



# How much can my financial aid be increased if I study abroad?

## Study Abroad and Financial Aid

The greatest issue to students who want to study abroad is the cost of the programs. Student's should know that their federal financial aid package can be increased to the budgeted costs of the study abroad program. Students must work with Study Abroad Advisors and the Student Financial Aid staff to adjust their packages appropriately.

The first step in this process is recognizing that costs differ when one studies abroad. For example, while some fees don't apply to study abroad students, such as the Health Center fee and the Student Center Complex fee, living expenses can be higher depending on the value of the U.S. dollar to the local currency. In addition, other increased costs include travel expenses such as airfare and cultural excursions for personal enjoyment. The chart below demonstrates the difference between the costs of studying abroad or studying at Texas A&M University as estimated by Student Financial Services and Study Abroad Program. Once the budget to study abroad is developed, the student Financial Aid staff help students adjust their aid packages to accommodate these costs. An example of this appears on the back of this page.



Students at a green house during a field trip in a Brazilian study abroad program.

An investment in an international experience pays!



### Study Abroad Program Office

For more information please contact us at:

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## Cost of a Typical Fall or Spring Semester Texas A&M Study Abroad Program

	Study Abroad Program in Italy	Living On/Off Campus	Living with Parent
Tuition & Fees	3,000	3,117	3,117
Loan Fees	60	60	60
Room & Board	6,000	3,450	1,350
Books & Supplies	500	590	590
Travel	2000	410	410
Parking Permit	0	200	200
Misc.	2,000	850	850
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,560</b>	<b>\$8,677</b>	<b>\$6,577</b>
<b>Difference in cost from Study Abroad Programs</b>		<b>\$4,883</b>	<b>\$6,983</b>

## Adjusting your Financial Aid Package

The chart below is an example of a financial aid budget for an academic year that has been adjusted upwards based on the budgeted costs for including one semester of study abroad. The comparison shows an actual financial aid budget of a student remaining in Texas and a student whose financial aid budget has increased due to studying abroad. This adjustment allows students to be eligible for more financial aid because their financial need has increased.

### *Estimate of a student's yearly financial aid package Fall 2005 and Spring 2006\**

Texas resident on/off campus budget with both semesters in Texas		Texas resident with an adjusted budget to include one semester of studying abroad and one semester in College Station	
Tuition/Fees	6,234	Tuition/Fees	6,117
Loan Fees	120	Loan Fees	120
Room & Board	6,885	Room & Board	9,450
Books/Supplies	1,184	Books/Supplies	1,090
Travel	803	Travel	2,410
Misc.	1,660	Misc.	2,850
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$16,886</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$22,237</b>
		<b>Difference after adjustment</b>	<b>+\$5,351</b>

\* Source: Student Financial Services and Study Abroad Programs Office

Therefore, using data from the previous page, the added cost to study abroad for a semester averages from approximately \$4,500 to \$7,000 more than remaining in Texas. The chart on this page shows that financial aid need can be increased to as much as \$5,351 when compared to a student's original financial aid package. In addition to a larger financial aid offer, several scholarships are available to students for studying abroad. While each student's financial aid situation is different and must be examined one on one with a financial aid counselor, it is important for students to recognize that financial aid can be adjusted to meet the additional cost of studying abroad.

**Contact the Texas A&M University Study Abroad Programs Office for more information:**

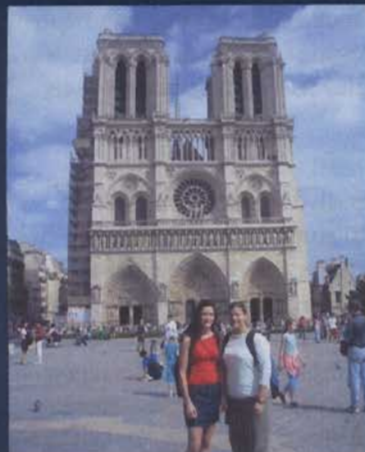
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Students visit the Marksburg Castle as they learn about the history and culture of Germany, where they are studying Psychology.



Students visit Notre Dame during a cultural excursion on an agricultural program in France.



The South Africa Nature Tourism trip helps students understand wildlife ecology and management.



Aggie students visit the Dulka museum in Poland to learn more about World War II history.