2016-17
STUDY ABROAD - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Where do I find information about studying abroad and how do I apply?
The Office of International Programs (OIP) website http://www.princeton.edu/oip/sap/ has information about studying abroad and the Global Programs Systems (GPS) will guide you through the application and approval process.

2. Is financial aid available for study abroad during the academic year?
If you are enrolled in an approved program and are eligible to receive need-based financial aid, then your aid will be available. The amount of your award will be adjusted based on the cost of your program.

3. What is included in the cost of attendance and how will it be calculated?
The approved cost of attendance will include tuition, housing, travel, meals and reasonable expenses related to your study abroad program (e.g. coach airfare, required immunizations etc.). It will not include discretionary spending such as entertainment or optional travel.

The basic budget information and Princeton billing information will be listed in the Program Budget section of the GPS. You should also consult with your program regarding detailed program costs. Once you have been approved for study abroad, you must update the figures to reflect your specific plans and expenses and enter them on the Financial Aid Form in your GPS application. OIP will then approve the budget and forward the information to the Financial Aid Office.

4. How will my aid be adjusted to reflect the costs for my semester (or year) abroad?
If your study abroad budget is less than Princeton’s, your self-help aid will be reduced then your University grant. On the other hand, if your combined expenses are more than staying at Princeton, your University grant will be increased to meet the additional cost. In addition, we will offer a subsidized student loan to replace any term-time earning expectation.

5. How do I request a financial guarantee letter for my visa application or program provider?
After your budget has been approved, the Financial Aid Office will send you a letter to use for your visa application or to request a payment deferment from your program.

6. How will I be notified of my financial aid award?
Before your departure, we will notify you via email of the amount of aid available for your term away from Princeton. If your program is for a single semester, your letter will show the cost of education and aid for each semester.

7. When will my aid be released? Can I request an earlier release date?
The Student Accounts Office will not release any aid funds until you have submitted all required forms. Fall semester aid funds are normally released after Sign-In (9/7/16). Spring semester aid funds are normally released after the first day of classes (2/6/17). If payment is due before these dates, you should discuss your concerns with an aid counselor.

8. How will my aid be used and will I receive aid for my out-of-pocket expenses?
Your aid will be used in the following order:
- To cover any Princeton charges
- To cover remaining direct charges from the sponsoring program (only for programs with a US payment address)
- Any remaining aid will be released to either you or a parent

If you have a billing statement from a University or program outside of the US, your aid will be released to you and you will be responsible for paying the program.