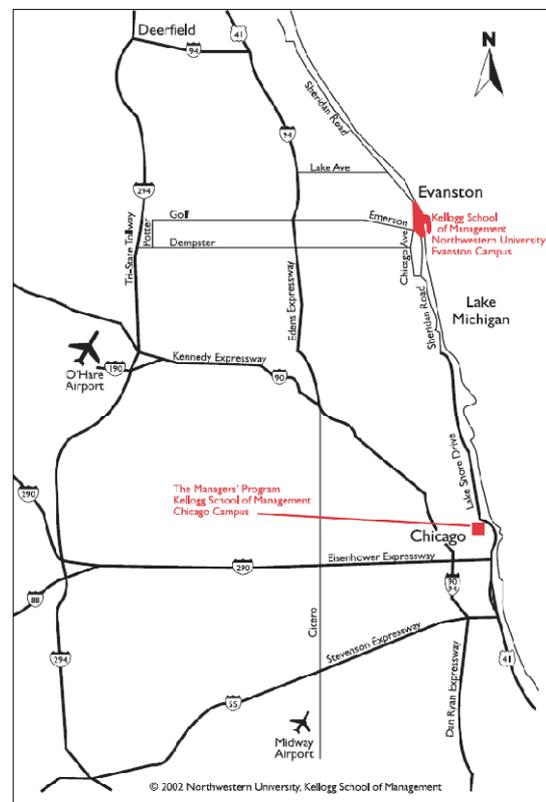




The Kellogg School of Management is located on the Evanston campus of Northwestern University, about 12 miles (30 minutes) north of Chicago on Lake Michigan. Student lives revolve around several key buildings on campus that are all close-by.

### Main sites on/near campus:

1. **Jacobs Center** (2001 Sheridan Ave, Evanston). Home of the Kellogg School of Management. All administration, faculty and almost all classes are located here, and this is where you, as an exchange student, will spend most of your time studying.
2. **Allen Center** (2169 Campus Drive, Evanston). Headquarters for Executive Education at Kellogg. Occasional visits for lunch with professors, company presentations and conferences. Here you will meet all exchange students during the first day (orientation day).
3. **McManus Living & Learning Center** (1725 Orrington Ave, Evanston). Even if you chose not to live here during your exchange, McManus is where most exchange students spend their time off campus.
4. **Norris Center** (on campus). Northwestern's student center, where you can find the main canteen (lots of different food types and a lousy coffee of course); the bookshop (where you can buy your course case packets and books and NU & Kellogg memorabilia); recreation rooms and a branch of US Bank. You can also get your Wildcard (NU student ID) there in the basement.



5. **International Students Office** (in the Jacobs Center). This office handles the administrative matters of all international students at Kellogg. Don't forget to visit within the first few days of your arrival with your passport and DS-2019 form to sign in. Also don't forget to get your DS-2019 endorsed if you need to leave the US during your exchange or else it will be a major hassle to come back.
6. **SPAC (Sports Pavilion and Aquatics Center)**. On campus, this well-equipped sports center has a spectacular lakeside location and is totally FREE (with your Wildcard). There is a well-equipped gym, an indoor running track, a large swimming pool, 2 basketball

courts, 4 tennis courts and several racket ball courts. There is also a sauna to relax in after your exercise. You can get a nice clean towel when you go in.

7. **The Keg, Tommy Nevins, Prairie Moon and Bar Louie.** The traditional Kellogg student “hang-out” spots, designed to unwind. Alternatively, you may choose to make the 30 minutes venture down to Chicago (major places to go to at night: Lincoln Park (packed with bars and restaurants) and, of course, downtown Chicago (with upscale restaurants and beautiful bars and clubs).

### **Visa information**

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All international students are required by U.S. federal immigration regulation to get in to the US on a student visa, so even if you have a tourist visa already you will need to get a new one. The international office at Kellogg will send you all the relevant info and will assist with the needed papers in, however, it is best to follow their instructions carefully – there are no second chances. Upon completion of your exchange (i.e. your J-1 activity), you may remain in the U.S. for an additional 30 days.

Health Insurance and Forms: Northwestern University has determined that all incoming international students will be automatically enrolled in the University’s *Aetna health insurance plan*. The cost is \$~800.

Separate from the health insurance is an *Admission Health record* that is required of all enrolling students. You must complete a specific form and drop it off at the Health Service upon your arrival in Evanston. Notice that some portions of it require information from your doctor and some vaccinations.

### **Housing**

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The McManus Living-Learning Center is Kellogg’s on-campus residence hall. It’s an apartment building located a 10 minute walk from Kellogg where most Kellogg students chose to live. All apartments are en-suite with kitchen in studio, one or two-bedrooms configurations. It also houses numerous study rooms, computer facilities with printers and copiers, laundry rooms, a small (and smelly) gym and a large lounge with a big TV, a pool table, a ping pong table and even a piano. Unfortunately, during the fall semester, there’s usually not enough space left in McManus for all visiting students. As such, students are randomly selected for rooms in order to keep the selection fair. Other alternatives are usually available and include subletting an apartment in Evanston, sharing a room with Northwestern students and also other on-campus residence halls and apartments. I got an apartment all by myself, with a living room, bathroom and a kitchen that was fully furnished for \$1,050 a month. Finding a cheaper one is possible but requires both time and perseverance.

### **Living expenses**

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This really depends on your own needs and limitations, however, it is a quite expensive experience. Accommodations will cost approx. \$3,000, health insurance around \$750, books and packs related costs depend on the courses you choose and your ability to get materials

from friends but may sum-up to above \$1000, and food requirements will call for another \$2,000 (roughly).

Books are quite expensive, but there are some second-hand ones available with about 75% original price at the beginning of term in the Norris Center, and Amazon is always a great option. Case packets costs range from \$30 to \$300. This seems inflated, but there is not always a way around it. The typical Norris Center bill at the beginning of the quarter is around \$200-\$500.

Other than that, since this is a truly unique experience, you will probably want to travel through a few states, go shopping, and just indulge yourself with anything the US can offer, which is a lot! So, be prepared to spend money.

Bank account - You may need a letter from Student Affairs stating that you are here on exchange and confirming that you have a local address. Once you have opened your account, you will be supplied with an ATM/credit card and temporary checks. Otherwise, there is a branch of US bank in the Norris Center and there are other banks scattered in the Evanston area. Your Wildcard can be used as a debit card to withdrawal money from ATM if you have an account with US Bank.

## **Transportation**

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The major mode of transportation around Evanston is walking or biking. Distances are short (if you walk from Jacobs to your apartment for 15 minutes you're very far away). A great option is borrowing or buying a bicycle. Second-hand bicycles are available (e.g. [chicago.craigslist.org](http://chicago.craigslist.org)), or even new mountain bikes for as little as \$100 (e.g. in Walmart). Notice that in November temperatures go down and do so quickly, so this option is not always the best (especially when it snows).

Travel to Chicago is normally done by train - either by the "E" (Elevated Train) which has a continual service into town every 15 minutes but is slow (45 minutes at night) or by using the Metra which is quicker (30 minutes. but runs not so often). Taking a cab is a reasonable option if you are in a group of 3 or 4 people. It costs approx. \$30 and is a great way to come home late on Saturday evening after an evening of wild doings. Moreover, during the day, there is a free shuttle bus that leaves from the Jacobs Center and brings you to the Law School (downtown, in front of the Hancock tower): you just need to show your Wildcard (student ID) to the driver.

Renting a car can be useful for any trips that you want to make. Making friends with Kellogg students who have a car is also a good strategy.

## **Courses**

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Way before the semester starts, the international office will send you a list of open courses for exchange students and a very detailed courses and professors' evaluation chart from the previous year. There are so many options and it is usually hard to chose, so my tip to you is to get engaged with former and current students and ask them for counsel. It is the best way to get informed about all the really important details.

Kellogg uses a bidding system to allocate seats in their courses, and there can be significant difficulties in getting a place on some popular courses. While other students are limited by a small amount of bidding points, Exchange students chose their courses separately by prioritizing as many as 10 courses from which they'll eventually be given 4 or 5. By and large, you get what you ask for (even high-bid point classes). Bidding statistics of the previous year and Teacher Course Evaluations (TCE) are available and very helpful in this process. You have to bid for 4 classes minimum, 5 maximum. Bidding usually takes place in July for Fall exchange, October for Winter exchange, and February for Spring exchange.

The first week of the term is quite hectic. People sign up for 5 courses and may only attend the first two or three lectures. Then, depending on whether or not they like a course, students may elect to drop it. As some students drop courses, others may gain formal enrolment based upon their position on the waitlist.

Courses at Kellogg are held differently than what you are used to. Each student has his/her own nameplate and Professors tend to 'cold-call' students and get everybody engaged during class. Generating an active discussion with and between students is extremely important for most Professors and it definitely makes every class more enjoyable. It is also good since you get a chance to deepen your understanding of the subject, practice communication and persuasion skills, train your logic and improve your knowledge. As a student, you are expected to be prepared to class after reading the class material and completing the required assignments, however, some classes are much less demanding than others. Notice that professors are usually not aware of you being an exchanger (unless they asked around).

Grading is different than at TAU, and if there is an exam it usually determines only a small portion of the final grade. The rest is based on attendance and class participation, submitted assignments and group work. The grading is A, B or C, and it is usually very difficult to fail.

Kellogg's policy is that every student should have his or her own laptop computer. You can survive by using one of the various labs scattered about campus, but if you have a laptop, it is highly recommended that you bring it with you. You'll find it very useful for work that you do individually and it will also prove useful in group meetings. You can also rent a laptop for free from Kellogg. Other than that, there are computer labs located at McManus, in the Jacobs Center and in the Main Library next door to Kellogg.

## **Recreation**

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Culture: Chicago is the third largest city in the US and has many world-class art galleries and museums, one of the best orchestras in the world and also home to some of the best jazz and blues places in the US.

Here are just a few places worth seeing:

- Architecture boat cruise – this is one of the most delightful things you can do in Chicago. This city has the most beautiful buildings and architectural styles than any other city in the US, and also a river you can cruise while enjoying the views.

- Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum (1300 S Lakeshore Drive) – located right by the lake with interactive and state of the art displays and star shows.
- Art Institute of Chicago (111 S Michigan Ave) – one of the best art galleries in the world with the largest collection of Impressionist paintings outside of Paris.
- Field Museum of Natural History (1400 S Lakeshore Drive) – where the Mid-west comes to see dinosaurs, mummies and other fascinating non-living animals.
- Shedd Aquarium (1200 S Lakeshore Drive) – world’s largest indoor aquarium
- Soldier Field (1410 S Museum Campus Drive) – the much revered stadium for American football where the Chicago Bears plays.
- Millennium Park (201 E Randolph St) – one of the best designed public parks in the US where you can see the bean and ice skate in the winter
- Magnificent Mile (N Michigan Ave) – Chicago’s shopping street where you can find all the major department stores. Don’t miss the Christmas lights.
- John Hancock Observatory (875 N Michigan Ave) – you can see as far as 80 miles and 4 states from the second tallest building in Chicago.
- Sears Tower Skydeck (233 S Wacker Drive) – another great view from the 103rd Floor of the tallest building in Chicago.
- University of Chicago campus (Hyde Park) – one of the most famous educational establishments in the world with more Nobel Prize winners than any other. Be careful though as this is not a really safe neighborhood.
- Kingston Mines (2548 N Halsted St) – one of the best places for blues as some argues. Offer student discounts.

Sports & Exercise: Other than the small gym at McManus and the much bigger one at SPAC, you can also find LA Fitness (1618 Sherman Ave) and EAC (1723 Benson between Church and Clark) very nearby with a fully equipped gym full of weights and machines. Both also have lap pools and EAC has an indoor climbing wall also.

Cinema: Century 12 Evanston & Century CineArts 6, are just a few minutes away at 1715 Maple Ave (between Clark and Church). They show all the new releases and offer student discounts.

### **General experience**

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Don’t miss the following:

1. **CIM week activities** (fall quarter exchange only). CIM (Complete Immersion in Management) is two-weeks’ of orientation classes and activities organized by the 2nd year students to introduce the Kellogg culture and each other to the 1st year Full time MBA students. Basically, you will have two weeks of fun (parties, games, shows, hunts and other fun activities) with a great group of people (your assigned section) from all over the world who will stay your friends while you are at Kellogg and after. In addition, you will be introduced to the Evanston campus including all the facilities, the career center, the academic stuff, the intranet and IT support and other important info you will need to know to start the Kellogg program fully informed and equipped. It’s an amazing investment of time and the cost is only a few hundred dollars for the whole 2 weeks of program. CIM week is

thus the definite thing “to do”. The program takes place 2 weeks before the Fall quarter starts.

2. **KWEST and/or the Ski trip** (fall quarter exchange only). KWEST (Kellogg Worldwide Experiences and Services Trips) are also organized by 2nd year students for the incoming students. The ski trip can be a substitute or a complement to your social program at Kellogg depending on your budget and goals. It is 1 week long and costs around \$1000 (include flights). It's cheaper than KWEST and takes place at the end of the Fall quarter after the exams. Any Kellogg student can participate. Ski trips are very popular and demand exceeds supply every year. You need to sign up immediately when Signup opens to secure a spot. The trip is a great fun and includes thematic parties every day, many competitions and gatherings. Don't worry if you are not a skier or snowboarder as many people only started learning winter sports at the ski trip, while others never ski or snowboard at all on the trip. Sign up early and you will not regret!

3. **Live at McManus**. Although I lived elsewhere and enjoyed it, most exchange students stay at Kellogg's graduate housing McManus and there are many reasons why: close to campus, spacious rooms, all utilities arranged, free internet access, free printers, study rooms, group rooms, copying machines, gym, laundry rooms, etc. It's also very close to downtown Evanston, just across the street from the high quality food market (Whole Foods Market), only 10 minutes walk from all the bars in Evanston, 7 minutes from metro (the “E”) and train stations, and 7 minutes from the cinema. You pay more in rent compared with renting an apartment, but you also get more. Most importantly, you will be living in a big community with other Kellogg students. Also, there are parties held all the time at McManus hall by all the clubs or by McManus itself.

4. **Participate in TGs and Balls**. Every Friday at 5pm there is TG (Thanks God is Friday) at Jacobs. The party usually has a topic and is organized by one of the Kellogg numerous clubs. Be there, not only because it's a fun place to relax after a busy week with free beer and snacks, but because it is a great opportunity to meet your fellow Kellogg classmates and friends in an informal setting.

Also, every quarter there is at least one Ball for all students organized at Kellogg. First, it's once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to meet your school friends in a classy atmosphere and so nicely dressed up. Second, the Balls have great food, drinks, music and you would become much closer with your friends after.

5. **Meet with professors**. Kellogg is such a high caliber school in part because of all the great professors the school has. Every professor at Kellogg is a fountain of wisdom and many world-recognized experts in his/her field. Kellogg professors could be a great source of valuable information and knowledge and they are very open to meet with students. You just need to set up a meeting in advance and be prepared for the conversation. Professors love it!

6. **Take part and be active at Kellogg clubs**. Kellogg has more than 130 student clubs and organizations across the full time, part time and EMBA programs that appeal to diverse interests and issues. There are academic, professional and industry-specific organizations, as

well as clubs focused on sports, hobbies, the arts, and ethnic and cultural interests. It is a great way to get to know fellow students, industry leaders, companies, and just have fun with a group of great people with same interests. This is truly a unique experience that may also help you develop professionally. Take a deep look at the list of clubs at: [https://kellogg.campusgroups.com/club\\_signup?group\\_type=9999](https://kellogg.campusgroups.com/club_signup?group_type=9999)

Company Presentations: During Fall term there is at least one company presentation on campus almost every day during lunch or before evening classes (with food provided!). Most of these are arranged by the various student clubs and are either recruitment in nature or about one aspect of these companies' business.

**7. Party, Party, Party.** Kellogg has a great and very unique 'work hard, play hard' mentality that may change your ways forever. A different party can be found every second day and people just love to have fun together. This is also one of the main things you would love to reminisce on later in your life 😊

### **Tips & important things to be aware of**

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- Pre-arranged taxi between towns and airports is much cheaper.
- Take the advantage of inter-campus school bus to travel between Evanston and Chicago. It runs 24 times a day, Monday to Friday, and stops at the centre of Chicago. Very convenient and it is free with Wildcard.
- Chicago can be dangerous! Be aware of your location at all times as you may easily wander off to a really bad neighborhood.
- Try once the Chicago style deep-panned pizza. You will never forget it, just as you will never finish it.
- Go to a famous blues or other bar with live music. You'll probably find world-class performers on any given day.
- An Asian market is 30 minutes away by train from Evanston and you can find all kinds of Asian food stuff there.
- The heating in McManus is very strong so be aware of sweating if you don't open the window a bit or use the air conditioner.
- Watch at least one American football game. Lots of fun.
- Avoid starting the habit of eating from Burger King just because it is close and it is fast. It's just not worth it.
- Look for good coffee places – they do exist! I recommend on 'the coffee lab'.
- Prepare well for your exchange period – contact former/existing students and ask them to help you get the most out of this experience, read about the school and what it offers, think about what you want to achieve while being there, and prepare to have fun!