



This checklist is designed as a guide to assist students with preparations for studying abroad. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact your SMU Abroad Program Specialist or your Financial Aid Advisor.

Complete the following items:

___ File the **2015-2016 FAFSA** online at www.fafsa.gov. Form must be filed by the following deadlines in order to allow sufficient time for processing.

Fall abroad:	May 1, 2015
Spring abroad:	Oct. 1, 2015
Summer abroad:	April 1, 2016

___ Contact the appropriate department for approval to participate.

___ Submit the **Financial Aid SMU Abroad Information Sheet** (page 3 of this form) to your Financial Aid Advisor. This information will be used to determine the cost of attending the abroad program and for awarding financial aid to help cover your expenses. All pre-departure expenses must be paid by the student. No financial aid programs are available for program deposits, early purchase of airline tickets, passport application fees, etc.

Information and Reminders

Billing Statements

- The invoice statement for the SMU Abroad program must be paid, or arrangements made for it to be paid, prior to your departure.

Financial Holds

- Financial holds with the Division of Enrollment Services include: library fines, parking tickets, Health Center charges, emergency loans, etc. must be paid before your departure.

Address Updates

- One of the most common oversights by students participating in one of the SMU Abroad programs is the failure to update their mailing address on Access.SMU



Loan Requirements

If you will be using a student loan to fund your SMU Abroad program, you must complete the loan process before departure. That includes completing your Federal Direct Loan application AND signing/mailling the promissory note.

Loan Options

- Loan eligibility will be determined at the time of application in the following order.
 - Federal Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loan
 - Federal Direct PLUS Loan
 - Private/Alternative Loan

Loan Counseling

- All students who are **first time borrowers of loans at SMU** must complete loan entrance counseling online. Your completion of this process is a mandatory federal regulation.

Disbursements

- Regulations prohibit the disbursement of financial aid loan funds more than 10 days prior to the official beginning of SMU school term. The SMU Division of Enrollment Services will apply your federal financial aid directly to SMU tuition, fees, room and board charges.

Loan Refunds

- The Division of Enrollment Services-Student Financials will refund to you any financial aid that is greater than the balance due on your student account. Refunds will be mailed as a paper check to the address listed in My.SMU as your U.S. home address. If you prefer that a paper check be mailed to a different address, contact the Division of Enrollment Services at 214-768-3417 and ask to speak to a Student Financial Specialist.

Additional Loan information can be found on the SMU Financial Aid website:

<http://www.smu.edu/EnrollmentServices/FinancialAid/TypesOfAid/Loans>

*Optional **Payment Plan** information can be found on the SMU Bursar's website:*

<http://www.smu.edu/EnrollmentServices/Bursar/Payments/PaymentPlanOptions>



Please complete and submit this study abroad information sheet to your Enrollment Services--Financial Aid Advisor.

Students Name: _____

SMU ID #: _____

Local phone #: _____

SMU Email address: _____

U.S. mailing address and phone number while abroad:

Abroad Program Information

Name of the SMU Abroad program you wish to attend: _____

Start and End Dates of program: Start Date _____ End Date _____

Check the semester(s) you will be attending abroad: Fall _____ Spring _____ Summer _____

Total Number of SMU semester credit hours you will receive through this program: _____

Estimated round trip airfare: \$ _____ (attach quote)

Estimated room and board not covered under program charges: \$ _____ (estimate)

Estimated personal/miscellaneous expenses: \$ _____ (estimate)

Alternative travel expenses: \$ _____ (i.e. Rail ticket/bus)

Financial Aid to cover additional costs of your Program will be funded only by additional Student Loans, PLUS Loans or Private Educational Loans.

Student's Signature

Date