

2023-2024 Study Abroad Financial Aid Checklist

Federal Financial Aid is available to all students enrolled in a study abroad program approved by the ECU Office of International Affairs and who meet federal eligibility guidelines to receive aid. Aid eligibility is determined via the same formula whether on campus or abroad. The following is a step-by-step guide to assist you if you are planning to study abroad. **Timing is very important for each step in this process and should be completed prior to your departure.**

- Research and compare available programs:** Identify your priorities (courses offered, location, housing, etc.) and compare several programs. You can view all programs at <https://global-affairs.ecu.edu/study-abroad-2/> If you are having trouble deciding on a program, you should meet with Ms. Erin Taylor, Education Abroad Advisor. If you are interested in a Faculty-Led program, you should meet with Rose Malone, Coordinator of Faculty Led Programs.
Location: Office of Global Affairs, International House, 306 E. 9th Street, Greenville, NC 27858
Email: studyabroad@ecu.edu

- ❖ **Erin Taylor, Education Abroad Advisor**
Phone: 252-328-1051

- ❖ **Rose Malone, Coordinator for Faculty-led Programs**
Phone: 252-328-1938

- ❖ **Katie Erickson, Assistant Director for Education Abroad**
Phone: 252-328-1937

- Examine your Academic Program and meet with your Academic Advisor** to discuss courses that will transfer back to ECU and fulfill your degree requirements within CPOS parameters.

- Apply for Federal Financial Aid:** Complete the **2023-2024 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** at <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa>. Please allow seven to ten business days for processing.

- Apply for Scholarships:** You can apply for ECU-specific scholarships at <https://scholarships.ecu.edu/> or in PiratePort under the **ECUAward** tile, or at <https://global-affairs.ecu.edu/national-scholarship/> for links to national opportunities.

- Apply for Additional Assistance:** You or your parent may apply for additional loans (i.e. Parent PLUS, Graduate PLUS, and Alternative/Private) to assist with expenses.
 - ❖ Your parent can apply for a Parent PLUS Loan at <https://studentaid.gov/>.
 - ❖ If you are a graduate student and have utilized all Stafford loan eligibility (\$20,500) for the academic year, you may apply for a Graduate PLUS Loan at <https://studentaid.gov/>.
 - ❖ All students can apply for an Alternative/Private through any lender such as Sallie Mae, Wells Fargo, Discover, SunTrust, etc.

- Meet with a Financial Aid Administrator:** You may also wish to meet with Mr. Jeff Evans, Counselor in the Office of Student Financial Aid, 2103 Old Cafeteria Complex to discuss your estimated financial aid eligibility and any questions you may have. **Mr. Evans is available Monday through Friday from 3:00pm to 5:00pm to see students on a walk-in basis.** If you would like to schedule an appointment with Mr. Evans, you can email him at evansje@ecu.edu or use the booking app on the Office of Financial Aid website (<https://financialaid.ecu.edu>).

- Select and Apply to a Program:** You will need to complete an online Study Abroad Program application by your program deadline at <https://piratesabroad.ecu.edu>.

- Study Abroad Students who are required to complete an ECU **Permission to Take Courses at a Foreign University or College** form or **Permission to Take Courses at a U.S. College or University** form must provide a copy of the approved form to the Office of Student Financial Aid in person at 2103 Old Cafeteria Complex, via fax to 252-328-4347, or via mail to East Carolina University, Financial aid Office, MS 510, 2103 Old Cafeteria, Greenville, NC 27858. **Failure to provide this documentation will prevent the disbursement of financial aid to those who qualify.**
- Semester Study Abroad Students** should submit the **2023-2024 Study Abroad Cost Form**, which is available at <https://financialaid.ecu.edu/2023-2024-forms/>, once you have been **accepted** into an **approved** Study Abroad program; if your study abroad expenses exceed the cost of attending ECU for the same period of enrollment; and your or your parent(s) plan to apply for additional loans (Parent PLUS, Graduate PLUS, or Alternative/Private) to assist with expenses.
- Summer Study Abroad Students** who would like to be considered for summer financial aid should submit the **Summer 2023 Study Abroad Financial Aid Application** to the Office of Student Financial Aid in person at 2103 Old Cafeteria Complex, via fax to 252-328-4347, or via mail to East Carolina University, Financial aid Office, MS 510, 2103 Old Cafeteria, Greenville, NC 27858. **This application will be available in early March and will be emailed to all students, via their ECU email account, who have been accepted into an approved program.**
- Summer Study Abroad Students (excluding Summer Faculty-Led Programs)** should submit the **2023-2024 Study Abroad Cost Form**, which is available at <https://financialaid.ecu.edu/2023-2024-forms/>, once you have been **accepted** into an **approved** Study Abroad program; if your study abroad expenses exceed the cost of attending ECU for the same period of enrollment; and your or your parent(s) plan to apply for additional loans (Parent PLUS, Graduate PLUS, or Alternative/Private) to assist with expenses.

Due to Federal Privacy Regulations regarding email and the protection of your personal information, we urge you to send documents to our secure FAX at 252-328-4347 or mail all documents to Office of Student Financial Aid, MS510, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC 27858. For materials that may contain a social security number, please cover or remove all but the last four digits. For materials with the date of birth, please cover or remove the year. If you have any questions, please contact our office at 252-328-6610.