

Study Abroad and Financial Assistance at UCA

UCA encourages students to participate in study abroad programs. The University provides many opportunities for students to earn college credit for study abroad and the programs listed below meet academic requirements for students to apply for and receive student aid assuming the student meets all other eligibility criteria.

Step 1: Learning About the Programs

All students should begin the process of determining whether or not Study Abroad is right for them by contacting the Office of Study Abroad located in Torreyson Library Room 109. The phone number is (501) 450-3646. Students are encouraged to attend a "Going Global: Study Abroad Information Session", visit www.uca.edu/studyabroad for the session schedule.

Step 2: Financial Aid Information

Once the student has determined the program of interest and the costs associated with the program, it is a good idea to stop by the Office of Student Financial Aid and visit with staff to determine financial aid options available. Different types of aid (grants, scholarships, loans) have different rules, called eligibility criteria to determine who may receive the funds.

Program	UCA Study Abroad Program	Location	Eligible for Financial Aid (assuming standard eligibility criteria are met)				
			Federal	State	UCA Academic Scholarship	Study Abroad Scholarship	Private Scholarships
UCA Faculty-Led	Yes	Vary	Yes	Yes	Yes Fall and Spring only IF UCA tuition and fees are charged for the course(s)	Yes	Yes
UCA Language Immersion	Yes	Vary	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
Internal Semester Exchange	Yes	Vary	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
Independent Study Abroad	No	Vary	No	No	No	No	Yes

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Step 3: Financial Aid Requirements

Questions regarding Study Abroad scholarships should be directed to the Office of Study Abroad. The phone number is (501) 450-3646.

Questions regarding federal, state, institutional scholarships (other than Study Abroad) and private sources of financial aid should be directed to the Office of Student Financial Aid located in Harrin Hall, Suite 200 or by phone at (501) 450-3140

Before federal aid can be determined the Financial Aid Study Abroad Coordinator must receive:

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Cost information for the trip from the Study Abroad Office. The cost information will include air fare, tuition, room accommodation, food, international insurance, transportation and anything else associated with the course. It will not include costs for extra-curricular activities.
- If you plan to borrow student loan funds there may be additional requirements to complete such as loan counseling and signing a master promissory note.
- If you participate in a summer trip you will need to complete a separate financial aid data form which is available in late February. Summer aid will disburse sometime in May after the spring semester.

Step 4: Disbursement of Financial Aid Funds

Study abroad costs are associated with the specific semester in which you will be enrolled for the trip. All financial aid will be disbursed based on the scheduled disbursement date for that particular semester. This means that you will need to plan in advance for any deposits that are due prior to the disbursement of financial aid. In addition, you may leave for the trip before the funds are disbursed. We recommend you sign up for direct deposit so you will have access to your funds as soon as possible.

There are situations where some students have financial aid eligibility in a semester prior to the study abroad semester and therefore might be able to receive some scholarship or loan funds based on that semester's cost. Any counselor in the financial aid office may review your aid package and make that determination.

Step 5: After the Trip

At the end of each semester the Office of Student Financial Aid will check satisfactory academic progress on all grades received to date. It is important that you follow up with the Study Abroad Office to ensure your grades are posted. The Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy is posted on the UCA Financial Aid Home Page under Policies.