



BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

Rinker Center for
International Programs

Non-Ball State Sponsored Programs

With over 250 options most students are able to find an approved BSU program to meet their needs. However, we recognize sometimes students have special priorities and it is determined that a non-BSU sponsored program is a better fit.

Participation in a non-BSU sponsored program does come with some significant restrictions. It is important to carefully review the differences listed below BEFORE applying to a non-BSU sponsored program.

Credit & Grades

- Ball State students may only receive transfer credit from a program which provides an official transcript from a U.S. accredited institution or an accredited institution overseas. Grade reports or unofficial transcripts are not recognized. Be aware that some program providers utilize unofficial grade reports or certificates vs. a transcript. You may be asked by the program provider to pay an extra fee for an official transcript through a school of record. It is always the student's responsibility to contact individual program sponsors for specifics about what type of transcript is available in advance of making a program commitment.
- Credit from non-BSU sponsored programs is transfer credit only and not resident credit. Letter grades earned abroad are not recorded on the BSU transcript, nor are they calculated into the GPA. Students must earn a C or better in each course that transfers. Ball State requires that 30 of the last 40 credits are in residence. This may have an impact on the timing of your study abroad participation. Please check with your academic advisor if you have questions about this before you make any plan to study on a non-BSU program.

Scholarships & Financial Aid

- Certain Ball State institutional financial aid (ex. Presidential Scholarships, Whiting Scholarships) may not apply to non-BSU programs. Always confirm with the Financial Aid Office first.
- Federal financial aid (Stafford Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loans, Pell Grants, etc.) is linked to the institution where a student is degree-seeking. Consult with the Ball State Office of Scholarships & Financial Aid regarding the transfer of aid to the non-BSU provider. This means you might need to pay for the study abroad program on your own.
- If you have previously taken out student loans be aware that they will go back into repayment after 6 months of separation from BSU. You can sometimes request a deferment of the loan repayment by verifying you had enrollment at another accredited institution. However, the process and types of institutions/programs recognized will vary. We advise students contact the loan provider in advance to find out the procedure and guidelines for deferral.

Housing Contracts

- If you live on campus and terminate your housing contract for a non-BSU program you may be subject to the cancellation penalties outlined in your contract.

Steps for Participation in a Non-BSU Sponsored Study Abroad Program

1. Carefully research the program and review the restrictions listed above.
2. Meet with your academic advisor to discuss the program's curriculum. You may wish to secure written pre-approvals for the courses using an advising center form.
3. Apply to the non-BSU sponsored program by the deadline.
4. Provide your host institution/provider with the address where your transcripts should be sent at the end of your program.

For US transcripts:

Office of Admissions
Ball State University
Lucina Hall
Muncie, IN 47306 USA

For Foreign Transcripts:

* Must be accompanied by English translation (if in another language) with course descriptions
Assistant Director of Study Abroad
Rinker Center for International Programs
Student Center, Room 102
Ball State University
Muncie, IN 47306 USA

Feel free to contact us if you have any questions about the process for participation in non-BSU programs.

Study Abroad Office

Rinker Center for International Programs
Pittenger Student Center, Room
102 Tel: +1 (765) 285-5422
Hours: Academic Year M-F, 8 am-5pm / Summer M-F, 7:30 am-4 pm
Email: studyabroad@bsu.edu