Expenses, Fees, and Aid for Third-Party Affiliated Programs

PLEASE READ THE INFORMATION BELOW CAREFULLY AND SHARE IT WITH YOUR PARENTS/GUARDIANS BEFORE COMMITTING TO THIS PROGRAM. FEEL FREE TO CONTACT THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL & OFF-CAMPUS EDUCATION IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CONTENT OF THIS DOCUMENT. QUESTIONS SHOULD BE RAISED AT THE TIME OF APPLYING FOR A PROGRAM, NOT AFTERWARDS.

Lafayette College charges its own tuition instead of a given affiliated program’s tuition (unless the program’s tuition is greater); the difference in cost helps offset the administrative expenses involved in supporting our students who go abroad. It also allows Lafayette students to keep enjoying their financial aid and apply such aid to the abroad program. All other fees (housing, board, international emergency health insurance, miscellaneous expenses, etc.) are set by the individual affiliated programs.

Please note that many program providers offer their own scholarships, for which Lafayette students are encouraged to apply.

Tuition

All Lafayette students who study abroad must pay Lafayette College’s tuition, plus the host program’s room and board fees (see below). Students will be billed for tuition charges (and, most of the time, host program’s room charges) by Lafayette College, and Lafayette will then pay the study abroad program—students may not pay the program tuition directly, except for the application fee and the required deposit.

Please note: Very few of our approved programs have tuition fees higher than Lafayette; in those cases, students are responsible for making up the difference in cost. Make sure you are clear about a host program’s tuition before applying for it.

Any financial aid that a student receives for studying at Lafayette (with the exception of a work study job) will automatically be applied to the study abroad program; financial aid is capped at Lafayette’s cost. For questions regarding financial aid please contact the Office of Financial Aid at 610-330-5055 or financialaid@lafayette.edu. Note that many of our affiliated programs also offer their own scholarships and aid packages; please consult each program’s website or brochure for more information.

All students will be billed for their regular Lafayette College tuition (unless the host program tuition’s is higher), and Lafayette will then pay the program’s tuition out of those funds.

Room and Board fees

In addition to tuition, students pay the host program’s room and board charges, and their own airfare. Board plans vary from program to program, ranging from full board (20 meals per week) through partial board (7-14 meals per week) to “homestay” fees (which typically include 2
meals/day) to “self-catered” programs (common in the U.K.), in which students must either cook or purchase all of their own meals. Many programs ask Lafayette to bill students on their behalf for room and board rather than having students pay the program directly; in these cases, the host program’s room and board fee will show up on your bill from Lafayette.

Room and board fees vary greatly among programs, depending on the location of the program, the strength of the U.S. dollar with regard to the local currency, the type of lodging, the number of meals provided, etc. When selecting a program, students should carefully consider the program housing options available to them. Students are required to live in program-sponsored housing when available through the host institution/program. Students who would like an exception to this policy must submit a petition to the Office of International & Off-Campus Education before making any financial or legal commitments. Filing a petition does not guarantee that a student will be permitted to participate in independent housing. The most accurate information regarding room and board options and costs is available on each program’s individual website; estimated costs are also available from the Office of International & Off-Campus Education (610-330-5918, studyabroad@lafayette.edu).

**Airfare**

Generally, students participating on affiliated programs will have to pay for their own airfare.

**Medical Insurance**

Some programs include medical insurance in their fee and some programs will charge the student an additional required fee in order to enroll in their medical insurance program. In addition, Lafayette College purchases medical insurance for our students participating in affiliated semester programs (at no additional cost to the students). Please see the medical insurance information webpage.

**Deposit**

Students should pay the required confirmation deposit directly to the program; typically, deposit amounts range from $300 to $600, depending on the program. This charge will subsequently be credited towards your Lafayette College semester bill. Students should notify the Office of International & Off-Campus Education ASAP about the deposit amount they are paying to the affiliated program via the study abroad portal.

Please note: Multi-country programs (most notably, SIT’s International Honors Programs) may charge higher deposits, due to the fact that they need to use part of such deposits to purchase international airfare on behalf of each student. In those cases, the deposit cannot be credited to your Lafayette student account, as it does not go toward tuition but rather toward air travel.

Note that deposits are typically nonrefundable—should a student withdraw from a program for any reason, the deposit will be lost. Lafayette CANNOT do anything to waive those charges, not even if the withdrawal is caused by medical issues or bereavement.
Miscellaneous Expenses

Miscellaneous expenses may include passport and visa application fees, textbooks, immunizations, special course fees (see below), personal expenses, and optional travel. These expenses are the responsibility of the student.

For expenses related to the acquisition of a foreign visa, please be advised that you might need to budget for travel/lodging expenses needed for you to hold a visa interview (some consulates can only be found in some cities, and this may require that you drive to those cities and/or spend the night there). While the affiliated program providers will provide advice on how to acquire the visa, all the expenses to actually apply for the visa are the responsibility of the student. Visa fees may vary greatly (from a few dollars up to over $650 dollars).

Supplemental Tuition and Special Course Fees

Please be advised that some programs charge additional fees for enrollment in specific departments or courses; these fees may cover instructional materials, special lab fees, site entrance fees, orientation programs, course-related travel, etc. These fees are typically not included in the program tuition, even if the course is required, and students are responsible for paying them directly to the host program.

Some affiliated programs (i.e. Syracuse University, St. Louis Madrid, some IFSA Butler programs) feature courses—some of which are required—that can have fees as high as $1,200 or more per course (e.g., for a marine biology class that involves a week-long scuba trip) or a flat supplemental program fee of $4,000 or more. These fees are in addition to the program’s tuition and must be paid by the student. Please be sure to read carefully the Course Fee Sheet for any program to which you may apply; if you have any doubts, please contact the affiliated program provider directly to determine what additional fees you will incur.

Penalties and fees for late withdrawal

Deposits are nonrefundable; should a student withdraw from a program for any reason after paying the deposit, the deposit will be lost. Also note that paying the program deposit authorizes the provider (whether Lafayette or an affiliated provider) to incur expenses on that student’s behalf; should a student withdraw from a program for any reason after paying the deposit, he or she will be responsible for any non-recoverable expenses. These expenses can include (but are not limited to) airfare, housing fees, and partial or full tuition.

Financial Aid

Any financial aid that a student receives for studying at Lafayette (with the exception of a work-study job) will automatically be applied to the study abroad program; the amount is capped at Lafayette’s cost. For questions regarding financial aid packages administered by Lafayette, please contact the Office of Financial Aid at 610-330-5055 or financialaid@lafayette.edu.
Many of our affiliated programs offer their own scholarships and aid packages; typically these range from $500 to $3000. Please consult each program’s website or brochure for more information.

Scholarships, Fellowships, Grants and Awards

Lafayette College awards a limited number of competitive internal awards (i.e. David A. Portlock Study Abroad Memorial Prize, Good Global Citizen Award, Jeremy Sax Memorial Award). The College also assists students in applying for a number of prestigious and competitive external scholarships, fellowships, and grants available to students who want to study abroad, including the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarships, the Boren Award for International Studies, etc. Please visit the relevant information page to learn more about these opportunities.

The College encourages students to be proactive in searching and applying for other external scholarships and funding opportunities. Affiliated program providers sometimes offer merit as well as need-based funds, and it is the responsibility of the students to inquire about these opportunities with the affiliated program of their choice.

NOTE: Students whose permission to study abroad is revoked due to academic performance (i.e., lower-than-required GPA) or serious behavioral sanctions (DP1 or DP2) near the beginning of the program will receive no credit, and will be charged for any applicable charges and/or penalties. Students whose participation in a study abroad program is terminated by Lafayette College or by the host program for reasons of misconduct will receive neither credit nor refund. Students suspended while abroad must return immediately to the United States and will bear all expenses related to the changes in itinerary.

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