

# UNIVERSITY OF BIALYSTOK

## Recruitment Center

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[studyinuwb@uwb.edu.pl](mailto:studyinuwb@uwb.edu.pl)

## International Cooperation Office

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## Non-degree Program

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The broadest offer in the region, international research projects, excellent learning conditions, modern investments, cooperation with employers and interesting student life. This is the University of Białystok - the largest university in north-eastern Poland. It has been developing rapidly for 25 years, is open to cooperation, not afraid of challenges. It ranks well in the national rankings and is included in international rankings.

Financed under the task II.10.3. of the project "Local University, global opportunity - University of Białystok on the road to internationalization", which is part of the project "Improving the competence of academic staff and the potential of institution in receiving people from abroad - Welcome to Poland", implemented under the Operational Program Knowledge Education Development co-financed by the European Social Fund.

Agreement no: BPI/WTP/2021/1/00073/U/00001



## Guide for incoming students





## A few words about UwB

The University of Białystok became an independent entity in 1997. Previously, it had been a branch of the University of Warsaw (since 1968). The dynamic development of the University influenced the gradual increase in the number of students, who were educated in the humanities, mathematical and natural sciences, as well as administrative and economic sciences. Educational offer was soon expanded to include pedagogical and legal sciences.

Due to its location, the University of Białystok, as one of the largest scientific and educational institutions of the eastern borderland, has always brought together people from different cultures and nationalities. This has continuously enriched the attractiveness of the University of Białystok and was reflected in its cooperation with scientific institutions from all over the world.



## Admission

At the University of Bialystok, admission process is coordinated by the University Recruitment Center. If necessary, its employees assist those interested in studying at our University in selecting a course of study and answer questions about the recruitment process.

On the University's website, under the Candidate tab ([uwb.edu.pl/en/admissions](http://uwb.edu.pl/en/admissions)), you will find basic recruitment information such as rules, admission schedule, documents required for admission, etc.

The admission for studies is launched every year at the beginning of June in the Online Recruitment of Candidates (IRK) system. If you plan to become our student, you need to create an account in the IRK system and enroll in the chosen field of study [irk.uwb.edu.pl/en-gb](http://irk.uwb.edu.pl/en-gb).

In case of any questions we encourage you to contact the University Recruitment Center:

- in person – at the University Recruitment Center located in Rector's Office (20B Swierkowa Street, room number 9),
- by phone – +48 85 745 70 80, +48 85 745 70 53,
- by e-mail – [rekrutacja@uwb.edu.pl](mailto:rekrutacja@uwb.edu.pl), [studyinuwb@uwb.edu.pl](mailto:studyinuwb@uwb.edu.pl).



## The University of Bialystok provides education in the following fields of study, including interdisciplinary ones

Fields of study taught in Polish:

- administration
- security and law
- biology
- chemistry
- forensic chemistry
- ecobusiness
- economics
- economics – University's Branch in Vilnius
- economics and law
- European studies – University's Branch in Vilnius
- Polish philology
- philology, specialization module:
  - English philology
  - English philology with German
  - English philology with Spanish
  - English philology with Russian
  - French philology (from the basics)
  - French language (from the basics) with English - translation profile
  - applied French language, with Spanish (from the basics)
  - Russian philology – media communication
  - Russian philology – communication in administration
- philosophy and ethics
- physics
- history
- computer science

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- physics
- history
- computer science
- computer science Vilnius

- computer science and econometrics
- quality and safety of environment
- cognitive science and communication
- criminology
- cultural studies

*Full offer of studies*



## Admission step-by-step

- 1** Find your dream field of study. Our website's course finder will help you: [uwb.edu.pl/en/admissions](http://uwb.edu.pl/en/admissions).
- 2** Create an account in the Online Candidate Registration (IRK) system: [irk.uwb.edu.pl/en-gb](http://irk.uwb.edu.pl/en-gb).
- 3** Fill in your details and enroll in your chosen field of study. If necessary, upload scans of the necessary documents.

**4** Pay your enrolment fee. Don't worry if it doesn't appear immediately in your account in Online Candidate Registration. It may take a few days for the funds to be transferred.

**5** Add a photo for your student card (passport type, size 35 mm x 45 mm).

**6** Check your admission results on your Online Candidate Registration (IRK) account.

**7** Collect the complete set of required documents if, after the announcement of the results, the following message appears in your Online Candidate Registration (IRK) account: candidate qualified. You can find the list of required documents on the Online Candidate Registration (IRK) page in the description of each programme.

**8** Submit your documents at the designated place and time. You will receive the information about place and time in a message in your account.

**9** After the documents have been submitted, the following message will appear in your Online Candidate Registration (IRK) account: the candidate has been accepted for studies.

**10** Congratulations! You are now a student of the University of Bialystok!

[If you are not accepted, check whether an additional admission is planned.](#)

## Basic information after admission, before arrival

Once you have been informed of your acceptance for studies, whether as an EU citizen or a non-EU citizen, you will receive an acceptance letter that will make the following arrival process easier, for example when applying for a student visa (if required).



Don't forget to check out the academic year calendar:

## Legalise your stay!

Remember that every arrival of a person from abroad must be declared and registered, which is regulated by law and applies to both citizens of the European Union and residents of other countries - a valid proof of identity (passport or identity card) is the basis for further procedures!

If you are a citizen of the European Union, you are not required to register your stay, if it lasts up to 90 days. Before the end of the three-month period, you have to register it at the municipal office, where, according to the procedure, you will have to submit the required documents such as confirmation from the University of your student status, your address of residence, as well as proof of health insurance.

If you are a citizen of a country that is not part of the European Union, the legalization of your stay is regulated by a student visa, which can be obtained before departure at the nearest diplomatic post - Polish Embassy or Consulate.

For more information on the legalisation of your stay, please check:

- [gov.pl/web/udsc-en](http://gov.pl/web/udsc-en)

## Non-degree Program

The Non-Degree Program, functioning at the University of Białystok, allows foreign students to complete a customized curriculum as part of a paid educational offer. Classes are conducted in a foreign language (English, Spanish, Russian) within the framework of bilateral cooperation between the foreign student's Home University and University of Białystok. Participation in the program does not make it possible to obtain a degree. However, the program allows to obtain ECTS credits, which are then recognized at the student's Home University. Upon completion of the program, participants receive a Certificate of Attendance and a Transcript of Records.

The Non-Degree program covers a period of one or two semesters and allows the student to earn a maximum of 35 ECTS credits during a semester, and a maximum of 70 ECTS credits during the whole academic year.

## Support for incoming students

The orientation program is mainly organized by ESN [fb.com/ESNUwB](https://www.facebook.com/ESNUwB), before the start of each semester and, depending on the number of new students, lasts up to a few days. We try to introduce you to the University, help you familiarize yourself with the location of the Faculties, how to get around the city and other necessary information essential in the first days in a new country/city. In addition to helping you with formalities, ESN organizes various events, such as excursions or special events: Christmas dinner, ESN Oscar Gala, and also joint volunteering at animal shelters.

All incoming students are assigned a Mentor - a tutor who will help you not only in finding your way around the University but also in other activities, such as opening a bank account, buying a public transportation ticket or registering a Polish phone number.

## Glossary

**USOS** – a University system in which each student has their own account, protected by an individual password. In the system, you can view your schedule, syllabuses, your grades, contact lecturers, and have an overview of your fees. An account in USOS also entitles you to use free wi-fi at the University.

USOS is also available as a mobile app



Google Play



App Store

**Student ID Card** – Remember to complete the formalities for your student ID card upon arrival, you will need it not only at the University, but also in everyday life, as it entitles you to discounts on transportation (not only public but also on buses and trains), as well as in cinemas, pubs, restaurants and many other places. Ask your Mentor for additional information on where and how you can use your student privileges.

**Insurance** – every incoming student is required to have health insurance valid for the entire period of stay. Students coming from EU countries are expected to carry an EHIC card, issued in their home country. Students from outside the European Union are required to present an insurance valid in Poland, purchased on their own.

**Pollando** – it is a language school at the University, which offers Polish language courses. The classes are taught by people who specialize in teaching Polish to foreigners.



The University is designed to accommodate students with disabilities, the buildings are equipped with all necessary amenities. The area of the Large and Small Campus is marked with maps in Polish, English and in Braille. The staff of the Section for the Support of Persons with Disabilities will help in dealing with any formalities, e-mail: [biuro.pelnomocnikaon@uwb.edu.pl](mailto:biuro.pelnomocnikaon@uwb.edu.pl), tel. +48 (85) 745 78 89.

## Poland / Białystok / Practical Information

How to get from the airport - The nearest airports are located in Warsaw.

- Chopin Airport - operates most international flights.
- Warsaw Modlin Airport - operates Ryanair flights.

Both are easily accessible by public transportation, such as direct buses, operated by local companies PlusBus [plusbus.pl](http://plusbus.pl) and Zak Express [zakexpress.pl/en](http://zakexpress.pl/en).

It is also possible to get from Warsaw to Białystok by train [rozklad-pkp.pl/en/](http://rozklad-pkp.pl/en/). The trip by both bus and train takes about 2-3 hours, with prices ranging from 15 PLN to 80 PLN.

General national emergency number: **112**



## The cost of living in Białystok

Remember that despite being a member of the European Union, Poland is not in the euro zone - Poland has its own currency, the Polish zloty (PLN), available in several denominations: both paper and coin.



You can exchange money at banks, currency exchange offices (which are located in most major shopping centers) and train stations.

## Accommodation

While being a student of our University, you have the opportunity to stay in one of the University's Student Houses, the monthly cost of which is about 500 PLN. The first month's dormitory fee is increased by the deposit, which is equal to one month's rent. This cost is refunded in the form of a fee for the last month of stay.

If you decide to rent an apartment on your own, the prices, depending on the location and size of the apartment, start from 1000 PLN.

## Grocery shopping

Due to the location of our region, there are stores in every neighborhood where you can get fresh products from local traders.

Well-known supermarkets such as Biedronka, Lidl, Carrefour, Auchan are not hard to find throughout the city. You can easily reach them on foot or by public transportation.

## Examples of product prices

- bread PLN 3.00-10.00
- milk PLN 3.00-4.00
- butter 4,00-6,00 PLN
- eggs PLN 6.00-12.00 per package of 10 eggs
- cheese PLN 16.00-20.00/kg
- potatoes PLN 2.00-4.00/kg
- apples 2,50-5,00 PLN/kg
- chicken breast PLN 20.00/kg

## Public transport

Bialystok is a very transport-friendly and well-connected city with an extensive network of bus lines. Bus schedules and all current ticket prices are available on the Bialystok Public Transport website [komunikacja.bialystok.pl](http://komunikacja.bialystok.pl).

All buses are equipped with easy to use ticket machines, with menu available in English.

As a student, you don't need to get any city card or other documents, everything can be correlated with your student ID card, which is compatible with ticket machines (for recharges of long-term tickets - monthly and three-month tickets).

To activate your student ID card as a city card, you should go to:

- the BKM (Bialystok Public Transport) office at 11 Składowa Street (room 16 on the ground floor) during the working hours of the Municipal Office, on Mondays from 8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m., from Tuesday to Friday from 7.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. or
- the BKM customer service point at 16 Lipowa Street on weekdays from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm.

Additionally, bus schedules can be found in the [JakDojadę](#) and [MobileMPK](#) apps.

Bialystok is located in Podlasie, a region which, due to the large number of parks and forests, is called the Green Lungs of Poland. That is why Bialystok is trying to create many opportunities for those focused on a more environmentally friendly form of transportation, hence there are dedicated bike lanes and visible bike stations throughout the city with bikes available for rent. The website [bikerbialystok.pl/en](http://bikerbialystok.pl/en) contains all the necessary information about the possibilities of using the city's bicycles, as well as the prices, which start as low as 1 zloty for 30 minutes a day (for example, the journey from the dormitory to the furthest department is only 17 minutes).

In addition, you can find available electric scooters that can be easily rented using the Bolt mobile app.



## Explore multicultural Białystok and its surroundings



## Attractions/Activities/Leisure time

- paintball
- lasertag
- trampoline park
- cat cafe
- parrot parlour
- pools
- ice rink / roller skating rink
- balloon flights
- aeroclub
- car racetrack
- horse stables
- alpaca farm
- Dojlidy municipal beach

## Glossary with some practical phrases

1, 2, 3, 4, 5 – JEDEN, DWA, TRZY, CZTERY, PIĘĆ

ATM (Cash Machines) – BANKOMAT

FOR RENT – DO WYNAJĘCIA

GOOD/ BAD – DOBRZE / ŹLE

GOODBYE – DO WIDZENIA

GOOD NIGHT – DOBRANOC

HELLO – DZIEŃ DOBRY

HI – CZEŚĆ

HOW ARE YOU? – JAK SIĘ MASZ?

HOW DO I GET TO...? – JAK DOJDĘ / DOJADĘ DO...?

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST? – ILE TO KOSZTUJE?

I DON'T UNDERSTAND – NIE ROZUMIEM

I'M SORRY – PRZEPRASZAM

LADIES / GENTS – DLA PAŃ / DLA PANÓW  
MY NAME IS... – MAM NA IMIĘ...  
NO ENTRY – ZAKAZ WSTĘPU  
OPEN / CLOSED – OTWARTE / ZAMKNIĘTE  
PLEASE – PROSZĘ  
PUSH / PULL – PCHAĆ / CIĄGNAĆ  
RIGHT / LEFT – PRAWO / LEWO  
THANK YOU – DZIĘKUJĘ  
WATCH OUT! – UWAGA!  
WHAT'S THIS / THAT? – CO TO JEST?  
YES / NO – TAK / NIE

## The end

We hope that all the information and tips provided in the guide are clear to you and will clear up some of your concerns.

If not, do not hesitate to contact us - we will do our best to help you with any issue.

