



Programme Overview

[The International Research Opportunities Programme \(IROP\)](#) is an exchange programme which takes place over ~8 weeks in the summer from 30th June – 22nd August 2025. Selected undergraduate students work on a research project under the supervision of researchers at [Imperial College London](#). Participants will share the experience with students from other institutions and have the opportunity to explore London and the United Kingdom during the summer. Participants will gain practical research experience in an area of interest whilst experiencing student life at Imperial.

Research project

Participants will be matched with a host supervisor at Imperial College London according to interest areas. It is not guaranteed to be matched with a particular supervisor and participants may need to be flexible. Once matched, the research project is planned and carried out independently between the student and supervisor.

Projects will take place on Imperial's [South Kensington](#) or [White City campus](#) depending on the research project and host supervisor. The Department of Chemistry is mainly based at White City campus.

Intercultural experience

Students from the Technical University of Munich, MIT, Institute of Science Tokyo, Cornell University and the University of Toronto will participate in IROP next summer. There will be a social programme, including a welcome afternoon tea, local trip and celebration event, where participants can get to know fellow IROP students and explore London.

Programme dates

Monday 30th June 2025: IROP begins. Orientation session with the IROP Team, followed by lab induction in the department

During IROP: Organised events as part of the social programme

22nd August 2025: IROP ends

Variation to these dates will not be possible.

IROP Information Session

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[Register to attend](#) the online **IROP Information Session** on Monday 2nd December at **16:00 – 16:45 GMT** to learn more about this opportunity. A calendar invitation with the joining link will be sent to all registered attendees a few days before the session.

How To Apply

Eligibility

- Be fully enrolled as a student at TUM during IROP
- Have completed at least 1 year of studies before beginning IROP
- Be able to commit to the full duration of the programme 30th June – 22nd August

Application Process

There are two stages to the application process:

1. **Selection by TUM**
2. **If selected, the Imperial IROP Team will request application documents to begin matching selected students to a host supervisor at Imperial for the research project**

The application documents include:

- Statement of motivation (research areas/labs of interest, motivation to take part in IROP)
- CV and academic transcript
- 5 Imperial supervisors of interest who you would like to work with on a research project. Supervisors of interest must be from the Imperial department you have been nominated to. An academic's online biography page will state if they are based at South Kensington or White City Campus. **Please do not contact any academics.**

This information will be used to match selected students to a suitable host supervisor for a research project. Information about current research areas and potential supervisors can be found under the 'Research' tab on the host departments webpage. Follow the link in the table on page 1 for the host department which applies to you. Please note, if you are selected for IROP it is not guaranteed that you will be matched with a chosen supervisor and participants may need to be flexible.

Whilst Imperial College London will make every effort, final acceptance to IROP will depend on a suitable supervisor and research project being agreed.

Practical Matters

Accommodation

Accommodation will be arranged for all participants in student halls of residence. Selected participants will be given further information to book and pay for their room. Participants should expect to commute to either the South Kensington or White City Campus each day – a typical London experience!

Suggested Budget

Guide only: actual costs will depend on personal preferences and updated costs in 2025.

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	GBP– weekly	GBP – total 8 weeks in London
Return travel to London	-	Varies
Standard Visitor Visa (if applicable)	-	£115
Single en-suite room in Imperial hall of residence *based on 2024 costs *estimate Room rents are subject to change each year and vary depending on room type.	£287.50 *standard stay rate (5–9 weeks)	£2,300
Food *estimate	£80	£640
Local travel (zone 1-2 travelcard , all buses for 2 months) (Alternatively, transport can be paid as you go for each journey)	-	£328.00
Personal and leisure *estimate	£60	£480

Covid 19

Potential impact will be continuously monitored, and adjustments to overseas opportunities may be required at short notice. IROP will follow any UK and international travel advice and restrictions.

Communication

Any questions about nomination to IROP should be directed to TUM.

Once selected, participants are then supported by Beth & Laura, the IROP Team at Imperial, who are available to answer questions and provide support during IROP.

IROP Tips

Ideal participants will be willing to develop skills in proactivity, organisation and independence, which will support you well in preparing to come to London and make the most of the research project.

Tip from previous participant: 'To get the most out of the placement requires resilience, adaptability and an open mind as it is probable that things will go wrong or will not be as you had expected. Despite this, I enjoyed every moment of the trip and could not imagine a better way to spend the summer.'

Student Experiences:

'The IROP-program was an unforgettable experience. I met new people, made friends, and gained valuable research experience that will promote me in my future journey. All of this was made even better by the opportunity to explore the beauty and vibrant culture of London as a local. I highly recommend IROP to anyone looking to expand their comfort zone and traveling to another country.' **TUM student, hosted by Imperial's Department of Materials**

'London is a very stunning city that offers incredible cultural diversity alongside its historical sights. It was a great experience to meet and socialise with the other IROP students and Imperial staff. I made many new friends and made plans to visit them - from Tokyo to Toronto. It was very interesting to see how the Chemistry lab is organised here and I saw many useful things. I have also deepened my knowledge and learnt how to use different and new lab equipment. I am very grateful that I was able to take part in this experience.' **TUM student, hosted by Imperial's Department of Chemistry**

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'My experience has been transformative. Living in London and studying at Imperial allowed me to immerse myself in a vibrant academic environment, where I developed invaluable research skills and met incredible people from around the world. The combination of cutting-edge research, supportive mentors, and cultural experiences has significantly enriched both my academic and personal growth.' **TUM student, hosted by Imperial's Department of Physics**

Watch MIT student Claire's [IROP day in the life](#) vlog.