

# **Study Abroad - Frequently Asked Questions**

### 1. Can I use financial aid funding to pay for a study abroad program?

Yes, you may be eligible to receive federal financial aid funds for a study abroad program. To receive aid funding, you must meet the enrollment requirements of the award.

If you are eligible for financial aid, you may use those funds towards WSU study abroad programs.

However, if you are approved for aid to attend non-WSU programs, you will be eligible to receive only Federal Direct Loans, the Federal Pell Grant and alternative private loans. Federal Perkins loans and WSU grants are not available to students studying abroad under consortium agreements. Alternative/private loans must be lender approved.

### 2. How much does it cost to participate in a study abroad program?

Determining the total costs to participate in a student abroad program is the first step when considering studying abroad. The Study Abroad Office has this information available online at <u>www.studyabroad.wayne.edu</u>. If you are attending a WSU program, you may want to consider filing a Budget Adjustment Request form available on our forms page.

If you are attending a non-WSU program, we will use the cost of attendance figures from your host school to determine your aid eligibility.

#### 3. Do I qualify for additional grants/scholarships while participating in a study abroad program?

Additional grants/scholarships awarded by your department or college may be used to pay for study abroad programs. You will need to research and apply for these opportunities on your own. If you are receiving a scholarship and have questions about the availability of these funds for a study abroad program, contact the department awarding the scholarship.

## 4. What steps do I need to follow in order to use financial aid funding for a study abroad program?

The first step is having a valid FASFA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) on file with WSU for the academic year. If your financial aid application is selected for a review process known as verification, this review must be completed before any financial aid funding can be disbursed.

#### 5. When I do receive the aid?

WSU will disburse aid funds within four weeks after we receive all of your financial aid application materials OR at the beginning of the study abroad period, whichever occurs later.

# This may mean that you will have to pay any up front study abroad travel, program fees and deposits on your own.

Financial aid funds will be disbursed directly to you. It is your responsibility to pay all charges to the host institution. We encourage you to sign up for direct deposit to receive funds directly deposited to your bank account.

### 6. Is there anything else I need to remember?

Remember to submit your transcript showing the final grades you received for your program. We can't apply aid for your next semester until we review your enrollment and satisfactory academic progress status.

Remember that if you drop out or fail to earn credits after your financial aid has paid you may be required to return funds.