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Dear student!

Congratulations on successfully making the long and challenging way to becoming the student of the oldest university in Russia! We are happy to see you join the St Petersburg University team and hope you enjoy this journey to the fullest!

Soon you will be meeting your professors and classmates, discovering the University campus and exploring the new favourite places in one of the most beautiful cities of the world. You will be learning about the subjects you are passionate about and maybe one day presenting your own groundbreaking research in those fields. Don’t forget to make use of the famous SPbU Research Park, multiple research laboratories, University museums and collections and one of the largest university libraries. There will also be time for you to gain practical experience and build up your professional network - you can opt for an internship in one of the 2000 partner companies or even launch your own business with Strat-Up SPbU. And maybe you will decide to discover new cultures and destinations by participating in the student exchange programme; there are more than 450 universities in 60 countries ready to welcome you. However, don’t let your studies take up all of your time, leave some room for fun: join a University sports team, master a new language in a Speaking Club, learn to dance as you’ve always wanted with the SPbU dance studio, or volunteer to support SPbU Green Campus environmental projects. The choice is yours!
We hope that your student years are filled with inspiration, new discoveries, amazing achievements, lifelong friendships and personal growth. There is a lot ahead of you: a lot to be excited and maybe slightly nervous about. Remember that already by being here you’ve proved yourself to be a truly intelligent, brave, curious and hardworking person. These qualities will help you along the way. And the University is always there to support you.

Try to make the most of this time, the time to be young and curious, the time when everything is possible!

Best of luck!
2. ABOUT ST PETERSBURG UNIVERSITY

2.1. The University in numbers
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## 2.1. THE UNIVERSITY IN NUMBERS

The University has a rich history. To find out about the milestone events that have taken place over almost three centuries, visit the special section on the website.

### The University today:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1724</th>
<th>≈25 000</th>
<th>400+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>the year when it was founded</td>
<td>students</td>
<td>degree programmes</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>800+</th>
<th>5000</th>
<th>26</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>non-degree programmes</td>
<td>academic staff</td>
<td>resource centres of the University Research Park</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
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<th>7 mln</th>
<th>&gt; 2000</th>
<th>450</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>storage units in the collection of the M. Gorky Scientific Library</td>
<td>agreements to organise practical training and cooperation agreements</td>
<td>partner universities from 60 countries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.2. OVERVIEW

With a history dating back to 1724, the University is the oldest institution of higher education in Russia. Today, the University is one of the leading international centres of education, science and culture. It is ranked among the top 300 universities around the world and in second place in Eastern Europe and Central Asia according to the QS Rankings. The University is also ranked in second place in Russia in the QS Graduate Employability Ranking. It is the best in Russia for Employer-Student connections. As a dynamic institution, it designs multidisciplinary academic programmes that combine fundamental theoretical problems with real-world, practical application.

Famous Graduates
The discoveries and achievements of the University professors and graduates have shaped the history of both international and Russian science and technology. The University is proud to be home to 9 Nobel prize winners – in Physiology, Medicine, Chemistry, Physics, Economics, Literature – as well as Fields Medal and Shaw Prize winners. Moreover, two presidents of the Russian Federation and six government leaders graduated from the University.

International Students
Each year, more than 3,000 international students from 100 countries enrol in the University. They are offered a choice from: 10 double degree programmes; 20 master’s programmes taught in English, German, Spanish,
French and Italian; as well as 400 programmes of bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral levels taught in Russian.

According to Rossotrudnichestvo (the Federal Agency for the Commonwealth of Independent States Affairs, Compatriots Living Abroad, and International Humanitarian Cooperation), in 2019 the University became the most popular university in Russia among foreign applicants.

**International Cooperation**

The University maintains strong partnerships with 450 universities in 60 countries worldwide. It is an active member of international academic mobility programmes including Erasmus, Finnish-Russian Cross Border University, Coimbra Group, and European University Foundation (Campus Europae). The University makes it easy to connect with the whole world by offering the opportunity to participate in Alumni clubs in 16 counties. There are representative offices in China, the Republic of Korea, Spain, and the USA; offices will open shortly in Italy and Turkey.

**Global careers**

The University’s academic programmes are relevant for the challenges and opportunities of the global labour market. University alumni are able to take on competitive positions in a multicultural work environment. The University has 2,000 long-term cooperation agreements including with IBM, Unilever, PepsiCo, McKinsey, Google, Carl Zeiss, Microsoft, Leica, Intel, Adobe, Huawei, and many other leading international companies. The University partner organisations offer internships for students and take part in the development and assessment of academic programmes.
Research
University scientists conduct research in almost all fields of knowledge, provide expertise and consulting, and enjoy close ties with Russian and international partners. The research findings are published in high-impact international journals.

Priority research areas:
- nanotechnology and materials science
- biomedicine and human health
- information systems and technology
- ecology and nature management
- social research and technologies
- human resource management and technologies

The University has cutting-edge research facilities – the state-of-the-art Research Park with 26 resource centres, where the most advanced research equipment is concentrated. Students have an opportunity to receive annually research grants, including the Russian Federation Presidential grant. They can carry out research in numerous laboratories and make use of the University’s vast scientific collections.

Student life
University life is vibrant and diverse. Every year, the University holds over 300 student events, celebrations, conferences, and competitions.
Students are invited to practise up to 21 types of sport at 30 University venues. The University teams take part in Russian and international sporting events, and win various awards and prizes.
3. BEFORE ARRIVAL
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3.1. VISA

To apply for a visa, wait for an additional letter from the University with the number of the visa invitation and turnaround time of a visa. After receiving the number, you must contact the embassy/consulate of the Russian Federation in your country to have your study visa issued.

3.2. MEDICAL INSURANCE

Upon admission to the University, all foreign citizens must purchase a Voluntary Medical Insurance policy to receive medical services. The following list of services covered must be included in the Insurance Programme:

- a preventive medical examination once a year, including: specialists’ examinations (general practitioner, ophthalmologist, otolaryngologist, surgeon, cardiologist, neurologist, gynaecologist/urologist); clinical and biochemical tests; HIV tests (form No 50); syphilis tests; hepatitis tests; chest X-ray examination or fluorography; ECG; and, if medically required, echocardiography and ultrasound scan;
- examination by an infectious disease physician upon admission to an educational institution;
- primary health care, and special medical care on an outpatient basis, if medically required, including: medical advice (therapy,
neurology, surgery, ophthalmology, gynaecology, urology, otolaryngology, infectious diseases); laboratory tests (clinical tests, biochemical tests, HIV tests (form No 50), syphilis tests, hepatitis tests, hormone tests, trace analysis, coagulation tests, INR), ECG, echocardiography, fibrogastroduodenoscopy, fibrocolonoscopy, ultrasound scan, ultrasonic Doppler examination, X-ray study, computer tomography, and MRI;
• doctor home visits;
• inpatient care – emergency hospitalisation in city hospitals;
• in case of a serious pathology or life-threatening injury, repatriation to the country of permanent residence or citizenship at the expense of the insurance company.

To get a medical policy, you can contact any Voluntary Medical Insurance company.

**Possible options of companies offering medical insurance:**

1. **IC ‘Capital-Polis’**
   Office: room 505, floor 5, 22, liter Z, Moskovsky Prospect, St Petersburg
   Telephone +7 (812) 320-65-34,
   Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9.30am–7.30pm

2. **SOGAZ INSURANCE**
   Office: 2, liter I, Rastrelli Square, St Petersburg (entrance from Shpalernaia Street)
   Telephone +7 (812) 335-65-03.
   Opening hours: Monday to Thursday 9am–6pm, Friday 9am–4.45pm
BEFORE ARRIVAL

3. **Insurance Company ‘RESO-GARANTIA’**
   Office: room 533, 88, Sredny Prospect, Vasilyevsky Island, St Petersburg
   Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9.30am–6pm
   Telephone +7 (812) 384-43-48

4. **Renaissance Insurance**
   Office: 11, Nakhimova Street, St Petersburg
   Opening hours: Monday to Sunday 10am–8pm
   Telephone: +7 (812) 325-38-05
   +7 (812) 975-05-72

5. **AlfaStrakhovanie PLC**
   Office: room 4N, 22a, 11th Line, Vasilyevsky Island, St Petersburg
   Opening hours: Monday to Thursday 9am–6pm
   Friday 9am–5pm
   Telephone: +7 (812) 336-56-71

6. **VTB Insurance**
   Office: 11, liter A, Degtiarnyi Pereulok, St Petersburg
   Telephone: +7 (812) 777-04-09
   Opening hours: Monday to Thursday 9am – 6pm, Friday 9am–4.45pm

7. **PC IC Rosgosstrakh**
   Office: 27, Nalichnaia Street
   Telephone: +7 (812) 3526518
   Opening hours: Monday to Friday 9am–8pm
3.3. DOCUMENT PREPARATION

Prepare the following documents:
- originals of educational credentials, properly executed (if necessary, authorised and supplemented with a certified translation into Russian)
- originals of medical certificates: on absence of contraindications to study (the certificate must state that there is not a medical reason preventing you from studying); and HIV negative certificate
- four photographs 3x4 cm for personal records

Regulations for Admission

3.4. HOW TO GET TO YOUR DESTINATION AFTER ARRIVING IN ST PETERSBURG

St Petersburg has an international airport, ‘Pulkovo’, and five railway stations:
- Baltiysky railway station
- Vitebsky railway station
- Ladozhsky railway station
- Moskovsky railway station
- Finlyandskiy railway station
From the airport to the University buildings, you can travel by taxi or public transport (bus, metro and fixed-route taxi). City bus No 39 runs from the airport to the Moskovskaya metro station.

The metro usually starts operating between 5.30am and 6.30am and closes between midnight and 1am, depending on the station. To check the current schedule, click here. If you arrive in St Petersburg at night, you might want to take a taxi.

In 2020, the public bus/trolleybus fare is 50 roubles, the metro fare is 55 roubles. Some buses and all metro stations have terminals that you can use to pay for your trip with your bank card. The average price for a taxi from the Pulkovo airport to the city centre is 600 to 900 roubles.

When choosing a taxi, try to contact the official carriers, an authorised airport taxi service, or use applications such as Uber, GetTaxi, Bolt, Yandex.Taxi.
4. AFTER ARRIVAL

4.1. Document processing
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4.3. Migration registration of foreign citizens – processing of documents necessary for staying in St Petersburg
4.4. Accommodation in a hall of residence
4.5. Tuition payment
4.1. DOCUMENT PROCESSING

After arrival, it is necessary to contact the International Admissions Office. You will be provided with all the information necessary to complete your enrolment in the University.

Contact details:
13B Universitetskaya Emb.
Telephone: +7 (812) 363-66-33
E-mail: admission@spbu.ru
Opening hours: Monday to Friday 10am–6pm

4.2. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR STUDIES

First of all, you can contact the Academic Department with your question. If a question requires further consideration, you can contact the various divisions of the University’s Academic Affairs Department.

See the location of our Academic Departments on map
4.3. MIGRATION REGISTRATION OF FOREIGN CITIZENS – PROCESSING OF DOCUMENTS NECESSARY FOR STAYING IN ST PETERSBURG

All foreign citizens arriving in St Petersburg must register their residence. This can be done in several ways depending on where you are going to stay.

Registration of Foreign Citizens

See paragraph 4.4 below if you are going to stay in a hall of residence. If you are going to rent an apartment or a room, the documents for your registration must be filed by your ‘receiving party’: the hotel / hostel administration or the owner of the property.

After receiving the notification of migration registration, you must submit a copy of it to the University’s Passport and Visa Support Department in person or send a scan / photo of both sides by email to pvo@spbu.ru. You must keep the original detachable section of the migration registration notification form for yourself.

Please note that all foreign citizens travelling to other cities for a period of more than 7 working days must register their residence at the place of stay on their arrival day or the next day.

If you plan to stay in a hall of residence, then read the next paragraph.
Official documents:
Procedures for migration registration for foreign citizens
Guide to the rules of stay in the Russian Federation for foreign citizens and stateless persons studying at St Petersburg University

Contact details of the Passport and Visa Support Department:
• Office 109-110, Rector’s Wing, ground floor, 7-9, liter B, Universitetskaya Emb., St Petersburg. Telephone: +7 (812) 363 64 03.
• Office 103, Hall of Residence No 10, 66/2 Botanicheskaya str., Peterhof. Telephone: +7 (812) 428 47 58.

4.4. ACCOMMODATION IN A HALL OF RESIDENCE
• Contact the International Admissions Office
13B Universitetskaya Emb., St Petersburg 199034, Russia. Telephone: +7 (812) 328-32-91, e-mail: admission@spbu.ru
• Get a referral for registration of the student at the place of residence.
(a) During the mass check-in of students – contact Settlement Departments specified in the list of names with the designated address of the hall of residence:

- (Petershof) – you should contact the Settlement Department in Hall of Residence No 10 at: office 106, 66/2 Botanichskaya Street.

- (Vasilyevsky Island) – you should contact the Settlement Department in Hall of Residence No 1 at: ground floor, 20/1 Korablstroyitelei Street.

(b) After the mass check-in, or if your name is not in the list see (*) below.

• Contact the **Department for Youth Affairs** at: office 109, Rector’s Wing, 7-9-11 Universitetskaya Emb., telephone +7 (812) 324-12-73, e-mail: urm@spbu.ru, then contact Settlement Departments

(*) A few days before the start of check-in, information about the accommodation and lists of names with the addresses of their hall of residence are published on the St Petersburg University website in a special section.

**Information on St Petersburg University accommodation**

For detailed information about the University halls of residence, see paragraph 10.
4.5. TUITION PAYMENT

At the University Cashier’s Office, you can pay for tuition at no extra cost. The Cashier’s Office is located in the Administrative building at:

7/9, Universitetskaya embankment.
Opening hours: Monday to Friday 10am–4.30pm.
Breaks: 1pm–2pm, 2.30pm–3.15am.

You can also pay tuition fees, student accommodation, additional services, the Language Centre services, etc. at no extra cost online through the [Online payment service](#).
5. STUDIES

5.1. Where to see the timetable
5.2. Single user login
5.3. Resources for studying: the Research Park and the Library
5.4. What are the reasons for being expelled?
5.5. Feedback
5.1. WHERE TO SEE THE TIMETABLE:

- In the information system timetable.spbu.ru
- On the information boards and screens

5.2. SINGLE USER LOGIN

A single user login provides students of the University with access to the University’s information systems: e-mail, electronic learning support system, licensed electronic resources, etc.

For students, a single user login is created automatically as soon as a student is enrolled in the University. A registration card with a login, password, email address, and short instructions is issued by the Academic Department.

To log in to the mailbox, you should use your login (st*****@student.spbu.ru) and a password that is provided to all students.
Contact an employee of the **Academic Department** if:

- you have not received your login/password
- you do not receive emails (but your course mates do)

Contact the Information Technology Service if:

- you forgot (lost) your login or password
- you cannot login to electronic systems

Contact details of the support service:

7-9-11, liter B, Universitetskaya Emb.
Office 1, ground floor, Rector’s Wing
+7 (812) 363 60 30
support@spbu.ru

*Contact details of the support service departments by areas of study*
5.3. RESOURCES FOR STUDYING: THE RESEARCH PARK AND THE LIBRARY

The Research Park of St Petersburg University

The Research Park of St Petersburg University is a cutting-edge research and development centre. At present, the Research Park consists of 26 resource centres for the four priority areas of scientific research at the University: Nanotechnology and Materials Science; Biomedicine and Human Health; Information Systems and Technologies; and Ecology and Nature Management.

Learn more on the Research Park website.

The Research Park operates according to the principle of equal access. It allows all interested parties to use it regardless of their affiliation with the University provided they follow the rules established for all resource centre users. In the future, if you need to carry out research to prepare your graduation project, you can also contact the specialists of the Research Park.
The M. Gorky Scientific Library

We advise you to contact the library for reliable information as it is very simple and easy to do this today.

How to borrow a book?

A library card is issued to each student upon admission. To borrow books, you just need to show your library card to a library employee. You can visit any subject department regardless of what field you are studying.

In the library reading rooms you can:

- study new books and magazines
- find useful publications in electronic catalogues
- use computers with Internet access
- copy and scan materials
- work with databases online
Using the login (st ****) and password, you can log in to the system of remote access to the library's electronic resources.

The collection currently available for readers contains

- 124 500 000 electronic full-text sources
- 77 000 electronic journals
- 750 000 e-books

The Library website
5.4. WHAT ARE THE REASONS FOR BEING EXPELLED?

As you remember, the University has a special right to set its own educational standards. They are higher than those of many other universities in our country, so you have to be as scrupulous as you can about studying. It should be remembered that it is not only academic failure that can be a reason for being expelled.

You may be expelled:

- for academic failure not settled on time
- for submitting work created by other people
- for submitting falsified documents or certificates
- for delay in payment of tuition fees, etc.

More information about the reasons for expulsion can be found in the Charter of St Petersburg University.
5.5. FEEDBACK

The core principles of the University are openness and transparency. This means that everyone can take part in its life. For example, everyone can send their recommendations concerning the issued orders and offer ideas. This also applies to educational issues. It is very important for us to know your opinion about the quality of the courses taught and the professionalism of the academic staff.

A survey about the quality of teaching academic subjects is carried out every semester. You just need sign in to your personal account, click the ‘Grades’ section and select a specific subject. Information about the beginning of the survey is published on various resources of the University, so you can’t miss it.
Virtual Reception

If you have any questions that require the participation of the Administration of the University, you can always ask them online through the Virtual Reception.
6. STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES

6.1. How to participate in the academic mobility programme
6.2. What programmes exist
6.3. How to apply
6.4. Contact details
6.1. HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ACADEMIC MOBILITY PROGRAMME

Each student of the University has the opportunity to take part in academic mobility programmes. It makes no difference what course you are in or what your area of study is. The restrictions are only for students who are studying in the last semester of their final year. We recommend you therefore not to delay, and to take advantage of this exciting opportunity; especially since the list of partner universities includes 450 top universities in Europe, America and Asia.

Learn more

The list of partner universities of St Petersburg University (in Russian)

The main requirements for applicants are:

- good academic performance (the average grade for the entire period of study must be at least ‘good’); and a sufficient level of foreign language proficiency (the language of the host country or English, if courses are taught in English at the host university).
6.2. WHAT PROGRAMMES EXIST

The University is an active member of international academic mobility programmes including Erasmus, Finnish–Russian Cross Border University, Coimbra Group, European University Foundation (Campus Europae).

The list of academic mobility programmes is updated annually. All of the updated information can be found on the website ifea.spbu.ru/en/. There you can also find the most important things: what documents must be submitted; and what are the deadlines for their submission.

Depending on the programme, students can apply for a scholarship, as well as for paid or free accommodation in a hall of residence.

Student Exchange Programme
6.3. HOW TO APPLY

First of all, check the list of available programmes. It is also worth reading the stories of students sharing their experience of studying abroad. Visit the [SPbU Ambassadors](#) website to get inspired.

Inspired? Then let’s move on.

**What documents are needed:**

- the application form – submitted through the online form
- the filled and certified application form – the form is downloaded and filled in electronically, then it must be printed and signed by the Academic Department
- a certificate confirming the level of proficiency in a foreign language: we accept IELTS, TOEFL, DALF etc. If you do not have any of them, you can take a test at the Language Testing Centre at St Petersburg University
- copies of documents confirming achievements in educational and research activities such as: participation in conferences; scientific publications; diplomas of winners and prize-winners of Olympiads; etc.
6.4. CONTACT DETAILS

For advice on filling in the application form and on other issues, you can contact the student exchange coordinator in your area of study.

Contact details

Coordinator of outgoing mobility at St Petersburg University

Ms. Alexandra Chubsa
7-9-11, liter B, Universitetskaya Emb.
Office 206, 2nd floor, Rector’s Wing
+7 (812) 328 75 62
a.chubsa@spbu.ru
7. SCHOLARSHIPS AND COMPETITIONS

7.1. Types of scholarships
7.2. How to get an increased or personal/notable scholarship
7.3. Alumni Association Scholarship
7.4. Endowment Fund Scholarship
7.5. The ‘SPbU Start-up’ contest
7.6. Olympiads
Over 30 scholarships and over 400 winners.

Students and doctoral students of the University can get scholarships to support education and research. The University also has joint scholarship programmes with the business sector and private funds.

7.1. TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIPS

All first-year students enrolled in government-funded places receive a state academic scholarship. The financial value of the scholarship is 1,691 roubles per month.

- **Increased state academic scholarships**
  They are awarded to students with achievements in academic, research, social, cultural, creative and sports activities. The financial value of the scholarship in the spring of 2019 was from 6,500 roubles to 10,500 roubles.

- **Personal/notable scholarships**
  They are awarded to students who have considerable achievements in academic and research activities. The financial value of the scholarship depends on the scholarship programme, and there are several dozen of them at the University.
7.2. HOW TO GET AN INCREASED OR PERSONAL/NOTABLE SCHOLARSHIP

Increased and personal/notable scholarships are awarded following the results of competitions. The criteria for each scholarship are different, but there are general requirements – at a minimum you need to study well.

7.3. ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

The Alumni Association is a dynamic and enthusiastic community that brings together alumni irrespective of their age and fields of study. You can join it only after receiving a diploma from the University, but you can participate in its various programmes right now.

The Association’s projects:

- Public lectures – meetings within the walls of the University with renowned representatives of science, culture and business;
- The career centre – internships with the best employers and participation in events aimed at developing professional skills;
- Volunteering – participation in the Association projects to gain invaluable experience.
7.4. ENDOWMENT FUND SCHOLARSHIP

Personal/notable scholarships established at the University are paid from the Endowment Fund ‘Development of St Petersburg University’. The Endowment Fund is a tool to support the University. Its mission is to form and preserve capital through voluntary donations from alumni, teachers and friends of the University. The Fund helps to implement pivotal projects such as: an annual contest ‘Start-up SPbU’ (there is more information about it in the following paragraphs); the Botanical Garden is currently undergoing restorative renovations; and others.

Additionally, the Endowment Fund supports talented students through various scholarship programmes.

**Endowment Fund scholarship programmes**

- **‘Talent, Creativity, Efforts’ scholarship**
  It is awarded to the best students of the St Petersburg University College studying in Physical Training programmes for achievements in academic, research, socially significant, cultural, creative, and physical culture and sports activities.

- **V.V. Mavrodi Scholarship Fund**
  Scholarships are awarded to the best history students.
SCHOLARSHIPS AND COMPETITIONS

• **Lomonosov Scholarship**
  This scholarship is awarded to chemistry students at the University following the results of competitive selection. The requirements for receiving a scholarship include: the student’s academic performance with ‘excellent’ marks during the last two semesters; and high performance of their research activities.

• **Academician Mitrofanov Scholarship**
  The basis of the scholarship fund was the donation of Tamara Bayanova, the widow of Academician Mitrofanov. It is awarded to bachelor’s and master’s students studying geology at the University.

• **N.A. Chechina Scholarship Fund**
  N.A. Chechina Scholarship Fund is currently being formed. Professor Nadezhda Chechina was the first head of the Department of Civil Procedure at Leningrad State University (St Petersburg University) and Doctor of Law. Scholarships will be awarded to the best law students.

• **Rector’s scholarships for bachelor’s and master’s students at the University**
  They are awarded to students studying physics, mathematics, and natural sciences.
• **Academician Fursenko Scholarship**
  It is established to encourage student research and development activities of current historical, socio-economic and political issues of modern civilisation.

• **Academician Piotrovsky Scholarship**
  It is established to encourage students to carry out research activities in history, archaeology, and Asian and African studies.

• **Verbitskaya Scholarship**
  It is established to encourage St Petersburg University students who have an outstanding ability in the study and promotion of the Russian language and culture.

• **Ivanovsky Scholarship**
  It is awarded to students for their achievements in biology and medicine.
7.5. THE ‘SPBU START-UP’ CONTEST

It can take a long time to list all the bonuses received by students participating in the ‘SPbU Start-up’ contest. We will focus on the most important.

– Firstly, it is a great experience of teamwork on the creation of not an educational, but a real scientific and business project.
– Secondly, it is an opportunity to receive a monthly scholarship from the St Petersburg University Endowment Fund of 7,000 roubles within four months after passing the face-to-face round.
– Thirdly, it is an opportunity to receive a prize from 100,000 to 300,000 roubles and to win grants of 700,000 and 1,000,000 roubles to develop projects.

Starting this year, St Petersburg University students have a unique opportunity to present their start-up projects instead of defending their graduation theses.

The basic conditions of the contest are:

• Only students and doctoral students of St Petersburg University can participate in it
• A team can declare its research supervisor – a University lecturer or employee
• A team should be interdisciplinary, with participants studying in at least three different areas of study (a great reason for making friends from other fields).
7.6. OLYMPIADS

Many applicants become students of the University through Olympiads. However, one could and should participate in them not only to receive special perks for admission – there are many more bonuses.

St Petersburg University Olympiad for PS(R)S students.

Petropolitan Science (Re)Search — or PS(R)S is an open international Olympiad for students and young researchers. It covers 17 areas of study. Not only students, but also recent graduates can take part in it. The results of the Olympiad are taken into account for admission to master’s and doctoral programmes: winners can receive from 50 to 100 additional points.

The working language is Russian.

For more information, write to: psrs@spbu.ru
‘I am Professional’ Olympiad

*The Olympiad* is designed to establish direct interaction between students and entrepreneurs – their future employers. Winners and medallists can have many agreeable awards such as: a large monetary prize; a certificate for admission to master’s and doctoral programmes; an internship in a company; and placement in a national HR base.

In 2019, the Olympiad was held in 68 fields of study. The University supervised ‘Linguistics and Literary Studies’ and ‘Law’. The working language is Russian.
8. OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY THE UNIVERSITY

8.1. Learn Russian in non-degree programmes
8.2. Language testing
8.3. Online courses
8.4. Public lectures
8.5. Volunteering
8.6. Green Campus
8.7. Sports
8.8 Creativity
8.1. LEARN RUSSIAN IN NON-DEGREE PROGRAMMES

Every year, about 1,500 foreign citizens from more than 65 countries around the world study Russian as a foreign language at the Centre of Additional Educational Programmes.

You can start learning Russian from scratch or improve your knowledge up to C1 level.

Check out the programmes of the Russian Language and Culture Institute.

8.2. LANGUAGE TESTING

At the Language Testing Centre of St Petersburg University, you have the opportunity to take a test of Russian as a foreign language (TORFL) and receive a state certificate confirming your level. The certificate is an asset for further training or when applying for a job.

Additionally, at the Testing Centre of St Petersburg University, you can take: Cambridge English; ECL language exam (Spanish, Italian, Hungarian, French, German, Hebrew, Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, Polish, Romanian, Serbian, Slovak); TOPIK (Korean); JLPT (Japanese); YAEL (Hebrew); the Turkish Proficiency Exam; and AMFA (Persian).

Language Testing Centre
8.3. ONLINE COURSES

150+ courses  1,500,000+ students

Online courses at the University make it possible to study for free with the University’s top scientists and lecturers. They cover all areas of knowledge and are open for access from anywhere in the world.

Since 2018, certificates of studying in the University’s online courses have been adding extra points for admission to master’s and doctoral programmes.

Recently, online courses have become an integral part of studying. Some of the curriculum courses are taught:
- in a combined learning format using online courses;
- in a remote format

Some online courses can be taken as optional electives.

For more information about online courses at the University click here.
OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY THE UNIVERSITY

How to become a student?

1. Select the course you are interested in on the website online.spbu.ru

2. Enrol in a course on the Open edX platform or the Coursera platform

3. Depending on the start date of the course, you can either subscribe to the course news, or immediately get access to the first lectures.

4. Upon completion, you can earn a course certificate according to the rules of the platform.

Some of the University’s online courses are available all the time: all course materials become available as soon as you enrol; and you can take interim and final exams at any convenient time.
8.4. PUBLIC LECTURES

The University regularly holds meetings with top figures in culture, science, politics and business. Public lectures are delivered by Nobel prize winners and world-known foreign scientists. Such lectures are typically open to all students.

Check the announcements on the University website in the ‘Events’ section.

8.5. VOLUNTEERING

The University has a well-developed volunteering system. You can help in very different directions and take part in various projects.

The activities of volunteers at the University are coordinated by the Volunteering Centre. It works in five areas: social, service, environmental, patriotic, and sports volunteering.

Last year, the Centre attracted about 4,000 volunteers to participate in more than 170 events, including:

- FIFA World Cup
- St Petersburg International Economic Forum
- The St Petersburg International Cultural Forum
- St Petersburg International Labour Forum
- St Petersburg International Legal Forum
- St Petersburg University Freshmen Initiation Day
- A Reunion of St Petersburg University alumni
University students often volunteer at the Hermitage and other cultural organisations. They also help in animal shelters; gather toys for orphanages; conduct performances and master classes for cancer-stricken children; visit veterans of the Great Patriotic War; and provide all-round assistance to those who really need it.

If you are interested in taking part in volunteer projects, please fill in the form on the website.

For more information, write to: o.noskova@spbu.ru

The group on the Vkontakte website

8.6 GREEN CAMPUS

Green Campus is the concept for creating a ‘green’ eco-friendly environment at the University. It aims to create the image of the University as an innovative and socially conscious institution.

The University actively implements the practice of separate waste collection. The so-called Ecopoints, or special collection points, for plastic, waste paper, batteries and other types of waste can be found on the interactive map.
Students regularly hold community cleanup days and environmental events in the Botanical Garden of the University, and organise film screenings and educational meetings.

You can meet active participants in the green movement and their projects in the groups on the VKontakte website:

- EcoSPbU
- Separate waste collection at St Petersburg University
- Botanical Garden at SPbU
- Umberto Eco Eco-Club
- LaTEAM
Each year, over 5,000 students take part in sports competitions at the University. 300 students are members of 19 University teams in 15 sports. The University collaborates with the Rugby Union of St Petersburg, Union of Grass Hockey of the Russian Federation, Climbing Union of St Petersburg, and the Rowing Centre.

**Sports clubs:**

- ultimate frisbee
- aerobics
- boxing
- wrestling
- water polo
- volleyball
- duel fencing
- Irish dance club Unicorn
- orienteering
- Nordic walking
- dancesport
- modern dance studio JaMixDance
- traditional Korean dances
- rhythmic gymnastics
- chess
Sports teams:

- rowing
- mountaineering and rock climbing
- basketball
- volleyball
- swimming
- rugby
- football

Students who are members of sports clubs and sports teams and take an active part in sports events earn extra points for credits in the ‘Physical Training’ course.
For those who do not want to be part of a team, there is the training programme ‘Ready for Labour and Defence’. To earn points, it is necessary to pass at the level of gold, silver or bronze.

*Sports facilities at St Petersburg University* (in Russian)
### SPORTS EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Start of the student sports season of St Petersburg University</td>
<td>20 September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sports Festival ‘Peterhof Olympic’</td>
<td>September to October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friendly matches: freshmen – lecturers</td>
<td>October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The ‘Spartakiad’ of the All-Russian Physical Culture Training Programme ‘Ready for Labour and Defence’</td>
<td>October, April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Freshman Prize’</td>
<td>November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evening to sum up the sports results of 2020 among students of St Petersburg University: ‘The Champions Ball’</td>
<td>December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indoor University Sports Days</td>
<td>January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Petersburg University Winter Cup</td>
<td>February</td>
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<tr>
<td>St Petersburg University Championship in different sports</td>
<td>February to April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Match meeting of St Petersburg University – Moscow State University for the ‘Challenge Cup’ (swimming, rugby)</td>
<td>April</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relay Race in memory of V.V. Vasilkovsky</td>
<td>May</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer Cup in water sports</td>
<td>June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing celebration of the sports season and summing up the results of the academic year</td>
<td>June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friendly matches: graduates – lecturers</td>
<td>June</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8.8. CREATIVITY

Dance, act, sing, find your own style of expression – we invite you to join the most creative family of the University. Open auditions for most of the clubs are held throughout the year.

Creative clubs:

- artistic groups in Peterhof
- the G.M. Sandler academic choir
- the Vocal Studio
- the Studio Theatre
- the Russian Folk Orchestra
- the Youth Chamber Orchestra
- St Petersburg University Choir
- the Folk Music Group
- the University theatre association Filolalia
- the ensemble of early music Musica Universalis

Learn more about creative associations and join them (in Russian)
Creative events

The University annually hosts hundreds of various events in which both St Petersburg University students and students from other universities take part. Follow the news on the official website so as not to miss the most interesting things.

Creative events:

- the Winter Ball
- intellectual and humorous games
- photo contests
- concerts
- performances
- festivals, and much more.
9. STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS

9.1. The International Student Club
9.2. Erasmus Student Network at St Petersburg University (ESN SPbU)
9.3. Speaking clubs
9.4. Hobby clubs
9.5. Sports club
9.6. Scientific clubs
9.7. Student Council
9.8. Trade union committee
9.9. Alumni Association
9.1. THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CLUB

We recommend all international students to join this club. It is a community of like-minded people from all over the world. With their support, it will be much easier for you to adapt to life in a new place and study at the University.

St Petersburg University International Student Club is a member-run club of international students. It supports their rights, and also represents, supports and enhances the learning environment of international students. The club hosts various events where Russian and international students meet. These are speaking language clubs, evenings of international cuisine, international concerts, exhibitions, and film screenings.

The International Student Club is a good way to make new friends and get to know better the culture of Russia and St Petersburg.

Learn more
The group of the International Student Club on the VKontakte
e-mail: sovetkio@spbu.ru website
The University is part of the Erasmus Student Network (ESN). Exchange students from all over the world come to us every semester. Participation in the ESN club helps them get to know the city better, take part in language-tandems, go on student trips and meet people from different countries.

You can join the activities organised by the ESN St Petersburg University club.

Learn more in Facebook groups:

- SPbU Exchange Students
- ESN SPbU
9.3. SPEAKING CLUBS

You can take part in various language clubs that meet regularly at the University. There, you will be able to practice your language skill and meet up with fellow students to discuss interesting topics. Language clubs usually meet once or twice a week in the afternoon.

The available languages:

- English
- Spanish
- Italian
- Chinese
- Korean
- German
- Russian
- French
- Japanese
- Hebrew

For detailed information about the work of language clubs, visit the ESN groups on the VKontakte and Facebook websites.
9.4 HOBBY CLUBS

At the University, you will find associations where you can explore your hobbies, develop new skills and meet like-minded people. The University has countless student unions. Among them are arts unions, research groups, and student teams to name but a few. Apart from their main responsibilities, they always act as volunteers.

Debate Club

It is the oldest club in St Petersburg and one of the top-rank ones in Russia. Club members regularly travel to tournaments in Moscow, Kazan, Tallinn and many other cities and regularly bring home cups. In the summer of 2019, club members represented Russia at the European Universities Debating Championships.

The University aims to promote debate and discussion. The Debate Club, which was set up by students, has regular debates and workshops to help you excel in public speaking. It has over 1,500 members.

The Club is headquartered in the Smolny campus at: 1/3, entrance 7, 8, 9, Smolny street.

The Debate Club on the VKontakte website
Career Club

The Career Club is a career society to help students gain knowledge and expertise, skills and connections for a successful career. The Club provides a meeting point for the leading St Petersburg companies, including entrepreneurs and experts in various fields. During the last three years, the Club has held over 50 events, with over 3,000 participants.

Students’ teams

There are nine students’ teams in the University. Students’ teams are labour teams formed to work together in their free time (usually during summer holidays). Members of the teaching teams work as counsellors in children’s camps during school holidays. Members of construction teams in their free time work at various construction sites in our country. Archaeological teams take part in excavations. Agricultural teams harvest. Conductors carry train passengers to 15 directions throughout Russia.

The School of Programming

The St Petersburg University School of Programming is an opportunity to practice solving problems and programming. The coach is Andrei Lopatin, a two-time champion of ACM ICPC WORLD FINAL. Teams of St Petersburg University regularly become prize winners of the world programming championships.
9.5. SPORTS CLUB

Since 2013, the Baltic Eagles sports club has existed at the University. Its members are never bored: the club organises the volunteer movement; promotes sports events; and takes part in cultural and educational activities.

To join a sports club, you should fill in an application form.

The group of the sports club on the VKontakte website.
9.6. SCIENTIFIC CLUBS

There are students’ scientific circles, students’ scientific societies in various fields, as well as the University Scientific Society at the University. They are interconnected hierarchically: the University Scientific Society coordinates all extracurricular scientific activities of students; and societies in various fields by areas of knowledge supervise the activities of corresponding circles.

Why participate?

- valuable research experience
- assistance in obtaining an increased scholarship
- the opportunity to become part of big University events and keep abreast of current events in the world of science.

For more information about current circles, contact your Dean’s office.
The Student Council is a representative body of students. It represents the opinion of students on all issues affecting their interests: the quality of education and food; the arrangement of educational buildings and halls of residence; and much more.

Representatives of the Council take part in the work of: Academic and Library Councils; academic and methodological commissions; and scholarship commissions. They are also engaged in planning, preparing and running various University events.

For more information, please contact

studsovet@spbu.ru
https://vk.com/public38817480
The trade union of students and doctoral students is the largest youth organisation in the University. It unites most of the students and deals with all issues of student life.

**What the trade union does:**

- handles complaints on all the issues related to the teaching and learning process and staying in a hall of residence
- provides financial assistance to socially disadvantaged students
- organises holidays in the health-improving complex ‘Universitetsky’ during the holiday season
- takes part in event planning such as: Freshmen Initiation Day; Miss University contest; St Petersburg University International Festival; and many other events.

Additionally, the trade union provides free and reduced fare tickets to theatres and concerts, gym and dance school memberships, and discounted excursions.

*To join the trade union, you should fill in an application form personally at the Trade Union Committee or send it via trade union representatives.*
Contact details:

Office 302, 3d floor, 6, Birzhevaia Line, the University Centre
+7 (812) 328 95 76
info@proforg.ru

Opening hours of the trade union committee:
Monday to Friday 10.30am – 6pm
(July to August 12 noon – 4pm)

The office in Peterhof: office 110, 68 Botanicheskaya street
(the Cultural and Science Centre ‘Shaiba’)
The Alumni Association is a dynamic and enthusiastic community that brings together alumni irrespective of their age and fields of study. You can join it only after receiving a diploma from St Petersburg University, but you can participate in its various programmes right now.

At present, alumni clubs bring together fellow University graduates and invite you to join their events in 16 countries.

**The Association’s projects:**
- Public lectures – meetings within the walls of the University with renowned representatives of science, culture and business;
- The career centre – internships with the best employers and participation in events aimed at developing professional skills;
- Volunteering – participation in the Association projects to gain invaluable experience.

[Alumni Association](#)
Mentor programme

Another project of the Alumni Association is a mentor programme. It enables graduates to share their experience and knowledge with students and to help them build a career. In 2019, there were more than 100 mentor pairs, where an expert became a mentor, and a student of the University became a mentee.

Participation in the mentor programme is an excellent opportunity for a student to learn a success story from real graduates and their professional careers.
СТУДЕНЧЕСКИЕ ОБЪЕДИНЕНИЯ
10. HALLS OF RESIDENCE

10.1. Check-in
10.2. Addresses of halls of residence
10.3. Facilities in halls of residence and visiting rules
10.4. How to get a pass
10.5. How to pay your boarding fees
10.1. CHECK-IN

All international students are provided with a place in a hall of residence. A few days prior to the start of check-in, lists of the names with the address of the hall of residence are published in *the special section*. It makes no difference which day you plan to check in – rooms are allocated in advance and no one will take your place.

The procedure for the provision and allocation of places in the University halls of residence is specified by *the Regulations on the provision of places in the halls of residence of St Petersburg University*.

**What you need to do:**
- find your name on the list, and check the number and address of your hall of residence;
- come to the hall of residence specified in the list with the necessary documents.
If you have not found your name on the lists, but you need accommodation from 25 August to 1 September, you will be provided with a place:

- **Foreign citizens should contact the [International Admissions Office](#) and get a referral for accommodation.**

To get a place in a hall of residence after the organised check-in of first-year students according to the lists, you should submit an application through your personal account.

They will conclude an agreement with you, and immediately provide you with accommodation, keys, bed linen and a temporary pass.

*Learn more about St Petersburg University halls of residence*
10.2. ADDRESSES OF HALLS OF RESIDENCE

**Vasileostrovsky District:**
- 20/1, 20/2, 20/3 Korabilestroitelei Street - halls of residence No 1, 2, 3
- 25, 25/2 Shevchenko Street - halls of residence No 4, 5
- 66 5th Line, Vasilyevsky Island - hall of residence No 17
- 77 8th Line, Vasilyevsky Island - hall of residence No 18
- 3 Kapitanskaya Street - hall of residence No 19

**Petrodvortsovy District (Peterhof):**
- 15/1, 15/2 Khalturina Street - halls of residence No 8, 9
- 66/2, 66/3, 66/4 Botanichskaya Street - halls of residence No 10, 12, 13
- 64/2, 64/3, 64/4 Botanichskaya Street - halls of residence No 14, 15, 16
- 70/1, 70/2, 70/3, 70/4 Botanichskaya Street - halls of residence No 20, 21, 22, 23

**Nevsky District:**
- 27/1 Solidarnosti Prospect — hall of residence No 6

*Map*
10.3. FACILITIES IN HALLS OF RESIDENCE AND VISITING RULES

The halls of residence are of two types: the apartment type and the corridor type. Two or three people share one room. Regardless of the type, all halls of residence are equipped with the necessary furniture: a bed, a bedside table, a chair, a desk, a bookshelf and a wardrobe. The kitchen or kitchenette can be located in the apartment or in a separate room.

Visiting rules

• You may enter your hall of residence 24 hours a day / 7 days a week.
• To enter other halls of residence, it is necessary to have a temporary visitor pass.

Your visitors may stay in your hall of residence from 8am to 11pm. After 11pm visitors are not allowed to stay in the rooms.

For temporary accommodation of a visitor, it is necessary to submit duly an application in advance to an employee of the settlement department. They will issue a payment slip, and you must pay it.

You can pay the payment slip by entering the barcode through the student’s personal account on the St Petersburg University website. After the payment slip is paid, it is necessary to meet and accompany your visitor to the corresponding hall of residence for check-in.
10.4. HOW TO GET A PASS

When you check in, you will get a temporary pass. As soon as you receive your student ID card, you will need to have your permanent pass to the St Petersburg University hall of residence issued.

Each student ID card has a special chip. Take your student ID card and temporary pass and go to the Access Control Department of the halls of residence. The staff will photograph you and programme your student ID card.
Addresses of the Access Control Department of halls of residence:

**Petrodvortsovy District**

Hall of Residence No 10, office 108a, 66/2 Botanicheskaya Street  
+7 (812) 428 47 49, +7 (812) 428 47 56  
Office hours: Monday to Friday 9am–5.45pm  
(lunch break 1pm–1.45pm)

**Vasileostrovsky District**

Hall of Residence No 1, 20/1 Korablestroitelei Street  
+7 (812) 355 01 09  
Office hours: Monday to Friday 9am–5.45pm  
(lunch break 1pm–1.45pm)
10.5. HOW TO PAY YOUR BOARDING FEES

You can pay your boarding fees by entering the barcode number found on your payment slip. The payment slip is sent monthly to your corporate email. You can pay your boarding fees at any time until the 10th day of the next month:

- **online**
- at the Cashier’s Office in the University halls of residence
- using Sberbank payment terminals
11. CATERING

11.1. What’s for lunch
11.2. Addresses of University’s canteens
11.3. Contact details
11.1. WHAT’S FOR LUNCH?

There are over 30 canteens and cafés in the University premises that serve snacks and full-fledged lunches.

**Breakfast menu:**
- egg dishes
- dishes from cottage cheese and dairy products
- porridge and cereal
- pastry
- fresh vegetable salads

**Lunch menu:**
- salads with fresh vegetables / with meat / with poultry / with fish products
- dietary soups / soups with meat / soups with fish
- hot dishes from meat, poultry, fish, and vegetables
- side dishes of cereals, legumes and pasta
- vegetarian dishes
- pastry
- tea, coffee, compote

A combo meal costs about **200 roubles**.
11.2. ADDRESSES OF UNIVERSITY’S CANTEENS

Admiralteysky District:

- 58/60 Galernaia Street

Vasileostrovsky District:

- 26, 1st Line, Vasilyevsky Island
- 15, 6th Line, Vasilyevsky Island
- 2/11, 9th Line, Vasilyevsky Island
- 31/33, 10th Line, Vasilyevsky Island
- 7, liter A, 22nd Line, Vasilyevsky Island
- 6, Birzhevaia Line
- 3, Volkhovsky Pereulok
- 16, Dekabristov Pereulok
- 16a, liter A, Kamskaya Street
- 9, Kakhovskogo Pereulok
- 20, Korablistroitelei Street
- 6, Makarova Embankment
- 5, Mendeleevskaya Line
- 7-9-11, ground floor, Universitetskaya Embankment
- 7-9-11, first floor, Universitetskaya Embankment
- 7-9-11, second floor, Universitetskaya Embankment
- 3, Filologicheskii Pereulok
Petrodvortsovy District (Peterhof):

- 66/3 Botanichskaya Street, Peterhof
- 109, liter A, St Petersburg shosse, Petergof (café)
- 109, liter P, St Petersburg shosse, Petergof (canteen)
- 1, Ulianovskaya Street, Peterhof
- 3, Ulianovskaya Street, Peterhof (café)
- 3, Ulianovskaya Street, Peterhof (canteen)
- 9/1, Ulianovskaya Street, Peterhof
- 26, Universitetsky Prospect, Peterhof
- 28, Universitetsky Prospect, Peterhof
- 35, Universitetsky Prospect, Peterhof

Tsentralny District:

- 39, Radishcheva Street
- 1/3, entrance 7, Smolny Street
- 1/3, entrance 8, Smolny Street
- 21–23–25, Tavricheskaia Street
- 62, Chaikovsky Street
11.3. CONTACT DETAILS

Please provide feedback on catering services at: food@spbu.ru.

When you want to comment on a specific canteen or a café, please state its address.

Head of the Catering Department at St Petersburg University

Svetlana Shingireeva

Office 304, third floor, 6, Birzhevaia Line
+7 (812) 363 69 47
12. HEALTHCARE

12.1. Where to get medical assistance if you get sick
12.2. If you get sick during a pass/fail test or exam
12.1. WHERE TO GET MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IF YOU GET SICK

In case of illness, you can contact the health centres of St Petersburg University or district outpatient hospitals, as well as phone 103 to call an ambulance.

**Health Centre No 1**

16–18, first floor, 7th Line, Vasilyevsky Island, St Petersburg  
+7 (812) 676 25 25

**Health Centre No 2**

35, first floor, Universitetsky Prospect, Peterhof  
+7 (812) 428 45 30, +7 (812) 428 45 31

When applying to the Health Centre, be sure to tell them that you are a student of St Petersburg University.
District outpatient hospitals

All international students of St Petersburg University should have a voluntary medical insurance (VMI). It allows you to get registered at any district outpatient hospital and receive free medical care, as well as call a doctor for a home visit.

- If you stay in a hall of residence in Peterhof, we recommend that you get registered at the outpatient hospital of the Nikolaevski Hospital.
- If you stay in a hall of residence on Vasilyevsky Island, we recommend that you get registered at outpatient hospital No 3 of the Vasileostrovsky District.

What you need to do to get registered:

- visit the outpatient hospital
- show a valid medical insurance, and original and copy of your passport
- file an application for registration.
12.2. IF YOU GET SICK DURING A PASS/FAIL TEST OR EXAM

If you get sick shortly before an interim assessment, pass/fail test or exam, you can do the task when you recover.

**What to do to take a test missed due to illness?**

- Contact your doctor and get a medical certificate of temporary disability
  - the certificate should specify sickness days
  - you can take at a later date the tests/exams missed during the specified period.
- Submit the certificate to the Academic Department within three working days from the date when you return from the sick leave
- File and submit an application.

Information about the certificates is sent for verification at the healthcare institutions.

In the absence of confirmation of being sick, the student is in danger of being expelled.
МЕДПОМОЩЬ
13. JOB OPPORTUNITIES

13.1. Career Events
13.2. Internships
13.3. University’s clinics
13.4. Career Centre
The University invests a lot of work into creating strong links with business, industry, cultural and governmental leaders worldwide. It prepares its students for the relevant opportunities and challenges of the global labour market. The University is ranked No 2 in Russia in the QS Graduate Employability Ranking 2020, and the best in the country for Employer–Student connections.

The University has 2000+ long-term cooperation agreements with such international companies as IBM, Unilever, PepsiCo, McKinsey, Google, Carl Zeiss, Microsoft, Leica, Intel, Adobe, Huawei and many others. The University’s partner organisations offer internships for students and take part in the development and assessment of study programmes.
13.1. CAREER EVENTS

St Petersburg University Career Days are held twice a year. Representatives of leading Russian and international companies are invited to present their programmes and job openings to the University students and alumni. During the St Petersburg University Career Days, students get the opportunity to learn more about the job market, find internship offers, take part in mock interviews, and attend public lectures and workshops. Such companies as Deloitte, EY, JTI, Huawei, Poster, PWC, Uniqlo, Gazprom, MARS, Intel, Unilever regularly take part in these events.

Moreover, the University Alumni Association regularly holds conferences, workshops and cycles of lectures to discuss the employment prospects and opportunities and create a dialogue between industry experts and academic professionals.

For example: Veeam Software organised a series of meetings for students titled ‘IT Career for Humanities Students’; and HR-managers from PepsiCO, BIOCAD, and Gazprom took part in a conference ‘SPbU Students and Alumni at the Job Market’.

Not to miss Career Days, check the announcements on the University website in the ‘Events’ section and the SPbU Events website.

The events of the Alumni Association are available on the Association website.
13.2. INTERNSHIPS

Employees of the Department for Practical Training and Employment hold consultations on the possibilities of an internship and on the requirements for an applicant.

Information about internships and presentations, and announcements of upcoming events and current vacancies from employers is available on the official portal of St Petersburg University (in Russian). Additionally, you can get information about the internship from the head of your academic programme.

13.3. UNIVERSITY’S CLINICS

St Petersburg University practices a unique format of developing students’ practical skills through clinical experience. Working in various clinics, students not only acquire the skills necessary for professional activity and deal with real-world issues, but they also solve socially significant issues under the supervision of their lecturers.
St Petersburg University runs the following clinics:

- the Legal Clinic
- the Psychological Clinic
- the Social Clinic
- the Sociological Clinic
- the Centre for Financial Literacy
- the IT clinic
- the Social Translation Centre
- the Mediation Centre.

In each of them, students develop their hard skills – the ability to work as required by established occupational standards. They also master their soft skills that make it possible for them to work successfully in a given, rapidly changing environment.

City dwellers and University students and staff have the opportunity to contact University clinics for advice on various issues.
13.4. CAREER CENTRE

There are functioning Career Centres at various University schools and faculties. They enable students to get acquainted with the dynamic conditions of the modern job market. Students can choose the best fitting internship or work placement options for a successful career development.

The *Alumni Association Career Centre* offers a vacancy database, podcasts, career coaching from top HR-managers and International Coach Federation professionals as well as a Mentor programme.
14. LIFE IN ST PETERSBURG

14.1. Opening bridges
14.2. Public transport
14.3. Student transport card (smart card)
14.4. Taxi
14.5. Art and culture
14.6. Shops
14.7. Theatre and cinema
14.8. Sports
14.9. City events
World Travel Awards announced that St Petersburg, Russia was the 2019 winner for Europe’s Leading City Destination. This marks its status as one of the world’s most visited cities. Little wonder as it regularly holds various social, scientific, and entertaining events, exhibitions, forums, theatre performances, and concerts of brilliant artists and of various genres.

St Petersburg has an atmosphere like no other. This is due to its historical mission as Russia’s cultural capital, its diverse research and industrial potential, and its artistic splendour. It is generally referred to as a museum in the open air as it inspires people with the beauty of its monuments and palaces, squares and prospects, theatres and art galleries.

Please, visit the St Petersburg Official City Guide for information on the main sights, events, planning routes and general information about the city.
14.1. OPENING BRIDGES

Bridges are one of the most well-known landmarks of St Petersburg. There are more than 300 of them in the city; and 12 of them are opened at night during the summer navigation period (from April to November).

While having your eyes glued to the spectacle of the opening bridges against the backdrop of white nights, you can accidentally stay on the wrong shore. To prevent this from happening, pay attention to the bridge opening schedule on the website https://en.mostotrest-spb.ru/ or in the application ‘Bridges of St Petersburg’.

Plan your moves according to this schedule and be sure to go and watch the bridges opening someday – it’s an enchanting sight!

14.2. PUBLIC TRANSPORT

The transport network in St Petersburg is well developed. You can reach any part of the city by metro, public buses, trolleybuses and trams, commercial fixed-route buses or taxis.
**Metro**

The St Petersburg metro is considered one of the deepest underground railways in the world. The first line was opened on 15 November 1955. The city residents were amazed at the beauty of the stations and the convenience and speed of the new means of transport. The ‘Avtovo’ station of the first Leningrad Metro Line is justly included in the list of the most beautiful metro stations in the world. You can find out more about the opening hours of each station on the official website of the metro.

The interactive metro map is available on the Metro website.

**Buses, trolleybuses, trams**

You can track the movement of public transport and plan routes in any online map service or by using the Yandex.Transport application.

Public transport does not run at night; as a rule, it stops at between midnight and 1am. From 30 April to 15 November, there are night buses that run from Friday to Saturday and from Saturday to Sunday and duplicate the Metro lines. The traffic interval is 30 minutes.
14.3. STUDENT TRANSPORT CARD (SMART CARD)

A contactless smart card significantly saves students’ budget. You will be able to use it in any city public transport: metro, bus, tram and trolleybus.

*Its production cost is 250 roubles. Its production time is 10 days. Required documents are: passport, photo 3x4 and student ID card.*

*A monthly ticket costs 1,075 roubles.*

What does the monthly ticket include?

- 100 metro rides per month
- Unlimited rides by aboveground public transport

*Unfortunately, the student smart card is not operational on commercial transport routes and it does not work in taxis.*

You can have your smart card issued in the following ways:

- At the metro ticket offices

Apply to a ticket office at any metro station. You can get the card there. While the card is issued, we recommend using a temporary ‘Course’ card without your picture. It is also available at the metro ticket offices.
LIFE IN ST PETERSBURG

- At the Centre for issuing privileged smart cards
  Address: 3, Chernoretsky Pereulok, ‘Ploschad Aleksandra Nevskogo 2’ metro station. Office hours: daily 9am – 7pm

- On the website карта-онлайн.рф

If you are not in the metro database, you should contact an employee of the Department for Youth Affairs in your field of study

https://students.spbu.ru/kontakti/napr.html

14.4. TAXI

The following mobile taxi apps are popular in the city

- Uber/ Yandex.Taxi
- Gett
- Bolt
- City-mobil
- And others.

If you prefer to phone for a taxi, use an official provider and try not to wave one down.
14.5. ART AND CULTURE

The history of the city on the Neva River is impossible to imagine without the magnificent architecture and masterpieces of world art. St Petersburg hosts world famous museums and galleries, palaces and cathedrals.

You can admire the works of Leonardo da Vinci, Rembrandt and Diego Velázquez in the Hermitage; watch the famous Russian ballet at the Mariinsky Theatre; enjoy a magnificent bird’s eye view of the city from the observation deck of St Isaac’s Cathedral; visit the legendary cruiser Aurora; and go to exhibitions of contemporary art in the Manege Exhibition Hall or Erarta museum. The sky is the limit in the cultural capital. For more information about museums and their opening hours, visit the website of St Petersburg Committee for Culture.

In addition to established landmarks, the city has a huge number of creative spaces, independent galleries, unusual concept cafés and concert clubs. We are sure that you can quickly find new haunts here; the locals will be happy to recommend something to you.

St Petersburg is also considered the gastronomic and bar capital of Russia. As our students say, ‘it’s a city where you can never get bored’.
14.6. SHOPS

The largest shopping and leisure centres are Gallery and Nevsky Centre in the city centre and MEGA near Dybenko metro station and Parnas metro station. Nevsky Prospekt is also a street of shops.

Bookshops

The University has its own publishing house — *Universitetskaya Kniga*. Additionally, there are many bookshops in St Petersburg, from small independent projects (*Podpisnye Izdaniia*, *Vse Svobodny*, etc.) to large chain bookshops where you can find books in various languages and on a wide range of topics (*The House of the Book*, *Bukvoed*, etc.).

14.7. THEATRE AND CINEMA

At present, the city hosts more than 100 theatres and theatre ensembles. These are the largest drama theatres, among which are the Alexandrinsky Theatre, Bolshoi Drama Theatre, Maly Drama Theatre, and the Lensoviet Academic Theatre. Performances are typically in Russian.

For opera and ballet performances, visit the world famous Mariinsky Theatre, the Mikhailovsky Theatre, the Hermitage Theatre, and others. The city’s theatre ensembles annually stage more than 60 new performances, and also show about 5,000 performances in the city theatres.
For the list of theatres and their productions, click here.

St Petersburg also hosts some of the oldest cinemas in Russia. Film screenings in the original language are sometimes shown in Angleterre Cinema Lounge, the Aurora, the Dom Kino, the Rodina and the Lenfilm cinema, but it is necessary to check in the ‘what’s on’ section. The list of cinemas in St Petersburg is available here.

14.8. SPORTS

The city’s main football club is Zenit, and the hockey club is SKA. On the days of major matches, the whole city supports their favourites. You can also feel this atmosphere and watch the matches. Check the schedules on the websites of Zenit and SKA.
There is something going on almost every day in St Petersburg be it a concert on the Dvortsovaya Ploshchad (Palace Square), a celebration on Nevsky Prospect, a film festival, or an International Economic Forum. Political, cultural, sports and business leaders from all over the world come to St Petersburg giving you the opportunity to make your experience in the city bright and diverse.

St Petersburg regularly hosts world-recognised events: it was one of the cities to welcome the World Cup; opera and ballet festivals regularly attract the most prominent performers of the world; and art events of global significance like Manifesta also take place here to name just a few.

The most iconic and traditional events include: the Scarlet Sails (holiday of school-graduates); City Day and Victory Day; the opening and closing of the Fountains in Peterhof; Singing Bridges; the Stars of the White Nights Festival; International Legal, Cultural and Economic forums; and New Year and Maslenitsa celebrations.

There are also a lot of more informal events to enjoy like: the OdaEda food festival, Geek Picnic – the festival of technology and art; Present Perfect – electronic music festival; VK Fest – major music festival organised by the social media network VKontakte; along with numerous concerts, exhibitions, open talks, parties, and games.
You can check out the list of events on the Official City Guide website (in English) or look up the websites Afisha, KudaGo, Petersburg2 (in Russian).
14.10. SAFETY

As in any big city, you should be careful in large crowds and if you are walking in the dark. Try not to leave your belongings unattended to avoid theft.

When entering some public places (bars, clubs) you may be asked for an ID to prove that you are over 18 years old. You do not have to hand your passport/ID into the hands of the inspector. It is enough just to show it at the required distance so that the date of birth is visible.

The law of the Russian Federation prohibits smoking indoors, in transport, and public places which includes stops, zones near the entrance to the metro, playgrounds, etc. If you smoke in the wrong place, you might be fined up to 3,000 roubles. Drinking alcohol on the street, in courtyards, parks, beaches and other public places in Russia is also prohibited. Additionally, the possession, sale and use of any kind of narcotic drugs is utterly forbidden. Violation of this prohibition may entail severe consequences, including deportation and imprisonment.

Emergency phone numbers:

101 – fire brigade
102 - police
103 – ambulance
104 – gas emergency
112 – emergency (EMERCOM)
15. KEEP IN TOUCH

15.1. Our websites
15.1. OUR WEBSITES

The official site of St Petersburg University
The Admissions Office of St Petersburg University
St Petersburg University International Affairs
Alumni Association
SPbU Events

Social media

Keep in touch with the University – join St Petersburg University communities on social media and check out our latest news

Our community on the VKontakte website
Our community on Facebook
Our community on Instagram
Our community on Twitter
St Petersburg University Channel on YouTube
Presented information is valid as of 31.08.2020. In order to receive official and up-to-date information, please visit the University website.

english.spbu.ru