



BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

COVID 19 and Study Abroad Frequently Asked Questions

Student health and safety remains our number one priority as we work through this challenging time. Ball State University continues to monitor conditions overseas to determine the impact COVID 19 may have on evolving entry and exit testing and vaccination requirements, quarantine periods, shelter-in-place orders, partner university instructional format, and visa regulations. Visa processing delays and border closures may also impact your travel plans. Decisions regarding program operation are determined 8-10 weeks in advance of program departure to allow sufficient time for students to make alternate plans should conditions at their program destination not be at a level to mitigate student risk. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Will I receive a reimbursement for my study abroad program costs if it is not allowed to go forward?

In the event the program is suspended, the university will make every effort to reimburse any student program payments, however students must understand that some expenses may be non-recoverable. Students should pay no other program expenses in advance until they are notified by the Study Abroad Office whether the program will be allowed to move forward.

Can I still apply for study abroad scholarships and can it be deferred to a future term/alternate program if my program remains under suspension?

All scholarships are available, and we encourage program applicants to also apply for a study abroad scholarship to support their program expense. If you receive a scholarship and the program is suspended, the scholarship cannot be deferred as all scholarship funds are tied to specific fiscal years. You can, of course, apply for scholarships for future terms, though we are unable to guarantee being awarded.

Academic Affairs

Rinker Center for Global Affairs

Muncie, Indiana 47306-0000 | Phone: 765-285-5422 | studyabroad@bsu.edu | bsu.edu/rinkercenter



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What should I do about registration and accommodation on campus for the semester/term I plan to study abroad?

As this situation is fluid, the Study Abroad Office recommends that students prepare alternate study options as a backup in case their program is suspended. The Study Abroad Office strongly recommends all students register for classes here on campus and consider alternative accommodation here at Ball State for their planned semester/term of participation on a program. This will ensure no interruption to your studies should the program remain under suspension.

What about my visa/flight arrangements?

The Study Abroad Office recommends that students, if possible, avoid paying for visa/flights in advance of notice from our office on final determination of the status of your program. The Study Abroad Office cannot ensure you will be reimbursed for any visa fees or airline costs if the program is not allowed to move forward.

How will I know the status of my program?

The Study Abroad Office will follow up with each participant via email in the event there are any changes to their program's status. Please monitor your BSU email account as it will be our primary platform for sharing information. In addition, if you have any questions or concerns, please do contact our office at studyabroad@bsu.edu for assistance. We are here to help at all times.

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