

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](#) has general information about opportunities for studying abroad. To search for and apply for programs, please visit the [Global Programs System \(GPS\)](#).
2. Is financial aid available for study abroad during the academic year?
YES. If you are enrolled in an approved program and are eligible to receive need-based financial aid, the amount of your award will be 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 on the program page in GPS. You should also consult with your program for detailed program costs. Once you have been approved for study abroad, you must update the figures on the Financial Aid Form in your GPS application to reflect your specific plans and expenses. 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 and then your University grant. However, if your combined expenses are more than staying at Princeton, your University grant will be increased to meet the additional cost. 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?
You can contact the Financial Aid Office to request a letter for your visa application or to request a payment deferment.
6. How will I be notified of my financial aid award?
Before your departure, the Financial Aid Office will adjust your aid based on the cost of your program and send you (via email) a detailed letter showing 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 in September, and spring semester aid funds are normally released in January. 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 directly.

Questions? Contact the Financial Aid Office at pfaa@princeton.edu or Study Abroad at sap@princeton.edu