

# Make Study Abroad AFFORDABLE

- ❖ Apply for scholarships
- ❖ Find financial aid
- ❖ Focus on saving
- ❖ Organize your priorities
- ❖ Request for funding
- ❖ Do without gifts
- ❖ Ask for support
- ❖ Be creative about raising funds
- ❖ Look on the internet
- ❖ Exclude unnecessary expenses

# Make Study Abroad AFFORDABLE

## Apply for scholarships

- There are different types of scholarships
  - Non-specific – Open to all
  - Need based
  - Merit based
  - Diversity
  - Specific for underrepresented groups (First generation, STEM major, Multicultural to name a few)

# Make Study Abroad AFFORDABLE

## Apply for scholarships

- There are scholarships available through different sources
  - Iowa State – University wide/College specific/Department specific
  - Iowa State Financial aid
  - Foundations/Non-profits/Government
  - Location specific
  - Nationally competitive
  - Scholarships through third party study abroad program providers

# Make Study Abroad AFFORDABLE

## Apply for scholarships

- Plan early
- Do your research
- Identify the scholarships you qualify for
- Stack up scholarships – Apply for all scholarships you qualify for
- Keep track of deadlines
- A good essay will make you a competitive applicant. If you need feedback or assistance to write a good scholarship letter, Iowa State University's Writing and Media center can help.

<https://www.wmc.dso.iastate.edu/faq#Who can use the Writing and Media Help Center s services>

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## Apply for scholarships

- Links to various scholarship applications
  - ISU study abroad scholarships
  - Outside sources
  - Financial aid for study abroad
  - Privately funded scholarships listed on ISU financial aid website
  - Iowa State scholarships listed in OneApp
  - Iowa State scholarships not listed in OneApp
  - Google search for additional scholarships
  - Third-party provider websites for their scholarships (applicable only if you are studying abroad through a program offered by the third-party provider)

# Make Study Abroad **A**FFORDABLE

## Find **F**inancial Aid

- There are different types of financial aid available through the Financial aid office. Stacking up scholarships and making use of all available funds will help planning for study abroad finances.
- Types of Aid
  - Grants
  - Scholarships
  - Loans

# Make Study Abroad **A****F**FORDABLE

## Find **F**inancial Aid

- All aid awarded for the regular semester at ISU can be used for study abroad except for Work-Study.
- National merit scholars, Science bound, George Washington Carver, and Multicultural vision program recipients who receive a tuition award may receive their award up to the value of tuition at Iowa State for the semester but cannot exceed their tuition charge for the study abroad program.

# Make Study Abroad **A****F**FORDABLE

## Find **F**inancial Aid

- Make sure you have your FAFSA on file. The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is filed each year by students to qualify for institutional and federal financial aid. It is important to remember to file the FAFSA by December 1 of the previous school year.
- Apply for other Financial aid office scholarships and department scholarships through the OneApp system. Deadline for most applications is December 1<sup>st</sup>.



# Make Study Abroad **A**FFORDABLE

## Find **F**inancial Aid

- Go over your program costs with the study abroad office and Financial Aid Office
  - What costs are covered by scholarships or out of pocket money?
  - What is left that needs to be covered by loans?

Office of Student Financial Aid

0210 Beardshear Hall

515-294-2223

Email- [studyabroadaid@iastate.edu](mailto:studyabroadaid@iastate.edu)

# Make Study Abroad AFFORDABLE

## Focus on Saving

<b>Get</b>	Get a rough estimate of study abroad costs
<b>Learn about</b>	Learn about the different costs of study abroad
<b>Discover</b>	Discover the different financing options (scholarships, loans, family)
<b>Recognize</b>	Recognize what your personal contribution would be
<b>Understand</b>	Understand your income and expenses
<b>Set</b>	Set a goal for saving towards your personal contribution
<b>Open</b>	Open a savings account and contribute towards the goal

# Make Study Abroad **AFFORDABLE**

## **Organize Your Priorities**



# Make Study Abroad **AFFOR****D****DABLE**

**Rquest for funding  
from local  
businesses and  
organizations**

- Corporations
- Small businesses
- Religious groups
- Charitable individuals
- Civic groups (Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions Club)
- Sororities and Fraternities (local and national chapters)
- Heritage groups that have interests in specific countries (i.e., Swedish American Society)
- Media (T.V., Newspaper, Magazines, Radio)
- High school alumni association

# Make Study Abroad **AFFOR****R****DABLE**

## **R**quest for funding from local businesses and organizations

- Be passionate
  - ❖ Show your eagerness
  - ❖ Share your excitement
  - ❖ Articulate your interest genuinely
- Talk about the program
  - ❖ Program goals and your desire to learn
  - ❖ Itinerary and what you are looking forward to explore
  - ❖ What the program means to you

# Make Study Abroad **AFFO**R**DABLE**

## Request for funding from local businesses and organizations

- Connect with potential sponsor at a personal level
  - ❖ What does this opportunity mean to you and your future?
  - ❖ Why do you want to study abroad?
  - ❖ What is the significance of choosing this program?
- Be clear about your needs
  - ❖ What is the cost of the program?
  - ❖ What are the ways you will be funding the program?
  - ❖ What is your fundraising goal?

# Make Study Abroad **AFFOR****R****DABLE**

## **R**quest for funding from local businesses and organizations

- Include a photo of yourself to establish personal connection
- Make donation simple (Cash, Check, Online donation)
- Follow-up if you have not received a response
- Pledge to give back, in exchange for support
  - ❖ Write an article
  - ❖ Lead a discussion or seminar
  - ❖ Give a presentation
  - ❖ Contribute to community service and outreach
  - ❖ Bring back a token of appreciation
  - ❖ Send a post card from your study abroad location

# Make Study Abroad AFFORRDABLE

Request for funding  
from local  
businesses and  
organizations

- [Sample Letter](#)

Source Credit (Arizona State University)



# Make Study Abroad AFFORDABLE

## Do without gifts

- Take advantage of gifting holidays
- Waive holiday and birthday gifts
- Request financial gifts instead

## In return you could do

- Postcard from abroad
- Emails/snail mail from abroad
- Small souvenirs from abroad
- Photos/videos from abroad
- A small gathering upon return to share your experience

# Make Study Abroad AFFORDABLE

## Ask

- Ask your academic advisor and study abroad advisor about scholarships
- Ask your financial aid advisor about aid, scholarships and loans
- Ask your family
- Ask your community
- Ask businesses to host a donation jar at their business

**Ask For Support – Big or small, every bit counts!**

# Make Study Abroad AFFORDABLE

## Be Creative- ways to raise funds

- Crowdsourcing funding – An online platform to raise money (Ex. GoFundMe)
  - Use this platform to tell your family, friends, social media community & even strangers why you want to study abroad, how you will benefit from the experience
  - Read and understand the policies of the platform you are using
  - Most will have a processing fee per donation
  - Understand what you are committing to
  - Talk to someone who has done a campaign
  - Share your campaign link with your social network

# Make Study Abroad AFFORDABLE

## Be Creative- ways to raise funds

### Effective crowd-sourcing campaign

- Engage and interact with the audience
  - Post updates, fun facts of the country you are visiting
- Make it personal
  - Give details of your study abroad program – Why this program, When & Where is the program, What is this program about
- Post a video/picture
- Make your “Asks” specific
- Offer small gifts or incentives – Postcards, small gifts, pictures, access to blog
- Share your campaign link with your social media network

# Make Study Abroad **AFFORDABLE**

## **Be Creative-** ways to raise funds

### Host

Bake sale

Pancake  
breakfast

Spaghetti dinner

### Odd jobs

Wash cars  
Run errands

Remove snow  
Yard work

Baby sit  
Take care of pets

### Sell / Trade

Trade using-  
Apps  
Network

Collect used  
items - host a  
sale

Collect cans

### Share your knowledge

Tutoring

Offer lessons

Dancing  
Quilting  
Computer skills  
Yoga

# Make Study Abroad AFFORDABLE

## Look on the internet

Internet has myriad of resources

- Search for study abroad scholarships
- Search for study abroad grants
- Search for fundraising ideas
- Search for money saving tips

# Make Study Abroad AFFORDABLEE

## Exclude unnecessary purchases

Excluding unwanted purchases = saving for study abroad

- Don't eat out, cook instead
- Don't buy coffee, make your coffee
- Avoid impulse buying

Save, Save, Save !!!!- Mantra for making study abroad AFFORDABLE!