

# STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM



## About your grades

Historically, grades for study abroad programs are slow in being reported to the UW-L Records and Registration Office. This causes a problem with satisfying the 70% Rule in the UW-L Satisfactory Academic Progress Standard for Financial Aid.

Study abroad credits are considered as credits attempted but not earned until the UW-L Records and Registration Office posts the passing grades. Until that time, you will probably be below the 70% passing rate for the year.

If you are below the 70% passing rate, you will be placed on financial aid suspension and **must appeal** for financial aid reinstatement. Without any other circumstances, action on the appeal will probably place you on financial aid probation.

When the study abroad grades are posted, you **must notify the UW-L FAO** with another Appeal Form and a copy of the updated UW-L transcript.

Action on the appeal will usually place you back in good standing for financial aid.

A copy of the UW-L Satisfactory Academic Progress Standard for Financial Aid is available upon request from the UW-L FAO, or on the FAO Web site, [www.uwlax.edu/finaid](http://www.uwlax.edu/finaid).

## Questions?

Questions that you have concerning the financial aid process for study abroad can be directed to Kent Ohlfs in the UW-La Crosse Financial Aid Office, Room 215 in Graff Main Hall.

If you are off campus, please e-mail [ohlfs.kent@uwlax.edu](mailto:ohlfs.kent@uwlax.edu). Be sure to include your social security number or student ID number with your e-mail.



## UW-La Crosse STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM



UW-La Crosse | Financial Aid Office

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La Crosse, WI 54601 USA

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YES, there is financial aid for a UW-L study abroad program.

**Even if you have not received student financial aid in the past, you may want to consider applying for financial aid, including educational loans, for the period of your study abroad.**

# UW-L STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM

## Applying for financial aid through UW-La Crosse

- File the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as early as possible. It is available in January for the following academic year.
- Complete all other documents requested by the UW-La Crosse Financial Aid Office (FAO).
- When completing the necessary paperwork for the Office of International Education (OIE), indicate that you intend to receive financial aid. The OIE will send the cost to attend information to the FAO on your behalf. (FAO will not request this from OIE.)
- In most cases, you are eligible for the same types of aid that you would be eligible for if attending on campus (except work study).
- You must be degree seeking and at least half time (six credits per semester or for the summer session).
- Any amount of Stafford loan borrowed in the summer will reduce the amount of Stafford loans available for the following year academic year.

## When will funds be disbursed?

UW-L cannot release any financial aid earlier than the start of the UW-L term that your financial aid is processed for.

If you are leaving prior to the disbursement of your financial aid, you will need to arrange for alternative funding, if necessary, until the financial aid can be disbursed. It is **your** responsibility to ensure that your financial obligations are taken care of while you are abroad.

We recommend that you grant Power of Attorney to a contact person (parent). Completing the appropriate **legal** Power of Attorney documentation allows them to take care of any unanticipated financial affairs while you are out of the country. Without Power of Attorney, it is extremely difficult for them to handle issues related to your financial aid.

Activate your UW-L TowerOne Card at [www.UWLTowerOne.com](http://www.UWLTowerOne.com). Be sure that you have selected a financial aid refund preference.

Funds are applied directly to your university bill. If your financial aid exceeds your balance due, a refund will be issued to you by whatever refund preference you selected when you activated your TowerOne Card.

## If you are seeking a degree from another institution:

If you want to participate in a UW-L study abroad program, but are seeking a degree from another institution, you **MUST** talk to the Financial Aid Office (FAO) at your home campus about doing a **consortium agreement** (an agreement between the FAO at UW-L and the FAO at your home institution).

The consortium agreement will enable you to receive financial aid processed by the FAO at your home campus for enrolling in a study abroad program at UW-L.

In addition, if you are participating in a consortium agreement, you should contact the guarantor/service provider of your previous student loans and request paperwork to defer those loans. Your home school will not report you as enrolled and you may enter a “repayment status” on previous loans if you do not complete the required loan deferment paperwork.

## If you are a UW-L student participating in a study abroad program offered by another school:

The UW-L FAO will initiate a consortium agreement with another UW campus, Winona State University, Viterbo University or Western Tech College. The consortium agreement can be obtained in the UW-L FAO.