Study Abroad Checklist

Things you should find out if you are still in the information gathering stage of your study abroad experience:

- Is this an approved UW study abroad program?
  - If your program is not through the International Programs and Exchanges (IPE) Office, 459 Schmitz, or through the Office of International Programs at UW Tacoma, we may be unable to consider you for aid during your experience. Please see a Financial Aid Counselor if you have any question as to what office or organization your program is through.

- How much is this going to cost?
  - Keep in mind that you'll need to pay for airfare, lodging, food, travel, etc. along with your program fees. Most study abroad experiences have room and board costs included in the program charge. And many also include airfare and travel. But you'll want to take a close look at what all your program charges cover and think about other things you may need or want.

- How much of the program charges can financial aid help with?
  - Financial aid can take into consideration any amount over the standard budget for the term of your experience. Some study abroad experiences are less expensive than our standard UW budget, so you may not see any difference in your award at all. Most, however, have higher costs. We may be able to offer student loan funds for the difference between our standard cost and the actual cost of your experience. Although our office supports and encourages students who choose to participate in a study abroad experience, we do not have specific grant/scholarship funds to offer. Seattle and Bothell students can check with the IPE Office and Tacoma students can check with the OIP Office regarding foreign study scholarship funds that may be available, but you should know that those funds are very limited.

- What do I need to do to have my study abroad costs considered?
  - In order to have your study abroad costs considered, you will need to complete a Revision Request for Additional Expenses through our office. These are typically available in late spring of the prior award year. Seattle and Bothell students will need to attach a budget sheet from IPE and Tacoma students will need to attach a budget sheet from OIP or your program coordinating that will document all of the costs of your program.

- I am a Husky Promise student. Do I still qualify as a Husky Promise student during my study abroad experience?
  - We cannot guarantee the cost of tuition during your study abroad experience through Husky Promise. However, typically your grant funds will either not change, or not change significantly. There are a few aid programs that we cannot offer to students during their study abroad experience. These are Tuition Exemption funds (through any source), and work study (except for the Rome site).
Things you should know if you have already committed to a study abroad experience:

- Make sure you have all the necessary paperwork submitted and reviewed by the financial aid office before you leave.
- Make sure you have already signed up for direct deposit and that you have a way to safely access your bank account in your host country.
- You may wish to leave a power of attorney with a trusted family member in the event it may be needed. And/or, you may wish to complete the Release of Information form and submit it to the financial aid office, allowing a trusted friend or family member to ask questions regarding your financial aid award in your absence.
- If you are receiving scholarship funds from anywhere other than the UW, you may want to make sure you are still eligible for the funds by contacting the donor organization. UW Scholarships will typically still be “okay”, unless it is a tuition only scholarship or grant. In which case, we may not be able to award that if you are not paying regular state tuition.
- Be sure that you are registered appropriately. Aid cannot disburse unless you are registered for the number of credits your award is set up for.

Things you should know when you return from your study abroad experience:

- Make sure you have your official transcript forwarded to the UW as soon as possible. The financial aid office will need to see that you’ve met the Satisfactory Progress requirement before you can continue on aid upon your return from your host country. If there is a timing issue, Seattle and Bothell students should contact IPE and Tacoma students should contact OIP about having your transcript evaluated due to needing financial aid. At the end of the academic year, you may receive an automated notification from our office stating that you have not met the academic requirements to maintain eligibility for financial aid. Please use this as a reminder to get your transcripts evaluated through IPE or OIP.