



EXPLORE.
ENGAGE.
DISCOVER.



INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY



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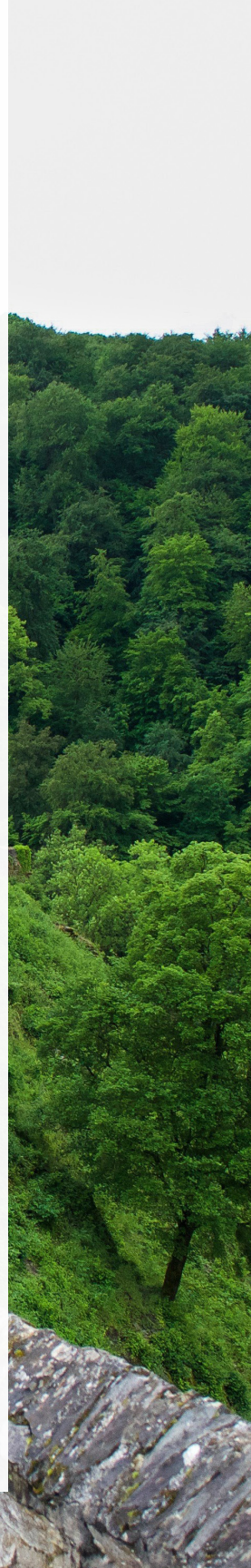
International study, research, internship, and service experiences are once-in-a-lifetime, life-changing opportunities with enormous academic, personal, and professional benefits. An experience abroad sets you apart from your peers, enhances your studies, and engages you as a citizen of the world whether you wish to learn a new language, fulfill requirements of your major, or simply focus on earning general elective credit.

Through education abroad, you can gain skills in cross-cultural communication, learn to think critically, and develop self-confidence, flexibility, and an appreciation of diversity – essential components of your college education and in today's global workplaces.

Education abroad opportunities exist in nearly any country of the world. From animal production in France or intensive language in China, to field research in Costa Rica or media practice in Europe – the possibilities for learning are endless!

5 STEPS TO GOING ABROAD

1. **Speak with a Peer Advisor**
Talk to a Peer Advisor in the Education Abroad Center to explore programs and determine education abroad priorities. Peers are available Monday–Friday from 9 a.m.–12 p.m. and 1–4 p.m. during the academic year.
2. **Meet with an Education Abroad Coordinator and the Financial Aid Coordinator for Education Abroad**
Schedule an appointment with an Education Abroad Coordinator Monday–Wednesday and stop by Lory Student Center Room 338 for Financial Aid & Education Abroad walk-in advising (walk-in hours can be found at educationabroad.colostate.edu/contact).
3. **Apply and complete your myEdAbroad checklist**
Log on at educationabroad.colostate.edu and follow the steps provided.
4. **Attend pre-departure orientation, pack, and go!**
From health and safety to packing – we'll help make sure you're prepared.
5. **Return and connect**
Your education abroad experience does not have to end just because you've returned to the U.S. Stay involved by helping at the annual Education Abroad Fair, take part in international programs and activities at CSU, and consider applying to be a Peer Advisor.



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THINGS TO CONSIDER



Academics

Early planning helps you stay on track toward graduation. Talk to your academic advisor to determine which coursework to complete abroad and what programs might be a good fit for your major.

Cost/Budget

Do you utilize financial aid, or receive scholarships to come to CSU? Do you pay resident or nonresident tuition? Will you need to secure additional financial aid to finance your time abroad? The Education Abroad Coordinator for Financial Aid can help you better understand your financial options.

Location, Location, Location!

Think about where you might want to go, and where you do not want to go. Do you plan to travel while abroad? Are you most comfortable in a lively, cosmopolitan city, or in a quiet, rural town?

Timing

Programs vary in length from just one week to an entire semester or academic year. Think about which program fits best with your schedule to keep on track academically.

Extracurriculars

Do you want a program that has built-in excursions and field trips, or do you prefer to travel independently? Consider immersing yourself in the local culture through events and projects, volunteer work, student organizations, and other activities to make the most of your experience.

Support

Would you prefer a program with a high level of support or a more independent education abroad program?

Accommodations

Do you prefer to live with a host family, in a residence hall, or in a student apartment? Live on your own, with a roommate, or in a more independent setting? Have meals prepared for you, or do your own grocery shopping and food preparation?

PROGRAM OPTIONS

CSU offers a wide range of program types which vary in disciplines, credit options, destinations, costs, duration, and student support.

- **CSU Faculty-Led**
Students take unique courses, led by CSU faculty and staff, which generally last one to 12 weeks and are often offered during academic breaks.
- **CSU-Sponsored – Exchange and Direct Enrollment**
Students enroll in regular classes at CSU partner universities abroad for a semester or summer term. Coursework can be taken with students from the host country or with other international students.
- **CSU-Sponsored – Research, Internship, Service-Learning**
Experiential learning programs through host institutions, organizations, or affiliated providers offer hands-on opportunities abroad. Most programs are for credit; however, there are some exceptions.
- **CSU Affiliated Provider**
CSU affiliated program providers expand the array of opportunities available to students by allowing enrollment in numerous universities and programs around the world. Students receive in-residence transfer credit.
- **Non-CSU**
If students cannot find the program they are looking for among over 1,000 options available through CSU, Education Abroad can assist with selection, approval, and participation in other accredited programs.



IDENTITY AND EDUCATION ABROAD

CSU encourages and supports students of diverse backgrounds throughout the education abroad process, including racial and ethnic minorities, LGBTQ+ students, students with disabilities, adult learners and veterans, first generation college students, etc. All CSU students are encouraged to take advantage of these opportunities. Education Abroad staff can answer questions and provide resources for specific locations, seek out returned students from a similar background, help find the right program for you, talk with family and others involved in your decisions, and set expectations for your time abroad.

For more information and resources, visit: diversityabroad.com ➤

PLANNING YOUR ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

TIP! *Plan early and work through the steps below to keep on track for graduation.*

Meet With Your Academic Advisor

Meet with your academic advisor to determine which of your major courses/credits can be completed abroad. Work together to develop a plan for graduation that incorporates your proposed education abroad program.

Plan the Courses You Will Take Abroad

Your Education Abroad Coordinator can refer you to course catalogs, websites, and other sources of information to help determine the course offerings at your host institution or on your program. Your Coordinator can also provide you with information on the standard full-time course load, credit-hour conversions, restrictions to courses or departments at the host institution, and the grading system used at your host university.

As part of the requirements to participate in most CSU Education Abroad programs, you must complete a **Transfer Credit Form**. Develop a list of courses that you would like to take while abroad, including several alternate courses, for the CSU Registrar to approve.

CSU ACADEMIC POLICIES

Education Abroad Registration

You are required to register for SA 482 or CSU courses for each term you are abroad to maintain full-time student status at CSU and use financial aid. SA 482 registration allows coursework from abroad to transfer as “in-residence” credit. Students who do not register in SA 482 or CSU courses lose their CSU student status, are ineligible for financial aid while abroad, and must apply for readmission to the University.

Transfer Credits and Grades

Credit earned on an authorized education abroad program is eligible for transfer to CSU provided the equivalent of a C– or higher grade is earned. Pass/fail coursework taken abroad will not transfer.

Credit earned abroad may be applied toward major, minor, and/or All-University Core Curriculum (AUCC) requirements with Registrar, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs, departmental, and college approvals. Students must obtain pre-approval of coursework using the *Transfer Credit Form*.

Grades from transfer credits are not calculated into your CSU GPA. However, graduate schools and scholarship programs often request official transcripts from education abroad programs and consider the grades earned abroad as part of their admission/eligibility process.

Semester at Sea and Faculty-Led Programs - Credits and Grades

Credit earned on most CSU faculty-led programs and Semester at Sea is regular CSU credit, not transfer credit. Grades earned through the program appear on your CSU transcript and are computed into your CSU GPA.

In-Residence Requirements

At least 30 of the 42 upper-division credits required for graduation and 15 of the last 30 credits must be completed “in-residence” at CSU. In-residence credit is awarded for faculty-led courses, Semester at Sea, and transfer credit earned through enrollment in SA 482.

AUCC Requirement

All education abroad participants who successfully complete at least three credits while abroad qualify for a waiver of an AUCC Requirement.

CSU Academic Policies Governing Students

All students participating on education abroad programs through the Office of International Programs at CSU are subject to the same rights, responsibilities, and conduct code regulations as students on the CSU campus. Confirmation of good standing with CSU is part of the application and admission process for all programs.



STUDENT EXPERIENCES

"Learning Spanish in Costa Rica will definitely help me in my career in construction management and civil engineering. I also learned what it feels like to be a foreigner, which has helped me be more humble and understanding of foreigners here in the U.S."

— Caley Dallman, Civil Engineering Major, Costa Rica



"Study Abroad was an amazing opportunity for exploration and growth; it was the best way to spend a semester. Every weekend, some friends I made in Tasmania and I would go exploring. We'd go to one of the many national parks on the island, go kayaking, climbing, backpacking, or visit art festivals."

— Amaia Sangroniz, Nutrition & Food Science Major, Hobart, Australia



"We researched sites of human activity to help explore the history of Antarctic policy and environmental management. Every day I had to pinch myself — I felt like the first person to ever see this view, or walk on this earth. I feel so lucky to have had this amazing opportunity."

— Poppie Gullett, Master's in History and Cultural Resource Management, McMurdo Research Station, Antarctica



"Our Professor did his best to couple lecture with real experience. We learned in class about successful campaigns in British marketing, but also heard firsthand from the UK Government how marketing and targeting were used when we visited London."

— Megan Jones, Marketing and Computer Information Systems Major, England



"I was exposed to the perspectives of life that were at once foreign and familiar. I learned new words in five languages. I rode through rivers, savannas and sprawling cities. I met researchers, entrepreneurs, parents, students, and people from every walk of life."

— Raymond Huff, Mechanical Engineering Major, South Africa



"Studying abroad helped mold me into a world citizen. I was forced to learn valuable skills and lessons, I met incredible people, ate even more incredible food, and traveled to places in a period of life that most people don't or can't. It was incredible."

— Sarah Blevins, Fine Arts and Pottery Major, Italy



"What made me want to study abroad was the opportunity to gain knowledge and participate in other people's ways of life. Sometimes the only way to fully emerge yourself and understand our dynamic world is by being in the presence of the things we are curious about."

— Mohamed Babiker, Construction Management, Semester at Sea



BUDGETS, FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Consider all aspects of education abroad opportunities, including the various costs associated with different programs.

Research Costs and Create a Budget

Determine a comfortable budget and how much you are able to earn or borrow. Speak with the Financial Aid Coordinator for Education Abroad to confirm the loans, grants, and scholarships available to you while keeping a realistic budget in mind. If cost is a major factor, explore less expensive countries or cities, different program types, or shorter programs. Begin this process early to have more time to save.

Investigate and Apply for Financial Aid

Most federal, state, and/or institutional aid can be used for approved education abroad programs. Work-study awards, the College Opportunity Fund (COF), and the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) tuition discount are not eligible for education abroad.

You must be a CSU degree-seeking student enrolled in an approved education abroad program for a minimum of 12 credits per semester or for six credits in the summer to be eligible for financial aid. Winter break program credits are added to the Spring term.

Be Prepared to Pay Up-Front Costs

Often, you are required to pay a portion of education abroad program expenses, such as application fees, airfare, passport, visa, immunizations, and deposits, several months before your program starts and before the release of financial aid or scholarships. Plan ahead and be prepared to pay these expenses before your financial aid is released.

If you participate in an affiliated or non-CSU program, you might be asked to pay the entire program fee before financial aid is released. Many program providers can postpone payments until your funds are available as long as you provide evidence of your award amounts.

- **Complete Your FAFSA**

As soon as possible, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the academic year that you will study abroad at fafsa.gov. The earlier you apply, the earlier you can clarify your potential award and plan a budget. Even if you do not normally qualify for financial aid, you may still qualify for loans for the semester you will be abroad.

- **Obtain a Financial Aid Estimate**

If your decision to participate in an education abroad program heavily depends on how much financial aid you will be awarded, meet with the Financial Aid Coordinator for Education Abroad early in the planning process to discuss your individual financial aid package, including loans for which you might qualify. It is important to discuss all financial options and limitations before you pay any nonrefundable deposits or fees. Your financial aid award might increase or decrease based on the cost of your education abroad program.

CSU Education Abroad Fee

All students who participate on an education abroad program pay the CSU Education Abroad Fee. The fee directly provides the support given by the Education Abroad unit within the Office of International Programs. In addition to funding personnel, publications, programs, and supplies, this charge supports individual and group advising on opportunities and procedures for education abroad, pre-departure orientation, assistance with transfer of credit, financial aid and scholarships, communication with host institutions and program sponsors, service as a liaison to other CSU offices, emergency response and risk management, and assistance with registration for the experience abroad.



FINANCIAL AID FACTS

Receiving Financial Aid for Education Abroad

Financial aid for education abroad participants is disbursed ten days prior to the start of on-campus classes. Aid is automatically credited to your CSU student account, provided you follow the steps outlined on the Office of Financial Aid website: financialaid.colostate.edu.

Scholarships for Education Abroad

TIP! *Be proactive!* The most successful recipients take the initiative to ask about scholarships available and invest time researching and applying for funding opportunities. As deadlines for some scholarships are a year prior to the start of your program, advance planning is critical. If you have private scholarships, check with the issuing agency to determine if they can be applied to education abroad. Visit educationabroad.colostate.edu/scholarships for more information.



PARENTS AND FAMILIES

Speak with your parents and families about education abroad and share information you gather with them.

Education Abroad recognizes the important role parents and families play in your international experience. Our goal is to provide resources to help families best support and encourage their student before, during, and after the international experience. We work with students to examine the options available for going abroad, paying attention to academic, financial, and personal needs.

Once students select a program and are accepted, the Education Abroad team works to prepare them for the academic and intercultural experiences they will encounter abroad. In addition, we pay careful attention to world events with respect to the safety and security of students abroad. If you have questions about this experience, we encourage families to speak with their student and review the information and resources at educationabroad.colostate.edu.

APPLICATION PROCESS

After you set your goals for an education abroad, figure out your finances, identify a program and classes to take – it is time to apply! Here are some tips to help get you started. Apply online at educationabroad.colostate.edu.

Check Eligibility Requirements

You must be in good disciplinary and academic standing (2.0 GPA or higher) at CSU to participate on an education abroad program. You also must meet the eligibility requirements of your chosen program (GPA, prerequisites, etc.). The initial steps for many program applications take less than 1 hour to complete.

Pay Attention to Deadlines

Application deadlines range from 2-7 months before a program begins. Advance planning ensures you have plenty of time to fulfill financial aid and/or scholarship requirements and complete the application process. Refer to the CSU Education Abroad website or contact your program sponsor for specific deadlines.

Some programs have “rolling admission,” which means they accept all qualified students on a first-come/first-served basis. Apply early to rolling admission programs as they may fill up quickly.

Pay the Application Fee and Program Deposit

Most education abroad programs require you to pay a nonrefundable fee as part of the application process. You may also have to submit a deposit to hold your space on a program if you are accepted.

An application fee is charged for all CSU-sponsored programs. This fee is nonrefundable and is charged to your CSU student account upon receipt of your CSU-sponsored program application. If you are accepted to a CSU-sponsored program, a program deposit is charged to your student account once you have confirmed your participation.

Students applying to affiliated and non-CSU programs pay a similar application fee and deposit directly to the program sponsor.



PASSPORTS AND VISAS

Regardless of when you go abroad or where you go, you will need a passport!

What is a passport?

A passport is an internationally recognized travel document that verifies the identity and nationality of the holder. A valid passport is required to enter and leave most countries. It typically takes 4-8 weeks from the time a passport application is submitted to the time you receive it in the mail.



How do I apply for a passport?

Instructions and a downloadable application are available from the Department of State website. Once you have completed the paperwork and have the required photo and documentation, take your completed application to the post office or City Clerk's Office for processing. More information on the process can be found at educationabroad.colostate.edu/howtogetapassport. ➡

What is a visa?

Depending on which country you plan to visit, you might also need a student or work visa. Visas are official permissions attached to or stamped into your passport which allows you to enter foreign nations for a specific purpose and period of time. Acceptance to an education abroad program does not guarantee that you will be issued a student visa. Education Abroad Coordinators are available to provide you with general guidance in completing the visa application, but they have no ability to influence consulate processes or requirements. The processing period for some student visas can be as long as 90 days. Familiarize yourself with the student visa requirements and processing time for your host country as part of the application process to allow time to collect necessary documents and apply as soon as you are eligible.

Will I need a visa?

Many semester and academic year programs require a student visa. Consult your program coordinator for specific information on the program/country to which you are preparing to go.



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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How many times can I go abroad?

You may participate in an education abroad program for two semesters or one academic year and unlimited short-term programs.

Can I go abroad my first semester at CSU?

No, you must spend at least one academic term on campus as a degree-seeking student before participating on an education abroad program.

Can I go abroad my last semester at CSU?

Yes, but there are additional factors to consider. These may include the impact of a delayed transcript on admission to graduate school or employment, petitioning for credits to apply to your degree after you return, and eligibility for financial aid.

Can my financial aid be released early because I am leaving for my program before aid is disbursed?

No, even if your program starts before financial aid is disbursed, you will not be able to request an advance of your financial aid. However, some programs defer payment of fees until financial aid is disbursed. Check with your specific program for more information.

Does the number of credits I take affect my financial aid?

Yes, education abroad credit requirements are the same as those for on-campus study. In most cases, undergraduates must be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours for semester programs and a minimum of 6 credit hours for summer programs. Additional aid can be awarded to cover additional costs related to travel abroad, such as airfare, higher costs of living, academic excursions, etc. For specific details, check with the Office of Financial Aid.

Do my grades abroad affect my future?

Yes, although transfer credit grades earned abroad are not factored into your GPA, they are considered in determining your eligibility for future financial aid and future graduate school applications. Grades from CSU transcribed programs, such as Semester at Sea and CSU faculty-led programs, will impact CSU GPAs.

Who is responsible for taking care of my financial aid while I am overseas?

You are. Education Abroad and Financial Aid can advise you in making necessary arrangements to ensure you receive financial aid funds when they are disbursed. Make these arrangements prior to your departure, or your aid might be delayed or not be released at all.

Can I work or volunteer while abroad?

Yes, in many cases. In some countries, visiting students have legal status to work or volunteer, while in others, students must have a special visa to work, volunteer or intern.

Do I need to buy international health insurance?

Students on education abroad programs must have additional travel health insurance to cover all situations while abroad, including evacuations. All programs include or require travel health insurance coverage. Check the program-specific information for health insurance requirements and benefits. Please remain enrolled in your U.S. based health insurance while abroad.

Where can I learn about health and safety issues in the countries I plan to visit abroad?

All students receive pre-departure information to help them prepare for the common health and safety considerations for their regions of travel. The U.S. Department of State also has a website designed specifically for students traveling abroad: studentsabroad.state.gov. The CSU Health Network Travel Clinic provides comprehensive consultation to discuss required immunizations, travel health care issues, and recommendations for dealing with common health problems with a health care professional.

Do you offer help in finding someone to sublease my apartment while I am abroad?

No, Education Abroad does not provide assistance in finding someone to sublease your apartment. Students should seek assistance through Off-Campus Life.

Can I go to a country with a travel advisory?

CSU takes the well-being of its students seriously. CSU does not automatically authorize students to travel abroad to countries deemed higher risk by the CSU International Travel Oversight Committee; however, there are some situations where authorization may be granted.





INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Visit **educationabroad.colostate.edu**
for an up-to-date list of programs and current
walk-in and financial aid advising hours.

Contact us to learn more and get started:

Colorado State University
Office of International Programs
Laurel Hall, 1024 Campus Delivery
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1024

Email: educationabroad@colostate.edu
Phone: (970) 491-6342
After-Hours Emergency: (970) 491-6425



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