



no. 5 - 6 August 2026

One month to go!

Dear **student**,

August is already underway and the start of the academic year is fast approaching! As you prepare for your arrival and the beginning of your studies, there may still be a few practical matters to arrange or questions you would like to have answered.

Our **Arrival Webinar on 19 or 20 August** will help you get ready for your first weeks in Amsterdam. During the webinar, we will share useful information and practical tips to help make your arrival and start at the university as smooth as possible.

Find more details at uva.nl/uponarrival →



Opening a Dutch bank account

Once in the Netherlands, you may find it helpful to open a Dutch bank account. International money transfers can be expensive, and credit cards are not accepted everywhere. **With a Dutch debit card, you can easily pay** at supermarkets, cafés and restaurants without additional charges. There are several factors to consider when choosing the bank that best suits your needs.

[Read about opening a Dutch bank account →](#)



Chat with a UvA student

[This information applies to all students except Exchange students]

Curious about what it is really like to study at the UvA? Ask one of our student ambassadors about student life, living in Amsterdam, the Dutch education system or the different campuses. You can also read their blogs for personal stories, practical tips and useful insights.

Please note that this is not a live chat. Submit your question online and a

student ambassador will usually reply within 48 hours.

[Ask a question and read student blogs.](#)

Would you like to [become a student ambassador](#) yourself? Submit your application and join the team!



Cultural Exchange Ambassadors

[This information only applies to exchange students.]

Would you like to **meet local and international students**, make an impact by sharing your study abroad experiences, develop professional and intercultural skills, and collaborate with students from a wide range of different cultures? Then **join the UvA international student community** and sign up to be an Exchange Ambassador!

[Cultural Exchange Ambassadors Programme](#) →

Tips for your safety

Amsterdam is a vibrant city with a welcoming, small-scale feel, where you will quickly feel at home. Although Amsterdam is generally considered a safe city, incidents can occur. We therefore recommend taking a few basic safety precautions:

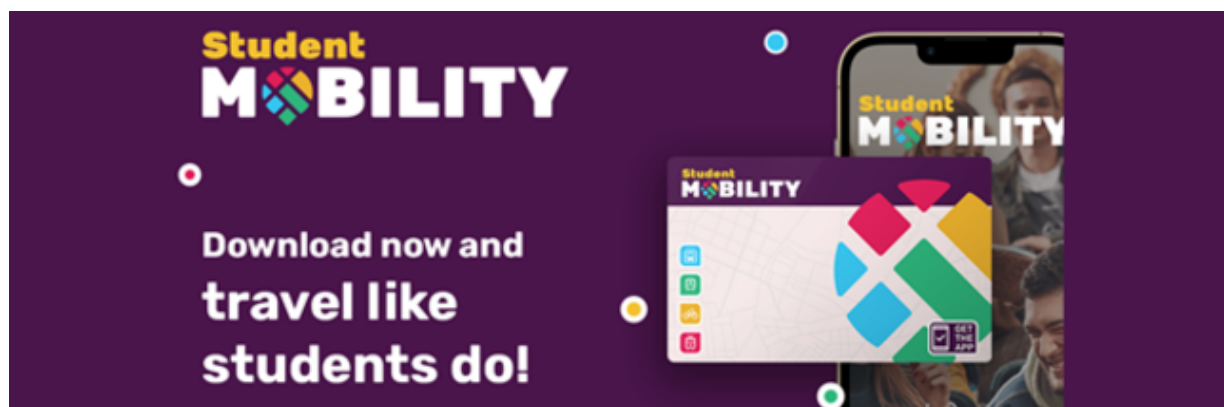
- Keep a close eye on your belongings, especially in crowded places, at bus and tram stops, on public transport and while shopping, as

pickpockets may be active.

- Avoid walking or cycling alone in poorly lit or deserted areas after dark.
- Avoid using ATMs in quiet areas at night.
- Bicycle theft is common in Amsterdam. Always lock both the frame and a wheel, preferably securing your bicycle to a bike rack or another fixed object.

For emergencies in the Netherlands, call 112. For non-emergency police assistance, call 0900-8844. When calling from outside the Netherlands, use +31 343 57 8844.

[Find more information here →](#)



Public transport card with a discount

UvA collaborates with Student Mobility to provide international students **easy access to all forms of transport in the Netherlands**. With Student Mobility you can receive a customized public transport card (+ an ISIC Student-ID) with special discounts for international students. You can use this card for trains, trams, metro and buses.

Next to the card there are discounts on **a bike plan and your first train ticket from the airport once you arrive in the Netherlands**. [Sign up or order now](#) and we will inform you in time about the pick-up in Amsterdam or your delivery options.



Studying with a disability/support needs

The UvA aims to make studying accessible to all students, including those with a disability, chronic illness or additional support needs. Various forms of support and practical arrangements are available to help you participate fully in your studies.

We recommend exploring the available options before the start of your programme, so that any necessary arrangements can be made in good time. You can, of course, request support at any point during the academic year.

[Information for students with a disability/support question](#) →

Webinar: Studying with a disability

A webinar about studying with a disability or support needs will take place on **24 August from 15:00 to 16:00 CET**. You can join the webinar via this [link](#).



Wireless internet

You can use the UvA's fast, secure and reliable wireless network at all campus locations. Whether you are attending classes, studying in the library or working elsewhere on campus, **you can easily stay connected using your UvAnetID.**

Visit our website for more information and step-by-step instructions on how to set up your wireless connection.

[How to connect →](#)

Not starting your studies in September?

Are you enrolled in a full Bachelor's or Master's programme (non exchange) and no longer planning to start your studies in the academic year 2026–2027? **Please cancel your enrolment application in Studielink.**

This helps the UvA determine how many students to expect and prevents you from receiving further email reminders about your enrolment.

Log in to Studielink, select the programme for which you wish to cancel your enrolment and click 'Cancel'. Then tick the box confirming that you wish to cancel your enrolment application and click 'Confirm'.

[Go to Studielink →](#)



Follow the UvA on social media: make the most of student life

Want to stay in the loop? **Follow the UvA on social media** for useful tips, important updates, study resources, campus and library opening hours and events you won't want to miss.

You'll also find plenty of inspiring, practical and relatable content about studying, living and making the most of your time in Amsterdam.

Follow us here:



YouTube

University of Amsterdam

Editors: UvA Student Services. Contact us through the UvA Central Student Service Desk.

You are receiving this newsletter to help you prepare for your study programme at the University of Amsterdam, once every two or three weeks, from June up to the first week of September. Previous editions are available [online](#).

Images: UvA Beeldbank, Unsplash and Freepik.



If you no longer want to receive this newsletter, unsubscribe [here](#).