

Financial Policy

Financial Aid

Deciding to study abroad involves many academic, personal and financial considerations. Early in the process, you and your family need information about study abroad costs, how the costs are billed and, for financial aid recipients, which costs can be covered by financial aid funds.

Financial aid for study abroad is available for students who are eligible for assistance and have been receiving financial aid during their freshman and sophomore years. If the study abroad budget is not able to support all of those on aid, who plan to study abroad, priority will be given to those for whom it is most appropriate academically and to those who have had the least international experience.

The College follows the federal guidelines for financial aid. A student must fill out the required standard financial aid forms, and indicate on the Bryn Mawr College Application for Study Abroad that she is requesting financial aid. Only students approved to study abroad by the Foreign Studies Committee are eligible to be considered for financial aid from the College.

Tuition

All students going abroad are charged Bryn Mawr College tuition regardless of the tuition charged by the overseas program. The student will receive a bill from Bryn Mawr College for the tuition. Bryn Mawr College will pay the tuition for the abroad program on the student's behalf. If you are required to pay an enrollment deposit to your abroad program, Bryn Mawr College will refund the deposit as a credit on the Bryn Mawr College bill. Please note that only deposits that are applied to the program tuition will be refunded. You will not receive a refund for a deposit that is applied toward housing.

Room and Board

In most instances, a student pays room and board directly to her overseas program. A few programs include the room and board charge with their tuition charges as an all inclusive fee. In those cases, Bryn Mawr College will pay the host institution the entire fee. The room and board charge portion will then be put on the student's Bryn Mawr College bill along with Bryn Mawr's tuition charge.

The cost of living varies greatly in different locations around the world as does the value of American currency. Programs in major European cities such as Paris, London, and Florence as well as Tokyo have become very expensive. You should anticipate additional out of pocket expenses for transportation, meals, shopping and excursions

Financial Aid Recipients

Financial aid recipients need to evaluate their ability to pursue junior year or semester abroad study. Bryn Mawr does not cover transportation to and from study abroad nor travel while there, although the financial aid package does include some money for miscellaneous expenses.

Costs Used to Determine Eligibility for Aid from the College for students studying abroad:

Bryn Mawr Tuition per term	\$18,560 in 2009-2010; 2010-2011 tuition TBA
Study Abroad Room and Board Charges	varies by program up to Bryn Mawr maximum*
Book Allowance:	\$500
Personal Allowance:	\$500
Local Transportation Allowance:	varies by home state from \$40 to \$450
Airfare	NOT COVERED
Travel While Abroad	NOT COVERED

* For 2009-2010 the Bryn Mawr College room and board charge is \$6,000 (for one semester). When room and board fees charged by a program are less than Bryn Mawr's room and board charges, a financial aid recipient should expect her grant aid to be reduced. When room and board fees charged by a program are more than Bryn Mawr's room and board, a financial aid student will only be awarded up to the maximum amount for room and board charged at Bryn Mawr.

Federal Work Study funds are not available for students who study abroad. However if a financial aid student who qualified for Federal Work Study has eligibility under the Federal guidelines, Financial Aid will award additional grant money.

Any student concerned about how to pay expenses not covered by the standard financial aid award should make an appointment with her Financial Aid Counselor as early in the application process as she can to discuss alternative borrowing from federal or private loans before making her final decision. The student should be prepared to document airfare expenses.

When Financial Aid is Credited

If the amount of a student's financial aid is greater than the charges on her Bryn Mawr College tuition bill, she will have a credit on her Bryn Mawr student account once all the aid is posted to her account. The credit amount will be refunded to her by direct deposit or mailed to her home address. The student may use this credit to pay room and board and other expenses. However, refunds should not be expected prior to the beginning of the normal Fall/Spring semester at the College because Federal Funds (e.g. Stafford Loans, Plus Loans, Perkins Loan, Pell Grants, SEOG and SMART Grants) cannot be disbursed until 3 days before the start of the semester.

Study Abroad Programs and Scholarships

If a student receives a scholarship from a study abroad program, it will be credited to her Bryn Mawr College student account and reduce the amount of tuition she needs to pay. Any outside scholarship received by a financial aid recipient will reduce a portion of her Bryn Mawr College Grant or Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant.

The Office of International Programs Office and the Controller's Office are willing to discuss with you any questions or concerns.

Costs the Student Must Cover

The following fees are considered personal expenses and you and your family are responsible for paying them:

- Passport application fee
- Overseas program/institution application fee
- Visa application fee
- Medical check-up and immunization
- Health insurance
- Transportation
- Books (unless you are a financial aid recipient, whereby you will receive a \$500 book allowance)

Refunds

If you withdraw from your program after the College has paid your tuition and fees, the College will make every effort to recover those funds. If the College is unable to recover the funds, the student and her family are then responsible for repaying the College.

- 1) Refund policies vary from one study abroad program to the next. Written notice of intention to withdraw must be submitted to the Director of International Programs and the student's dean by the required deadline.
- 2) If you withdraw from a program after being accepted, you may incur penalties including, but not limited to: application fee, confirmation deposit, and funds that have been committed for your participation, as well as non-refundable costs such as airfare and visa application fees.
- 3) Refunds are calculated based on the regular College refund schedule for on-campus students. If you need an advance on your refund, you may apply for a Scharf Loan through Financial Aid.