

Study Abroad and Federal Aid Guidelines



Office of Student Financial Aid
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
620 East John Street - MC 303
Champaign, IL 61820-5712
Fax (217) 265-5516 Phone (217) 333-0100

How do I apply?

- ✓ Fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov.
- ✓ If going abroad for Summer, you must also submit a Summer 2018 Financial Aid Application at www.osfa.illinois.edu and have a 2017-2018 FAFSA on file.
- ✓ If you are going on a **Faculty-Led trip**, please turn in the **SIGNED** Official Study Abroad Budget that you receive from your study abroad advisor to the Office of Student Financial Aid (OSFA). It must be signed by your study abroad advisor. For all other trips, OSFA will obtain this information directly from your advisor.
- ✓ The Official Study Abroad Budget Sheet must be submitted to OSFA, and all financial aid requirements must be completed no later than:
 - **December 1st** for **Fall** semester programs
 - **May 1st** for **Spring** semester programs
 - **June 1st** for **Summer** semester programs
- ✓ Report any study abroad scholarships you receive to the OSFA.
 - To apply for scholarships to study abroad, application and deadline information is available at www.studyabroad.illinois.edu. Many scholarship applications are due one year before you study abroad, so apply early!
- ✓ After your study abroad budget has been reviewed and aid is calculated, you will receive an email notification stating that your electronic Award Letter is available to be viewed. Review your electronic awards and complete all requirements.

How studying abroad will affect my current aid package?

- Most of what OSFA can offer is to increase your and/or your parent's Federal Direct Loans if the cost of studying abroad is higher than your on-campus cost of attendance. Studying abroad does not increase your eligibility for need-based aid, like grants.
- If your study abroad program cost is less than your on-campus cost of attendance, your financial aid will be reduced to the study abroad program cost.
- All outside scholarships must be reported to our office and will be incorporated into your financial aid package.
- All tuition restricted aid (tuition waivers such as Children of Veteran or departmental waivers) will be reduced to cover University of Illinois Range IV tuition only.
 - Tuition restricted funds will not cover foreign tuition or study abroad program fees.
- MAP Grant reduces to Range IV tuition, general fee and student health insurance, if you did not exempt out of the insurance payment.
- Generally, all other aid can be used. If you are awarded an outside scholarship, you should contact the donor of the award to verify it can be used for studying abroad.
- Stop by the OSFA for a financial aid estimate. Please bring your I-card and an estimated study abroad budget sheet with you.

When will I get my financial aid?

- Financial aid, including scholarships, cannot be disbursed until your financial aid package has been re-evaluated based on your study abroad costs by OSFA.
- Financial aid will disburse 10 days prior to the beginning of **on-campus** classes. If your trip start date does not correspond with on-campus classes, please be prepared to cover your expenses during the start of your trip.
- All students must sign up for direct deposit. Visit <https://paymybill.uillinois.edu/> for details. Refunds arrive in your personal bank account 3-5 business days after financial aid disbursement.
- A Power of Attorney is not mandatory but is recommended in case your financial aid is not available before you leave the country.
- Complete all required paper work before you leave the country!
 - Sign up for direct deposit.
 - Complete study abroad registration.
 - 12 hours is considered full-time during the Fall/Spring terms.
 - 6 hours are required to qualify for aid as an undergraduate student during a Summer term, and 3 hours are required to qualify for aid as a graduate student during a Summer term.
 - Accept the loans you need on your electronic Award Letter.
 - Complete all student loan requirements! If you have not previously signed the MPN, you must complete and sign it at <https://studentloans.gov> as well as complete the online entrance counseling session.
 - Submit the Parent PLUS Loan Request to initiate the PLUS loan process at <https://studentloans.gov>. Your parent needs to complete the Parent PLUS Master Promissory Note if one is not on file already.

Financial aid consideration:

- **Winter Break short programs:** Cost is increased for the term in which you are enrolled in the study abroad course. OSFA increases loans for that semester only. It will not affect Fall and Spring grants or tuition waivers.
 - Fall funds can be disbursed within the Fall Term.
 - Spring funds are still restricted to disbursement no sooner than 10 days before the **on-campus** Spring session begins.
- **Summer Session:** Summer funds are limited. You must turn in an Official Study Abroad Budget for any Faculty-Led program and all students interested in aid must complete the 2018 Summer Financial Aid Application once it is available at www.osfa.illinois.edu. Please be sure to indicate your study abroad plans on the Summer application. You must be registered in a minimum of 6 hours to qualify for aid if you are an undergraduate student. Graduate students must be enrolled in 3 credit hours. This can be a combination of Summer I, Summer II or concurrent enrollment with Parkland.
- During **Fall, Spring, and Academic Year** study abroad programs tuition waivers and the Illinois MAP Grant must be reduced. If your cost is less than on-campus, your aid will be reduced to your study abroad cost of attendance and you could lose part of your university need-based gift aid.

Summary:

- ✓ Make sure you have the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) filed for the appropriate aid year.
- ✓ Apply for study abroad scholarships.
- ✓ Stop by OSFA for a financial aid estimate.
- ✓ Turn in your study abroad budget if you have been accepted into a Faculty-Led program and the final cost has been determined.
- ✓ Review your revised Award Letter for study abroad aid eligibility to determine whether it is feasible to study abroad.
- ✓ Turn in all of your paper work BEFORE you leave the country.
- ✓ Enjoy your studies abroad!

My Notes:

Action Item	Notes

Contact Information:

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