

Faculty-led Study Abroad Financial Workshop

Office of International Education and
Development

Is this program a good fit for you?

- Before you apply
 - Talk with faculty leader(s)
 - Are there physical demands?
 - Are there prerequisites?
 - Do you need the credits?
 - How are you going to pay for it?
 - Talk with your parents/family
- Physical and mental health considerations
 - Importance of self-disclosure of conditions
 - Talk with a doctor or other health professional if you have any concerns about participation
 - Is your medication legal in the country you are going to? If not, ask your doctor if there is an alternative that is, so you are covered while you are abroad. Ask your doctor to write a prescription for that medication and have it filled before you go to see if you will have a reaction or not.

Health insurance

- The University of North Carolina System requires that all students traveling on study abroad programs must have the GeoBlue International insurance
 - Premium is included in the program cost (currently \$1.45 per day).
 - Coverage begins on the day the program group leaves the U.S. and ends the day the group arrives back in the U.S. (Coverage is purchased through one day after scheduled return in case of flight delays or cancellations.)
 - Covers 100% of all medical expenses while in-country.
 - In-network providers do not require out-of-pocket payments.
 - Out-of-network providers require payment, but expense can be reimbursed when proper claim documentation is submitted by student to GeoBlue upon return.
 - Emergency evacuation coverage is included.
 - Repatriation of remains coverage is included. (only preparation and transport - Not funeral expenses)
 - Insurance plan details are available upon request, but will be distributed to all students prior to departure.

Financial Resources for study abroad programs

- Financial Aid
 - Plan ahead. Talk to your financial aid advisor early. Submit the Study Abroad Financial aid form for the term you are traveling abroad. <http://financialaid.appstate.edu/study-abroad>
 - Most aid for summer programs will be in the form of additional loans. However, there is Summer Pell Grant now if you qualify.
 - Must be enrolled in minimum of six (6) credits during summer to qualify for financial aid.
- Scholarships
 - Apply on OIED website: <https://international.appstate.edu/scholarships/scholarships> (searchable outside scholarship database on OIED website)
 - Generation Study Abroad
 - Check with other App State departments for scholarships (e.g., Honors College, College of Business, etc.)
 - Search the web for other scholarship opportunities (e.g., <https://studyabroad.ncsu.edu/funding/outside-funding/>)

Financial Resources for study abroad programs (continued)

- Student Loans from outside vendors
 - Wells Fargo
 - Sallie Mae
 - Other loans from private lenders may be available
- Family gifts (request money in lieu of holiday and birthday gifts)
- Fundraising
 - Crowd-funding (be aware of fees!)
 - FundMyTravel.com
 - GoFundMe.com
- Don't count your chickens before they're hatched!

What's not included in program costs?

- Airfare (if stated that it is not included in program cost)
- In-country transportation to program site (rare but does happen)
- Tuition
 - Spring/fall: no additional tuition if you're a full-time student
 - Summer: tuition is not included in program cost
 - Summer tuition is much lower for study abroad than for on-campus courses
 - Out-of-state tuition for study abroad is also much lower
- Meals (may not be included or only partially covered)
- Spending money
 - For emergency situations (medicine, doctor visit, etc.)
 - Souvenirs and personal items
 - Free-time activities such as museums, weekend travel, etc.

Traveling outside program dates

If a student wishes to travel outside program dates:

- Student is responsible for purchasing own airfare.
- If program cost includes airfare, student will be credited the airfare rate paid by OIED for the other participants on the program.
 - Student “A” buys ticket for \$1,100, OIED buys tickets for program participants at \$950 per student, student “A” receives a credit of \$950.
- Student should provide OIED and faculty leader(s) with their flight itinerary.
- Students should consider extending the international health insurance to cover their extra days of travel. Coverage can be extended up to a maximum of 30 days before and/or after program dates. Contact OIED for details.

Program Payment Schedules

- All programs require a deposit (generally \$300)
 - iASE programs require a \$500 deposit
- Most programs require two or three periodic payments
- Example payment schedule:

Deposit	\$300	Due upon receipt of application
First Payment	\$1000	1/31/20xx
Second Payment	\$1000	2/28/20xx
Final Payment	\$1000	3/31/20xx
Total	\$3300	

Paying for your study abroad program

- Pay deposit either at the Student Accounts office in the JET (John E. Thomas) building or online through your student/parent portal.
 - **Cashier Window:** payments can be made with cash, checks, money orders, and debit cards
 - **Online:** payments can be made by debit or credit cards (a 2.75% surcharge applies) or by eCheck (no additional fees).
- Subsequent payments for Fall or Spring programs may be made online if the term is available for payments in your student/parent portal at the time the payment is due. If term is not available for online payments, you will need to pay at the Student Accounts office (Cashier Window) in the John E. Thomas building.
- All subsequent Summer program payments will need to be made at the Cashier Window (summer term will not be open for online payments until after the program payments are already due).

Cancellation policy (student cancels)

Policy (from program application)

If you cancel your participation in the program due to your withdrawal from the University or any other reason(s), you still remain obligated to pay any payment(s) scheduled to be paid prior to and/or on the official date of your cancellation notice. The initial deposit is non-refundable regardless of the official date of your cancellation. You will not be responsible for scheduled payments that follow the official date of your cancellation.

Cancellation policy (AppState cancels)

Reasons AppState might cancel a program:

- Low enrollment
- State Department Travel Warning
- CDC Level 3 Health Warning
- Instructor unable to go and no replacement available
- Natural Disaster

Whenever possible, OIED attempts to reroute programs, find substitute instructors, postpone departure, etc. If no alternative can be found, students are offered an opportunity to select a different program or receive up to a 100% refund.

Cancellation policy: Example 1 - How much will student lose?

Deposit	\$300	Due upon receipt of application
First Payment	\$1000	1/31/20xx
Second Payment	\$1000	2/28/20xx
Final Payment	\$1000	3/31/20xx
Total	\$3300	

Examples:

- 1) Tim withdraws on January 20
- 2) Margaret withdraws on February 28.
- 3) Billy applied late (March 15), paid \$300, and changes his mind on March 25.
- 4) Jane withdraws from the program on April 15.

Cancellation policy: Example 1 (answer), Example 2 - How much will the student lose?

Deposit	\$300	Due upon receipt of application
First Payment	\$1000	1/31/20xx
Second Payment	\$1000	2/28/20xx
Final Payment	\$1000	3/31/20xx
Total	\$3300	

Examples:

- 1) Tim withdraws on January 20. **He loses \$300 (deposit only).**
- 2) Margaret withdraws on February 28.
- 3) Billy applied late (March 15), paid \$300, and changes his mind on March 25.
- 4) Jane withdraws from the program on April 15.

Cancellation policy: Example 2 (answer), Example 3 - How much will the student lose?

Deposit	\$300	Due upon receipt of application
First Payment	\$1000	1/31/20xx
Second Payment	\$1000	2/28/20xx
Final Payment	\$1000	3/31/20xx
Total	\$3300	

Examples:

- 1) Tim withdraws on January 20. He loses \$300 (deposit only).
- 2) Margaret withdraws on February 28. **She loses \$2300 (deposit, plus first two payments).**
- 3) Billy applied late (March 15), paid \$300, and changes his mind on March 25.
- 4) Jane withdraws from the program on April 15.

Cancellation policy: Example 3 (answer), Example 4 - How much will the student lose?

Deposit	\$300	Due upon receipt of application
First Payment	\$1000	1/31/20xx
Second Payment	\$1000	2/28/20xx
Final Payment	\$1000	3/31/20xx
Total	\$3300	

Examples:

- 1) Tim withdraws on January 20. He loses \$300 (deposit only).
- 2) Margaret withdraws on February 28. She loses \$2300 (deposit, plus first two payments).
- 3) Billy applied on March 15, paid \$300, and changes his mind on March 25. **He still owes the University a total of \$2300 (deposit, plus first two payments).**
- 4) Jane withdraws from the program on April 15.

Cancellation policy: Example 4 (answer)

Deposit	\$300	Due upon receipt of application
First Payment	\$1000	1/31/20xx
Second Payment	\$1000	2/28/20xx
Final Payment	\$1000	3/31/20xx
Total	\$3300	

Examples:

- 1) Tim withdraws on January 20. He loses \$300 (deposit only).
- 2) Margaret withdraws on February 28. She loses \$2300 (deposit, plus first two payments).
- 3) Billy applied on March 15, paid \$300, and changes his mind on March 25. He still owes the University a total of \$2300 (deposit, plus first two payments).
- 4) Jane withdraws from the program on April 15. **She loses the entire cost of the program (\$3300).**

How Do I Withdraw?

To officially and effectively cancel your program participation due to your withdrawal from the University or any other reason(s), you must inform the faculty program leader(s) in writing, and copy to the Director and Program Coordinator of Education Abroad. Failure to abide by the schedule of payments (making late payments or no payments) does not constitute an official cancellation on your part, and you will be responsible for making all payments scheduled prior to the date of your written cancellation notice, including payments owed ON the date of your written cancellation.

If you withdraw from the program, the cancellation policy will apply and you will be responsible for the amount owed regardless of your financial aid eligibility. Because a withdrawal for any reason may put you at risk of financial loss, you may wish to consider purchasing trip cancellation insurance. The UNC system-wide insurance provider, GeoBlue (formerly “HTH”), offers **trip cancellation insurance** (Trip Protector Plan). For more information about GeoBlue benefits and enrollment conditions, please consult their website: www.geobluetravelinsurance.com/.

Apply for a passport!

- Students should apply for a passport as soon as possible, preferably at the time of considering studying abroad. **DO NOT WAIT!**
- Passports can take up to 8 weeks **if all documentation is in order.**
 - A **certified** copy of your long-form birth certificate is required (no souvenir birth certificates!)
 - Two passport photos are required (no selfies!). (ASU Post Office, CVS, Walgreens)
- Make sure your passport is valid for at least 6 months beyond your return date from the host country.
- If you were a minor when your last passport was issued and it expires sooner than 6 months after leaving your host country, you will need to apply for a new passport (not a renewal).