



The University of Mississippi

Office of Financial Aid

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Policy Name: Study Abroad

Purpose: This document contains the Office of Financial Aid's current policies and procedures for students that participate through the University's Study Abroad Programs.

Disclaimer: This policy is subject to change, without notice, in order to comply with administrative and regulatory requirements.

Policy Contents: Study Abroad Overview
Study Abroad Process
Enrollment and Grade Monitoring

Definitions and Terms:

FAFSA – Free Application for Federal Student Aid

FSA – Federal Student Aid

OFA – Office of Financial Aid

SAO – Study Abroad Office

UM – University of Mississippi

Study Abroad Overview

The University of Mississippi offers opportunities for its students to participate in study abroad programs all over the world. The OFA works closely with the SAO to ensure that UM students receive the financial aid that they qualify for while attending a UM study abroad program. These programs are administered directly by UM and earn UM credits.

Students enrolled in a study abroad program approved for credit by UM may be considered enrolled at UM for the purpose of applying for assistance under the FSA programs.

Students enrolling in a UM study abroad program must apply with the SAO and meet with the OFA.

OFA will advise students of the financial aid process and the availability of Federal, State, and institutional aid.

SAO provides OFA with a list of participants and the following information regarding their programs: term, location, name of the program, cost of attendance, start date and end date for each term.

OFA will update the student's cost of attendance for the term abroad and will determine when the student's aid can be disbursed. The OFA will only disburse a student's aid 5 days before the actual start date of the study abroad program. The students are advised of this before leaving for their program.

The OFA will discuss budgeting issues for the student and encourage the student to meet with the SAO to know exactly what their charges will be while studying abroad.

The OFA also advises students to make sure they have been properly registered for their courses while abroad.

The OFA will hold a student's aid from disbursing until the OFA receives confirmation that the student is actually enrolled in the approved courses at the institution abroad.

Enrollment and Grade Monitoring

SAO will provide OFA updates when students are added or withdrawn from their program before the program begins.

The SAO updates the OFA when a student withdraws from a program after the program has started. The OFA will process a Return of Title IV calculation to determine if any Federal Aid must be returned. OFA will review any institutional and state aid to determine if paybacks are needed.

The OFA will verify all participants received grades and completed their coursework while abroad at the end of each term. The SAO will submit incomplete grades to all students that studied abroad until the final transcripts are received. If the final transcript from the institution abroad is not received in a timely manner, those incomplete grades will be turned into F grades which can affect future aid and eligibility. If a student did not complete their coursework, then the OFA will process a Return of Title IV calculation to determine if any Federal Aid must be returned and determine if any institutional or State aid must be repaid based on their policies.

The OFA will place holds on students' accounts preventing future aid from disbursing until the SAO receives the final transcript from the institution abroad.