

HOW TO FINANCE YOUR STUDY ABROAD

If you are attending a SUNY study-abroad program

- File your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov
- Complete a "Study Abroad Request for Financial Aid" form, available online at <http://www.binghamton.edu/financial-aid/resources/forms.html>
- Meet with a financial aid counselor to discuss financing options. You will need a copy of your official study abroad program cost sheet and proof of acceptance to your SUNY study abroad program
- All students attending a SUNY student abroad program must pay tuition and mandatory fees to Binghamton University.

If you are attending a Non-SUNY study-abroad program

- Check with the Office of International Education and Global Initiatives (IEGI) to ensure they will approve receipt of financial aid under a Consortium Agreement. If you are approved, bring the authorized Consortium Agreement to Financial Aid & Student Records and meet with a financial aid counselor to discuss the next step of the Consortium Agreement process.
- Check with host school of your study abroad program whether you are required to pay in full up front. If you pay in full up front and receive financial aid, you will receive a refund from Student Accounts. However, if you owe any outstanding balance to Binghamton University for any reason this will be deducted from the amount of your refund and reduce the amount of refund you receive.
- You are not eligible to receive New York State's Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) for any non-SUNY study abroad program.
- Student Accounts will issue a refund directly to you. It is strongly encouraged that you to sign up for Direct Deposit to expedite receipt of these funds.
- Refunds are to be used to pay the host school in order to satisfy your financial obligations.

Types of financial aid for study abroad

- Financial Aid and Student Records does not have any special funds reserved for study abroad, but it may be possible during the fall or spring semesters to use grants and loans awarded to cover study-abroad charges during those semesters. Additional loans (i.e., private alternative or Parent PLUS loans) may be a means to cover the increased costs associated with study abroad.
- If you are attending a 4-year SUNY program during fall or spring semester and are eligible, New York State's Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) may be applied. If you're attending a non-SUNY or a 2-year community college study abroad program, TAP is not available.
- Information on scholarships for study abroad can be found at <http://binghamton.edu/oip/> or from IEGI located in Old Champlain, Room 240.

Payment and refunds

- Stop by the Student Accounts Office, Admissions Center, Room 101, to finalize the payment and refund process. If you are studying abroad through a school different than Binghamton University, you will need to bring a copy of your detailed program cost sheet with you.
- Non-Binghamton programs may provide a "Financial Arrangements Form" to be completed and submitted to them. If financial aid is being processed for your study abroad program this form must be completed by a Student Accounts representative to verify amounts and dates financial aid may be released. If no financial aid is awarded for your study abroad program, the Financial Arrangements form may be completed by any Financial Aid or Student Accounts representative.
- If you receive financial aid for a study abroad program but do not attend or need to withdraw mid-way, you may incur financial liability to Binghamton University and/or the host institution.

Credits earned while studying abroad

- There may be a delay in transfer credits related to study abroad being reflected on your transcript.
- If you are studying abroad in your final semester, there will be a delay in final transcript requests and/or your degree conferral until your transfer credits are processed.