

Education Abroad Student Pre-Departure Checklist

Check off all applicable items below before program departure.

- Obtain/renew your passport. Make sure it is signed and valid for at least six months after your return.
- Obtain a visa, if required.
- Confirm whether your application is complete for your education abroad program with the Office of Internationalization (even if your status says “accepted” or “committed”)
- Meet with your academic advisor and/or school Point of Contact to discuss your course selection and make sure any course pre-approvals are complete (Education Abroad Course Approval Form may be required).
- Finalize your financial aid (if applicable) by meeting with Financial Aid advisor.
- For semester-long/AY programs, make housing arrangements at GGC for after you return from abroad
- Learn about your host country. Research!
- Pay any remaining program balance on your education abroad program.
- If you are registered at GGC: Pay your tuition and fees before departure. Otherwise, ensure program payments have been completed to your program provider or host institution.
- Obtain a medical release from your doctor allowing you to travel to the host country (if this is required).
- Finalize registration for courses.
- Register with the US Department of State [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](https://step.state.gov/) (<https://step.state.gov/>).
- Reconfirm your flight(s) to your destination.
- Check your airline for any baggage restrictions. Review packing list.
- Make a copy of your passport and other important documents for your family.
- Make a list of all contact information in your host country and for your GGC contacts. Carry a copy with you and leave one with your family.
- Bring copies of insurance cards, medical prescriptions, passport/visa, ID cards. Do not keep these copies with the originals.
- Inform your credit card company and/or bank of your travel dates.