

FAQ- Financial Aid and Study Abroad

What is the application procedure for financial aid for Study Abroad?

The financial aid application procedure is the same. Students must submit their FAFSA and Clark Application by the application deadlines. You may access your application and track document status on CUWeb.

Will my financial aid be impacted when I Study Abroad?

For Clark Programs, all financial aid, except Federal Work Study, will be applied to study abroad. For non-Clark programs, only the following will be applied to study abroad: Federal Pell Grant, Federal Stafford Loans, and State Grants. If you would like to use these funds you must contact our office to complete a consortium agreement. Institutional funds **cannot be applied to a non-Clark program**.

What will happen to my Federal Work-Study award?

Campus work-study awards and employment are not available when you study abroad.

I am an International Student; will my financial aid be impacted?

International scholarships can be used to support your participation in a Clark approved study abroad program for one academic semester. Because study abroad is intended to allow students to gain exposure to other cultures, political and economic systems, and other perspectives, as an international student, you cannot use these funds to participate in a study abroad program in your home country.

Will the financial aid office consider additional study abroad expenses when awarding aid?

Students are not eligible for additional financial aid to study abroad. However, your total financial aid budget can be increased to enable you borrow additional funds to pay for your study abroad expenses such as travel costs.

Students must provide the Financial Aid office with sufficient documentation of their expenses to increase the budget. Program expenses varies, please visit the [Study Abroad website](#) for more information about your program and expenses.

In some cases, private lending can be used to pay for increased expenses, such as housing charges. Please work with the Study-Abroad Financial Aid Counselor to understand how this can be processed.

How is a student billed while studying abroad? How are payments made?

For Clark programs, students are billed for Clark tuition for that semester or academic year and a one-time study abroad administration fee of \$1,000 for each semester. Students are responsible to make payments to Clark on or before the set deadline, if applicable. The host program bills students for housing and meals bills separately. Payments for housing and meals are to be sent directly to the program.

In some cases, private lending can be used to pay for increased expenses, such as housing charges. Please work with the Study-Abroad Financial Aid Counselor to understand how this can be processed.

How and when are refunds processed?

Refunds are issued after the disbursement of financial aid, which happens 10 days before classes start at Clark regardless of when the study abroad program starts. Students are advised to sign up for direct deposit to have their refunds directly deposited into their bank accounts.

How will my study abroad grades affect my financial aid for next semester?

For students returning from abroad in the Fall semester: Clark must receive grades from the Study abroad program to confirm that you have remained in good academic standing and are continuing to make “satisfactory academic progress” toward your degree before we can complete the financial aid for the following year. This often causes a delay in the financial aid disbursement for the fall semester. Students are advised to contact their Student Account Counselor to make the appropriate arrangements in regards to their billing statement.

For students returning from abroad in the Spring semester their financial aid will remain the same for the academic year.

For questions about financial aid eligibility and or additional loans, please contact Pearl Smith-Aidoo in the Financial Assistance Office at 508-793-7478 or finaid@clarku.edu.

Please note the Study-Abroad Office impresses upon students the importance of taking initiative in this process. Students taking part in this opportunity are taking full responsibility to meet deadlines, academic, program and payment requirements, payment due dates, communicate with their parent or guardian and to work with the Study Abroad office, the Financial Aid Office’s Study-Abroad Counselor and your Student Accounts Representative to meet requirements in a timely manner prior to departure.

For questions or more information on the study abroad program and deadlines, please visit the [Study Abroad](#) website or contact Alissa Briggs at 508-793-7363 or studyabroad@clarku.edu