooperation with prestigious universities in America, Europe, Oceania and Asia.

Together with its partner universities, UDD has developed an attractive offer of undergraduate and post-graduate academic programs for the purpose of integrating the concept of globalization to the education it imparts.



## Why choose Santiago?

Santiago is the capital city and main urban center of Chile, in addition to being the seventh largest city in Latin America in terms of population and one of the 45 largest metropolitan areas in the world.

Santiago is seat to the main agencies of government, finance, administration, commerce and culture in the country.

If you enjoy the big city life, full of things to do, yet with the tranquility and safety that make our capital city the third-ranked city in Latin America with the best quality of life, Santiago is undoubtedly the city for you.

Santiago is a city of great contrasts. There are many cultural, athletic and recreational activities at hand.

It is in a privileged geographic location because just a bit more than an hour away you can be skiing at one of the famous winter resorts or surfing on one of Chile's renowned beaches.

This city has an interesting range of activities for all tastes. The historic framework, found in downtown Santiago, provides a clear idea of how this city started. Many of the buildings have been maintained as historic heritage.

The Providencia sector is thriving with commerce and entertainment, a mix of stores, malls and restaurants for all types of visitors of all ages.



The UDD campus is located in the borough of Las Condes, particularly in the sector of San Carlos de Apoquindo.

This place is known mainly for being residential, with good accesses, green areas and quiet streets.

There are also focal points of commerce and entertainment. This sector is connected to a large part of the city by the new Los Dominicos subway station.



Santiago has a Mediterranean temperate climate. From autumn to winter (March to August) there is approximately 300 mm of rainfall annually and the average temperatures are a low of 2°C and high of 15°C (39°F and 59°F). Spring and summer (September to March), on the other hand, are very hot, there is virtually no rain and the temperatures flu tuate from 17°C to 28°C (55° F to 82°F).



## Why choose Concepción?

During the year, thousands of youths from all over the country come to study at the prestigious universities in Concepción, a city of nearly 370 thousand inhabitants. If you are looking for a quieter lifestyle that is both friendly and close, where your main means of transport will be your own feet, Concepcion is no doubt the city for you. This does not mean that Concepción has none of the activities of a big city since it is the industrial, cultural and economic capital of the south of Chile. After Santiago, it is one of the most important cities in the country, both because of its economic development as well as its demographic growth.

Concepción is also known for having an intense artistic and cultural environment. There is easy access to all the comforts of a city in constant development. Its most interesting attractions are in the university sector, which has become a symbol of

this city as Concepción is known for being the university capital of the south of the country.

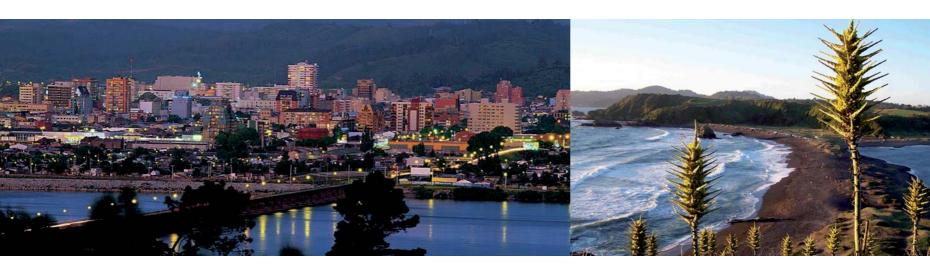
There is also Ecuador Park, near that same sector, that offers a lookout over the entire city. Another spot is Jorge Alessandri Park, on the road to Coronel, where you can take guided walks and there are many recreational activities for all ages.

The city is surrounded by beautiful landscape and there are unforgettable tourist paths for those who visit it.

Just one hour from the city are the Chillan Hot Springs where you can ski, practice adventure sports and enjoy the incredible mountain landscape. You can also tour the entire seaboard of the Province of Arauco, particularly the beaches of Laraquete, Llico and Quidico, where the wind is good for surfing year-round. Other nice beaches are Dichato, Lenga and Pingueral.



The climate in Concepción is also a Mediterranean temperate climate influen ed by the ocean. Autumn and winter are very rainy and temperatures range on average from a low of 4°C to a high of 14°C (39°F and 57°F). In spring and summer, there is little rain and temperatures flu tuate from a low of 10°C to a high of 20°C (50°F and 68°F).



## **Exchange Program at UDD**

**International students** interested in studying at UDD for an academic semester or year must apply online on our website and upload the following documents:

- Nomination letter from Home University
- Academic record
- Photocopy of passport (first page)
- 2 ID size photos
- Portfolio (just in the case of students applying for Architecture or Design courses).



UDD evaluates the information upon receiving the application and then sends a letter of acceptance, which is required to process the Student Visa. Incomplete applications will not be processed until we receive all documents.

## **Exchange Program Requirements**

#### 1) Student Visa

International students who are accepted to the UDD exchange program must process the student visa with the closest Chilean Consulate. This is a requirement for admission and registration at UDD.

#### 2) Health Insurance

Each student must contract international health insurance for his or her stay in Chile. This is a requirement without which students cannot participate in the exchange program. Students must present a photocopy of both documents upon their arrival at UDD.

#### 3) Language Requirements

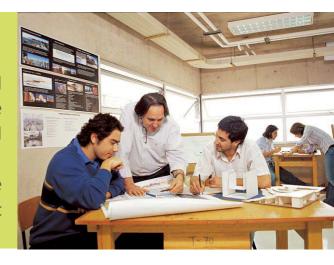
International Students are required to have a high level of Spanish proficiency to participate in the Exchange Program.

Students must be able to attend classes in Spanish and take examinations in this language. This is not required for students who want to take classes in English.

## **Academic Load**

The International Relations Office recommends that international students take from 4 to 5 courses per semester. Students who must take more courses can do so under prior approval of the International Relations Office.

When you review our course list it is important that you check the information that corresponds to the semester you will be studying at UDD.



#### 1) Courses of a Major or Field of Study

These are the courses forming part of a Major or Field of Study.

#### 2) UDD's Distinctive Courses

These are three courses common to all majors that are taught to develop concepts, skills and attitudes in students. These courses are:

- Entrepreneurship and Leadership
- Public Responsibility
- Ethics

#### 3) Other Discipline Courses

These courses generally create a motivation and interest in students in areas of knowledge other than that of their initial formation and they are undoubtedly fundamental and indispensable to any professional and graduate in a formation stage.

#### 4) Courses in English

Since 2008, UDD offers courses to UDD and international students in the English language. For further information about the English courses offered, please contact Jovana Batarce jbatarce@udd.cl



International students can combine Courses of a Major, UDD's
Distinctive Courses, Other Discipline Courses and Courses in English.
They may also take courses of different Undergraduate Programs at
different levels.

After you hace received your Acceptance Letter we will send you information about our List of Courses and information on Course Registration for your exchange at UDD.



## **Course Registration**

Before the beginning of the semester, international students must register the courses they will take during their exchange period. Each student is responsible to register according to the dates and deadlines given by the International Office. Before the beginning of classes, students will receive information regarding the Course Offer with the correspondent time schedules.

Please note that it's important that students select the correct courses and that this selection is approved by the correspondent Academic Coordinator. **Our deadlines are extremely strict and changes after registration periods are NOT possible.** 

Some very numerous courses are divided into 2 or more "sections" or groups in which the same subject matter is taught. Students must choose and attend only one section and specify it in the Course Registration Process.

## **Grading System**

The UDD academic model includes a permanent grading system that entails two mid-terms and a final examination in most cases.

Students are evaluated on a partial basis during the semester through presentations, tests, group work and dissertations, as defined by each school.

## **Grading Scale**

Students are graded according to the following scale:

- 7 Outstanding
- 6 Very Good
- 5 Good
- 4 Satisfactory
- 3 Less than satisfactory
- 2 Deficient
- 1 Poor
- 4 Minimum passing grade in any course or activity.





## **Academic Calendar**

The UDD Academic Calendar is organized into semesters:

First Semester: March - July

**Second Semester:** August - December

#### **Deadlines for Exchange Applications at UDD**

First Semester: November 15 Second Semester: May 15

\* Deadlines for Health Sciences applicants (Nursing, Medicine, Physiotherapy, Odontology and Medical Technology) are November 15 (First Semester) and April 15 (Second Semester)

## **Credit System**

UDD assigns a certain number of credits to each course in majors or undergraduate programs. The credit involves the academic work performed by the student in and outside of the classroom and is equal to one hour of work on average per week during a semester.

The range of equivalence of 30 ECTS is between 45 to 50 UDD credits approximatedly.

## **Transcripts**

The International Relations Office sends a digital copy of the Transcript of Records to each student via email and the original document by postal mail in the case the Home University needs it. In order to receive the Transcript of Records, the students will need to answer the Student Survey that will be sent at the end of the semester.

The Transcript is available approximately one month after the semester ends at UDD.



## Housing

Chilean universities do not provide any on-campus residence so students must look for lodging off campus.

On our website you may find information, contacts and assistance to students in finding the best place to live in Chile during you exchange stay.

It is very important to us that exchange students live in a safe and pleasant place, according to their expectations and resources. However, although the International Relations Office (DRI) helps students in their search, each student is responsible for finding a place appropriate to his/her needs.

In Santiago, we recommend finding lodging in the neighborhoods of of Las Condes, Providencia, Vitacura or Lo Barnechea. In Concepción, on the other hand, we recommend staying in the sectors near UDD (downtown).

### **UDD Services for International Students**

International students have access to the same benefits as UDD students, but we also offer the following special activities for them:

#### - Welcome Program

Before the semester begins, the IRO organizes a Welcome Program for international students in which they receive all the information they need to integrate well to UDD. This 2-day program introduces them to the other international students and consists of the following activities: a Welcome Meeting, Campus Tour, Welcome Lunch, City Tour, Legalizing Your Stay in Chile and Academic Meeting.

#### - Academic Meeting

During the Welcome Program, international students meet the academic coordinators at the respective schools to clear up any academic doubts and know who their contact will be at the different schools.

#### - Integration Activities

Each semester we organize an integration activity for international students and their Buddies, which is a moment of sharing and entertainment.

#### - Spanish Course

At the start of the semester, UDD offers a paid Spanish course for international students who want to improve their verbal and written skills in Spanish. The course consists of 30 academic hours and needs a minimum of 18 students.

## **Student Affairs Office (DAE)**

This Office is in charge of creating instances for students that complement their development and strengthen the university spirit. It is also responsible for student-related affairs.

A sound academic and general formation program, leadership, poverty seminars, social work, missions, sports, spiritual guidance, psychological support, visits to enterprises and international agreements are a part of extracurricular activities. Some of the activities organized by DAE during the year are:

#### Winter and Summer Volunteer Work

During both the winter and summer vacations, students from all schools visit the poorer communities to aid them through their knowledge and energy. Students handle different activities like home and school construction and restoration, legal assistance and talks on preventing alcoholism and drug addiction.

#### **Debate Club**

Students can meet to conduct an activity that creates room to develop the capacity to argue and defend ideas to students from other universities.

#### **Drama and Choir**

Students in all majors have artistic talents. The University offers the opportunity to participate in a drama group and choir that are managed by prominent professionals in these areas.

#### **University Pastoral Service and Spiritual Support**

The UDD Pastoral Service contributes to the formation of students in the faith and to the organization of solidarity action inside the University.

#### **Student Events**

Numerous events are organized through the Student Affairs Office with the participation of students from different schools, in particular Freshman Week, university parties, cultural and athletic activities, contests, etc.

#### **Athletics**

Students can practice their favorite sports in clubs and also participate in entertaining inter-university tournaments. UDD has women's volleyball, men's volleyball, men's basketball, football, hockey, among others.

## **Arriving at the Airport**

All of the flights from abroad arrive at the Arturo Merino Benítez International Airport in Chile, located 26 kilometers (16 miles) from Santiago.

#### **Reciprocity Tax**

Incoming passengers who hold an Australian or Mexican passport should pay a Reciprocity Tax before going through the International Police security checkpoint, and then continue to Inmigration Control. This fee can now be paid by credit card or cash and they accept several common currencies, the prices are listed at the desk for each. If you're a US or Canadian citizen note that you no longer have to pay a reciprocity fee although they were required in the past.

#### **International Police**

Passengers must submit their travel documents, i.e. passport or identity card, and the duly **stamped visa** as necessary, at International Police every time they fly into the country.

#### **Baggage Claim Area**

In this area you will find a Currency Exchange Office, Bus and Transportation Counter (for security purposes, the Airport recommends using the official transportation it offers), Tourist Information, Duty Free Shop. Baggage carts are available at no charge.

#### **Customs and Agricultural and Livestock Service (SAG)**

Once travelers have gone through Customs, they can leave the airport or make connections to domestic flights.



## **How do you reach Santiago from the Airport?**

There is a wide variety of choices to get from the airport to Santiago every day of the year.

The airport has a van transportation service. Each van has a capacity for approximately 9 passengers and the route runs from the terminal to your destination. Tickets can be purchased inside the airport, right outside the arrival area.

The most direct and fastest, but also most expensive, service is a taxi. The cost to downtown is around \$18,000 CLP.

Finally, the cheapest choice is to take one of the buses that stops every 30 minutes in front of the passenger terminal. It takes approximately 30 minutes and the cost is around \$3,000 CLP.

## And if your destination is Concepción...

You can get from Santiago to Concepción by bus, car, train or plane.

The bus trip can be at day or at night and it takes 6 hours for a cost of \$10,000 CLP aprox.

The train trip costs approximately \$15,000 CLP (roundtrip from Alameda Terminal in Santiago to Chillán) and you will be at your destination in 5 1/2 hours. The train goes as far as the city of Chillán and from there, passengers must conclude the trip by bus to Concepción.

Plane is the quickest and most comfortable alternative as you reach Concepción in just 45 minutes. A ticket costs around \$80,000 CLP but if you purchase it in advance, it may cost half that price.

## How to get to Concepción from the Airport?

The Carriel South Airport, located 5 km (3.1 miles) from Concepción, offers a well-rounded passenger transportation and taxi service to the city. A taxi costs around CH\$6,000 and takes no more than 15 minutes. Van transportation costs around CH\$4,000 and you reach the downtown area of the city in the same amount of time.



## **Currency**

The currency is the chilean peso (CLP). Coins come in denominations of 1, 5, 10, 50, 100 and 500 pesos and bills in 1,000, 2,000, 5,000, 10,000 and 20,000 pesos.

A dollar is equal to around \$673 CLP and one Euro to \$750 CLP (August 2016).

It is recommended to exchange your money in banks or Currency Exchange Offices, never on the street. You can also use automatic tellers and exchange houses in shopping malls.



Banking hours are from Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Banks are not open on the afternoons. In general, exchange houses and stores are open from Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The large shopping malls are open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. from Monday to Sunday.

## **Transportation**

**In Santiago**, the transportation system is called Transantiago. It was implanted by the Government of Chile and consists of buses and the subway. The means of payment for any public transportation is the Bip card, which is a plastic prepaid card that you can purchase at different points in the city (\$1.500 CLP) and recharge it as many times you need. The Santiago subway is known for its cleanliness and good service. Traveling by the subway is quick, safe and cheap.



For further information on transportation or bus rides that will take you to your destination, visit the following link: http://www.transantiago.cl

**In Concepción** there is a bus system, but international students usually live very close to the university and do not need to use it daily.

Unlike Santiago, students can pay the bus fare at the time they get on the bus.

## **Reference Prices**



Service	\$ CLP
Subway fare	\$610 - \$720
Bus fare	\$610 - \$720
Movie Theater Ticket	\$3.500 - \$5.000
Cafeteria Lunch UDD	\$3.990
Can of Coca-Cola	\$600

## **Currency Exchange Offices**

Here are the addresses of some Exchange Offices where you can exchange your money.

Santiago	Concepción
<b>Afex Cambio</b>	<b>Afex</b>
Av. Apoquindo 6089 local 3 (Apumanque)	Barros Arana 565, Ground Floor, Room 57
Fono: 56-2-202 11 78	Fono: (56) 41-23 9618
Cambio Ventura Centro Comercial Apumanque local 368 Las Condes Fono: 56-2- 2249180	<b>Fides Ltda.</b> Caupolicán 521, 1st Floor, Room 58 Fono: (56) 41-22 8914
Cambios Santiago	Inter S.A.
11 de Septiembre 2327 Local 15 Providencia	Caupolicán 521, Of. 31
Fono: 56-2- 234 5818	Fono: (56) 41-212767
Intermundi Ltda.	Varex Ltda.
Moneda 896	Libertador Bernardo O`Higgins 527
Fono: 56-2- 671 24 75	Fono: (56) 41-22 4131



## **National Holidays**

Below is the list of the dates of Chilean holidays in order for you to organize your trips and outings.

We recommend that you confirm the dates since often holidays are moved to the next Monday.



Date	Holiday
January 1	New Year's
March 25	Easter
March 26	Easter
May 1	Labor Day
May 21	Combate Naval de Iquique
June 27	Celebration of San Pedro, San Pablo
July 16	Nuestra Señora del Carmen
August 15	Assumption of the Virgin
September 18	Independence Day of Chile
September 19	Independence Day of Chile
October 10	Encuentro de Dos Mundos
November 1	All Saints Day
December 8	Immaculate Concepción
December 25	Christmas

## **Contacts at UDD**

Please contact our International Relations Office should you have any questions. We are delighted to answer any of your questions and help you in planning your upcoming stay in Chile.

#### International Relations Office



www.udd.cl/relaciones-internacionales



incoming@udd.cl



**UDD Global** 



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