



Money Matters

Semester Abroad FAQs

Penn Abroad is here to help you navigate financial considerations as you prepare for a semester abroad. It

is easy to become overwhelmed by some of the questions that may come to mind. How will I fund my abroad experience? How much will it cost for me to live abroad? What other Penn financial considerations do I need to keep in mind?

The following information answers the most common semester abroad financial questions.

Programs Costs

Will this be an affordable experience?

Penn Abroad is committed to making its global opportunities financially accessible to all students. Students participating in a semester abroad remain enrolled at Penn and are billed Penn tuition and the study abroad program fee (which is less than the general fee). Students can use their financial aid and scholarships, in most cases, just as they would at Penn. As you search program options, we will help you navigate budgets and potential costs. If you consider finances an obstacle, you are always welcome to meet with an advisor to discuss programs, policies, and finding the right opportunity for you.

Where can I find the cost of my program?

The cost for each program varies and depends on a number of factors related to its location including cost of living and exchange rates. The estimated costs for each program can be found on PASSPORT under the Finances section of each program's brochure. These are intended as a guideline and include billable and non-billable expenses.

- Billable expenses are charges that are placed directly on your Penn student account.
- Non-billable expenses are those expenses that you pay directly to your institution abroad or on your own. These expenses may include housing, board, visa fees, and insurance that could vary based on individual resources and spending habits.



**Search Programs
& Budget Information
in PASSPORT**

passport.upenn.edu

Did You Know?

Each program brochure on PASSPORT includes a Finances tab that includes details about scholarship opportunities relevant to that program.

Financial Aid & Scholarships

How does financial aid get applied to a semester abroad program?

As a Penn-sponsored study abroad participant, you will be eligible for financial aid as if you were on campus. If you are eligible and receive financial aid, the aid will be applied to your Penn student account once you are charged Penn tuition. Penn Abroad collaborates with Student Financial Services to designate you as a study abroad student who receives financial aid.

I also receive work-study. How does that work when I am abroad?

If you are grant-eligible, you may apply work-study funds, allocated for the term that you study abroad. Here is how it works: \$500 of the work-study funds can be taken out as an optional loan. Whether or not you choose to take the loan, the remainder of the funds for that term will be converted to a grant. Make sure to confirm whether or not you are grant-eligible in order for your funds to be processed in this way.

What if I receive an external scholarship?

If you receive an external scholarship (i.e., not directly from Penn), please notify your Penn Abroad Global Programs Manager so that they can notify the Outside Scholarship Office. Keep in mind that if you do use financial aid, your award amount may change depending on the type and amount of the scholarship you receive.

What external scholarships are available to me?

There are a number of scholarships external to Penn which can help offset the cost of going abroad. You are encouraged to look through the awards for your particular program by visiting the Finances tab of your program brochure in PASSPORT. There are also scholarship opportunities listed on our website (link below) detailing opportunities through organizations including: Diversity Abroad, the US Department of State, and more.

Contacts & Additional Links



Review Full Financial Information

global.upenn.edu/pennabroad/semesterfinancial



Explore External Scholarships

global.upenn.edu/pennabroad/outsidescholarships



Get Financial Aid Information & Find Your Counselor

www.srfs.upenn.edu/SFS

