



Financial Aid Checklist for Study Abroad Students

✓ Use this checklist to help apply for financial aid to support your study abroad. This list can be a helpful tool but is not a substitute to familiarizing yourself with complete program guidelines nor does it guarantee your eligibility for aid or enrollment into any of the specified programs. The information is intentionally brief and not meant to be all inclusive. We encourage you to read our entire web site, to gain a fuller understanding of the entire financial aid process.

Checklist	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Complete the Free Application For Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This application is required for federal financial aid including student loans. Allow 1 to 2 weeks for USC-Columbia to receive your application from the FAFSA Processor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USC Columbia’s School Code is 003448 • The FAFSA is not required for state or university scholarships.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>The Financial Aid Pre-Screen form must be completed and submitted to our office. The submission of required documents is subject to a 48-72 hour processing time. Incomplete or illegible documents may delay or cause your request for financial aid to be denied</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Ensure you have enrolled in your place-holder course through the USC Study Abroad Office. 803-777-7557</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Complete the State Scholarship Certification Statement on VIP if you have been awarded the South Carolina Palmetto Fellows, LIFE, HOPE, or State Need-Based Grant. The certification statement can be completed on VIP by clicking on the Financial tab and then “show me financial aid awards”.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Accept or decline your Direct Loans on VIP. If you wish to make any other changes to your awards, submit your updated award letter to our office with your signature.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i> Accepting and/or changing your loans takes 48 hours to process.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Complete Federal Loan Entrance Counseling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For Direct Loans • For Perkins Loans
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Complete your Federal Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For Direct Loans • For Perkins Loans <p><i>Notes:</i> Your loan counseling and MPN must be completed before you can use your Direct Loans to pay your fees.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>Read all Award Terms and Conditions and our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's).</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>All USC charges must be resolved prior to any financial aid being disbursed to a host school/program provider. You may view VIP or contact the Bursar’s office at 803-777-4233 for information about your outstanding charges. (Outstanding charges may include Honors College fees, parking fees, etc.)</p>



<input type="checkbox"/>	Financial aid may not be available when the bill is due with the host school/program provider. You are encouraged to make payment or payment arrangements with your host school/program provider.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Beginning in the fall 2012, funds will be disbursed directly to you. Unless the host school/program provider has already been paid in full, you must use these funds to pay the host school/program provider. Failure to do so will result in you being billed by USC for the aid received.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Study Abroad questions regarding financial aid, contact Tara Gibbs at 803-777-8134 or tarag@mailbox.sc.edu