Study Abroad FAQ’s: Comprehensive Fee

What is the study abroad comprehensive fee? How much does it really cost?

Study abroad participants are charged a comprehensive fee based on the number of K-units a student is eligible to earn on the program. The comprehensive fee is the equivalent of tuition, room and board on campus and reflects the reality that K is a small, tuition driven college and as such must continue to support overhead costs even while students are off-campus. Study abroad comprehensive fees must meet the cost of students’ participation in study abroad as well as contribute to various College expenses.

As a private college that has intentionally sought a diverse student body, including socio-economic diversity, we recognize that not all students and families have the same ability to pay K’s tuition, room, and board. This is why some students may have more institutional aid than others. It also means that when students have this support, the actual amount K collects in tuition, room and board is often significantly less than the tuition, room and board fees. Any funds available after fees to our partners are paid contribute to general overhead costs and other programming available at K. The remaining funds contribute to all the programming K College offers.

Our financial structure is consistent with other private liberal arts colleges because it is the best way to insure financial security for the program, robust options for program participation, and allowing the transfer of institutional aid so that all students may have access to participate in the program. If the study abroad comprehensive fee was established to cover our partners’ fees only, than we could not offer the transfer of institutional aid nor the variety of programs and this would negatively impact a student’s ability to participate.

2016/17 Study Abroad Comprehensive Fees

ST program (3K-units): $17,864
LT Program (6 K-units): $35,728
ET Programs (9 K-units): $53,592

The College has $150,000 in travel subsidy money available to study abroad students each year. More information on travel subsidies and outside scholarships are available on https://reason.kzoo.edu/cip/aid/
COMPREHENSIVE FEE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Round-trip international airfare to program site (some students may be eligible for travel subsidy)
- Books and other required educational materials (including photocopies and personal printing—typically $150 per quarter) or additional lab or music fees
- Room and board during the December holidays, Holy Week, and other extended vacation periods when the academic program is not in session
- Cost of local transportation at the program location, including field trips for a course
- Passports or required photographs (funding available for students with high financial need)
- Visa fees for Australia; Botswana; China; Costa Rica; Denmark; Egypt; England; Greece; Germany (Bonn – residence permit fee); Hungary (BSM and BSCS); India; Ireland; Israel (Be’er Sheva and Jerusalem); Italy, Japan (Kyoto, Hikone, and Tokyo); or Scotland.
- Travel expenses to consulates and/or embassies to apply for the student visa. In some cases these expenses may include air travel to appear in person for appointments, biometric processing fees, or fees for additional processing.
- Required physical exams, x-rays and other medical tests (these costs may or may not be covered by insurance) students may be eligible for Weiner Fund
- Any required and recommended immunizations (these costs will vary from $35 to $450 depending upon destination and students may be eligible for Weiner Fund
- Any anti-malarial prophylactic pills (where recommended by the CDC) that the student takes abroad (average cost $10.00 per pill taken on a weekly basis–total cost varies from $100-$800 depending on the length of the program)
- Required health and accident insurance
- Fees charged by airline for carry-on bags, checked bags or overweight luggage
- Independent travel while abroad or incidental expenses en-route and abroad
- Personal property insurance; cell phones or internet fees/usage; or memberships/fees at local gyms or exercise classes

When will I be billed for my program?

ST 3 K-units: November (winter ST program) or February (spring ST program)

LT 6 K-units: August (first three K-units); November/December (final 3 K-units)

ET 9 K-units: August (first three K-units): November/December (second 3 K-units); February (final 3 K-units)