

# Financial Aid for Study Abroad Programs

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. I plan to use financial aid to pay for my study abroad experience. What should I do first?

Please see **4 Steps to Financial Aid** available on the Study Abroad Program Web site.  
<http://www.k-state.edu/sfa/policies/studyabroad.htm>

### 2. What study abroad expenses will financial aid cover?

Financial aid will be disbursed by the K-State Office of Student Financial Assistance and will be applied to the bill you receive through your K-State student iSIS account for the term you are studying abroad. For your study abroad program, you will be billed K-State tuition and the Division of Continuing Education fee on your student iSIS account. You can log into iSIS at: <https://isis.k-state.edu>

Please note that when financial aid is disbursed, it will be applied to your outstanding bill on your student account. For example, if you owe K-State tuition for last term, the financial aid you receive through iSIS will first be applied toward paying the outstanding bill. After your outstanding bill is paid, remaining financial aid will be applied to your current bill.

If you have less financial aid than what you currently owe when your aid is applied to your bill, then the difference should be paid before the current billing due date. If you have more financial aid than what you currently owe K-State, then you will have a credit balance refund.

To make receiving your financial aid easier while you are studying abroad, we highly recommend that you register for your eRefund on iSIS (<https://isis.k-state.edu>) and/or your parent applies for the Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) (<http://www.k-state.edu/pay>). This is the most convenient way of receiving your financial aid credit balance refund. This form will allow Kansas State University to directly deposit your financial aid into your bank account.

### 3. How does K-State determine the amount of financial aid I will receive for study abroad?

The Study Abroad Program determines how much a study abroad program will cost. Your study abroad advisor will create a cost sheet for you, which outlines program expenses. Dyan Marie, Senior Administrative Specialist in the Office of Student Financial Assistance, will receive a copy and you will receive a copy. Dyan Marie will review the cost sheet and adjust your financial aid package accordingly. He will let you know your aid eligibility for your study abroad program. Typically, the student is eligible to receive enough aid to cover the cost of the entire study abroad experience.

### 4. Does the financial aid process work differently, depending on the type of the study abroad program in which I participate?

No, the process is the same for all study abroad programs.

## **5. How does the number of credits I take affect my financial aid?**

In order to receive financial aid for studying abroad, you need to be enrolled in enough credit hours per semester to be considered at least a half time student. To receive loans, you must be at least a half time student. To receive grants and scholarships, you must be at least a full time student.

Fall or Spring semesters

- \* Undergraduate full time is 12 credit hours minimum
- \* Undergraduate half time is 6 credit hours minimum
- \* Graduate full time is 9 credit hours minimum
- \* Graduate half time is 5 credit hours minimum

Summer semester

- \* Undergraduate full time for summer is 9 credit hours minimum
- \* Undergraduate half time for summer is 5 credit hours minimum
- \* Graduate full time for summer is 6 credit hours minimum
- \* Graduate half time for summer is 3 credit hours minimum

## **6. Is it possible for the Office of Student Financial Assistance to guarantee that I will receive financial aid for my study abroad program?**

Unfortunately, there is not a guarantee. It is up to each student's eligibility to receive financial aid. In many cases, students need to have their parents apply for a Parent PLUS Loan or the students need to apply for a private alternative loan or a combination of both.

## **7. Can my outside scholarships apply to my study abroad program?**

Yes. Any form of financial assistance that applies to your regular academic studies at K-State may be applied to your study abroad program. You may need to contact the scholarship donor to inquire about using the scholarship for studying abroad. Some donors only allow the scholarship to be used for higher education in the United States.

## **8. What happens to my Federal Work-Study award if I study abroad?**

Federal Work-Study does not apply to study abroad programs, so you will not be able to earn any Federal Work-Study funding until you return from your study abroad program. When you return, you just need to obtain a job on campus to earn your Federal Work-Study funding if you still have the funding.

## **9. When will financial aid be disbursed for my study abroad program?**

Financial aid is disbursed into student accounts ten days before the study abroad program begins. Typically, if you receive a credit balance refund, it is available in the K-State Cashier's Office (211 Anderson Hall) 2 or 3 business days after the disbursement. You will probably be trying to leave the country at this time, so we advise completing the Electronic Funds Transfer at <http://www.k-state.edu/controller/cashiers/eftauthorization.pdf> so the credit balance refund can be directly deposited into your bank account.

## **10. How will my financial aid be disbursed while I am away?**

To make receiving your financial aid easier while you are studying abroad we recommend that you submit a form for Electronic Funds Transfer at <http://www.k-state.edu/controller/cashiers/eftauthorization.pdf>  
This form will allow Kansas State University to directly deposit your financial aid into your bank account.

## **11. To receive financial aid when I return to K-State, what must I do before I leave my host university?**

You should complete the K-State scholarships application and the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (FAFSA).

February 1 is the priority date to apply for K-State scholarships for the following academic year.

Apply here: <http://www.k-state.edu/sfa/scholarships>

March 1 is the priority date to apply for federal aid for the following academic year. Apply here: <http://www.fafsa.gov>

In addition to submitting the FAFSA, be sure to closely follow the K-State Financial Aid process calendar. <http://www.k-state.edu/sfa/calendar>

## **12. How can I contact the Office of Student Financial Assistance?**

Office of Student Financial Assistance  
Kansas State University  
104 Fairchild Hall  
Manhattan, KS 66506-1104  
Phone: 785-532-6420 or 877-817-2287 (toll free)  
Fax: 785-532-7628  
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
E-mail: [finaid@k-state.edu](mailto:finaid@k-state.edu)  
Web site: <http://www.k-state.edu/sfa>  
Twitter: <http://twitter.com/kstatefinaid>  
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/kstatefinaid>

## **13. How can I contact the Office of International Programs, Study Abroad Office?**

Office of International Programs, Study Abroad Office  
Kansas State University  
304 Fairchild Hall  
Manhattan, KS 66506-1111

Phone: 785-532-5990  
Fax: 785-532-6550  
E-Mail: [oiip@k-state.edu](mailto:oiip@k-state.edu)  
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Website: <http://www.k-state.edu/oiip/student>