

THE STUDY ABROAD HANDBOOK



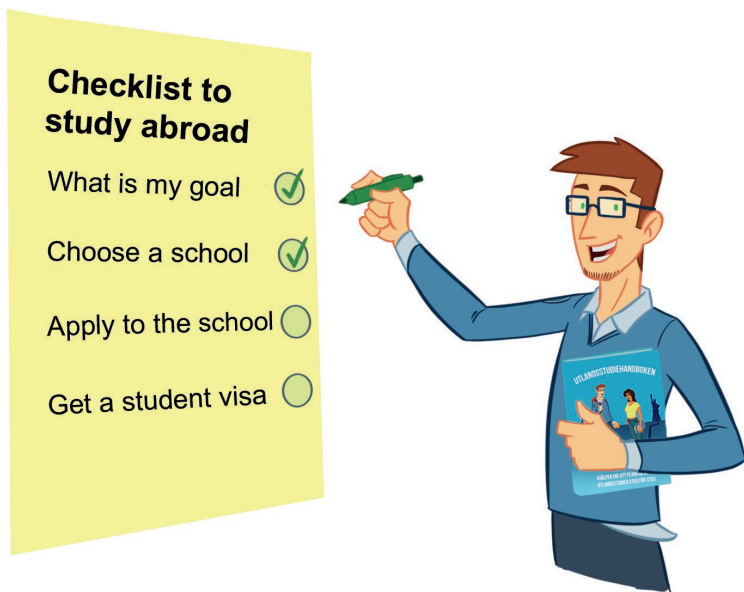
**HELPS YOU PLAN YOUR STUDIES
ABROAD - STEP BY STEP**

CHECKLIST FOR STUDY ABROAD

Do you want to study abroad? Use this checklist to plan your studies. When you have completed a step, check it off and continue to the next step. When all the boxes have been checked, you are ready to begin your study abroad adventure.

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WELCOME TO THE STUDY ABROAD HANDBOOK

You are now reading our study abroad handbook filled with advice about studying abroad. We look at the process step by step and give you information and resources for further reading.

The handbook was created by DreamStudiesAbroad.com. We give you free study abroad information, regardless of where in the world you want to study. You can find a school in our school database, ask questions in our FAQ, and read a lot of guides and articles on how to study abroad. In this handbook we will also list some recommended schools. If you want more help, we and/or our partners can help you to find a suitable school and apply to many colleges, universities and language schools all over the world. Fill out our information request form to get help. Read more about us on page 22.



DREAM STUDIES ABROAD.COM
FREE INFORMATION ABOUT STUDYING ABROAD

WHAT CAN I STUDY ABROAD?

Language courses, 2-80 weeks

Language courses at private language schools are a very flexible study abroad option. Many language schools have start dates several times per month. You decide how many weeks you want to study from one week up to 80 weeks. There is no better way to learn a language than to study it in a country where it is spoken. You can take a short language course during your summer holiday or a longer course after you have graduated from high school.

High school year

If you want to study abroad for a longer period of time before you have graduated from high school, you can take a high school year abroad. Live with a host family or in a boarding school for one year and study with local students.

Study Abroad, 1-2 semesters

Taking one or two study abroad semesters at a foreign university is a great way to get study abroad experience without taking a full degree abroad. As a study abroad student, you usually take four to five courses of your choice each semester. You can go as an exchange student from your home university or arrange the study abroad se-

mesters on your own directly with a college or university abroad.

Vocational programs, 4-80 weeks

Short practical courses with a vocational focus. Take a one-year diploma course or a short intensive boot camp course in subjects like IT.

Degree programs abroad

You can study any subject at colleges and universities abroad. For a longer program abroad we recommend degree courses. You can take a university degree in one to four years. Choose between:

Associate Degree, 2 years

Take an Associate Degree at an American Community College where it is easy to get accepted, and the tuition fee is much lower than at U.S. universities. With an Associate Degree you can transfer directly to year three on a university Bachelor program.

Bachelor's Degrees, 3-4 years

All universities offer Bachelor's Degrees. This is the most common university degree.

Master's Degree, 1-2 years

If you already have a Bachelor's Degree, then a Master is the next degree you can take. An international Master's Degree can make a great impression on your CV.



READ MORE

Language Schools Abroad:

dreamstudiesabroad.com/study/language-school



Community Colleges & Associate Degrees in the US:

dreamstudiesabroad.com/articles/community-college

Study Abroad Semesters:

dreamstudiesabroad.com/study/study-abroad



Bachelor's Degree:

dreamstudiesabroad.com/study/bachelors-degrees

Master's Degree:

dreamstudiesabroad.com/articles/master-abroad



High School year in the USA:

dreamstudiesabroad.com/study/high-school

WHY STUDY ABROAD?

There are many reasons to study abroad. Here we list some of the main benefits:

6 reasons to study abroad

1. Become more attractive on the job market. Research shows that if you have study abroad experience, it can be easier to get a job.
2. Take a subject you can't study in your home country. If you are from a small country, your choice of schools and educational programs may be limited and it can be very challenging to get accepted to popular programs. If you don't get accepted in your home country, you can apply to your dream program abroad instead.
3. International understanding and experience.
4. Personal development. Accelerate your personal growth and become more independent.
5. Learn a language. There is no better way to learn a language than to study it in the country where it is spoken.
6. Have fun! Who does not like to travel and discover the world?

Why do YOU want to study abroad?

As you can see, there are many reasons to study abroad. However,

it is important that you take some time to figure out your reasons for studying abroad before you apply to a school. Don't study abroad just because it is something that your friend wants to do or something that your parents think you should do. Studying abroad can be challenging so make sure it is something that *you* want to do and know what those reasons are.

What do you want to achieve?

To be able to plan and complete your studies abroad successfully you need to know what you want to achieve. Knowing what you want to achieve will help you choose the right location, school, program, and accommodation.

Is your primary goal to improve your CV? Have fun? Or something else? Your goals will influence which school and destination you choose, how much you are willing to spend on tuition fees, and how hard you are willing to study. So take some time to figure out what you want to achieve.

Write down your goals

On the next page you can write down what you want to achieve with your studies abroad.



Improve my CV?
Learn a language?
Have fun!



**COLORADO STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Colorado State University

Study close to wonderful nature in the Rocky Mountains. Scholarship of \$8000+.

dreamstudiesabroad.com/schools/colorado-state



WRITE DOWN YOUR GOALS

Why do you want to study abroad? What is your goal?

What subject do you want to study?

Where do you want to study?

FIND AND CHOOSE A SCHOOL ABROAD

Start with your goals

When you are looking for a school abroad, you should start with your goals. What is most important for you? The place of study or the program you want to study? Example:

Oscar has always dreamed of living and studying in Paris. He has not given much thought on what he wants to study there; the important thing is to experience life in Paris. In his case, we would recommend studying French at a language school. Speaking French is the best way to get to know the French culture and enjoy life in France, and language courses are usually less demanding than university studies, so he will have plenty of time to explore the city.

Emma is also interested in Paris, but her main goal is to become a shoe designer. She should, therefore, start by searching widely for schools with an expertise in shoe design and look at what they cost, what reputation they have, and how hard it is to get accepted. If she is lucky she may find the perfect school in Paris, but it is quite possible that she will find a better school somewhere else. Then she might have to give up on Paris in favor of getting the education she desires.

Where do I find schools abroad?

Nowadays it is easiest to find schools online. The international school database at DreamStudies-Abroad.com can be a good starting point. Here you will find thousands of schools from all over the world.

How to choose a school abroad

When you have found some suitable schools, it is time to take a closer look at them to find out which school is best for you.

- Read more about their courses. Which school has the most attractive *programs*?
- What is their *admission requirements and application deadline*? You can rule out all schools whose deadline has passed or schools whose requirements you cannot meet.
- What is the school's tuition fees? Do they offer any scholarships? Is an expensive school worth the extra cost? Can you afford to study there?
- What does their campus look like? Do they have a good location? Do they offer student housing?
- What is the school's reputation and ranking? What do former students say about them?



READ MORE

Search in our international school database:
dreamstudiesabroad.com/schools



8 steps to choose a school abroad:
dreamstudiesabroad.com/articles/choose-school-abroad

6 reasons to study abroad:
dreamstudiesabroad.com/articles/six-reasons-to-study-abroad



Fill in our information request to get help:
dreamstudiesabroad.com/pages/request

APPLY TO A SCHOOL ABROAD

When you have found some schools you like, it is time to apply. Here is some help to get you started.

When should I apply?

The basic rule is the sooner, the better. If you apply early, you have a greater chance of arranging everything on time, and you will be able to apply for another school if you are not accepted. An early application also improves your chances of getting a scholarship.

High-ranking universities can have an application deadline as early as one year before the program starts. Ordinary universities often have deadlines approximately six months before the course starts while smaller colleges and low-ranking universities usually take applications up to a month or two before the semester starts.

How many schools should I apply to?

It is better to make one good application than many bad ones. Often you can get a reply within a month, so if you apply early, you still have the chance to apply for more schools if you don't get accepted. Many schools charge application fees for international students so that is another reason not to apply to so many schools.

What documents do I need to to apply to a university abroad?

What you should submit with your application differs from school to school. You will find this information under Admission Requirements (or a similar headline) on the school's website. Here are some of the most common documents that you need to submit when you apply to a university abroad:

- The school's *application form*. Read it carefully and fill out all the required fields.
- Your *grades* from high school and college translated into English.
- A *copy of your passport* so that the school can issue a visa letter.
- Proof that you meet the school's language requirements, e.g. *TOEFL* or *IELTS* for programs in English.
- *Standardized tests* like SAT for undergraduate level and GMAT or GRE for Master programs.
- A *financial statement* to show that you can pay for your studies and living expenses.
- Many universities will also ask you to submit *references and motivation letters* to prove that you are a suitable student. Pay extra attention to these if you don't have great grades.



UMCH | UNIVERSITÄTSMEDIZIN
NEUMARKT A. M.
CAMPUS HAMBURG

UMCH University Medical Campus Hamburg
6-year degree program in medicine in English in Germany with an international campus flair.

dreamstudiesabroad.com/schools/umch-medicine



READ MORE

How to apply to a university abroad:

dreamstudiesabroad.com/articles/apply-to-universities-abroad



Get into the best universities in the world:

dreamstudiesabroad.com/articles/worlds-best-universities

Fill out an info request to get help to apply to all universities in the UK, Ireland, Australia, Spain, & many schools in the rest of the world.

dreamstudiesabroad.com/pages/request



HOW TO FINANCE YOUR STUDIES ABROAD

Calculate your costs

Most study abroad programs come with a tuition fee. On top of that, you will need money for accommodation, traveling, insurance, course material, food, and leisure. Do you have enough money to fund your studies abroad?

Calculate your costs to make sure you can afford the program that you are interested in. You do this by summarizing all the expected expenses that we listed above. Many schools also have estimates for how much money a student needs to study there. This amount is usually mandatory in order to get a student visa. If you don't have enough, you will either need to change your plans or find a way to get more money. Here we look at different ways to finance your studies.

Government grants and loans

Some countries, not least the Nordic countries give their citizens student grants and loans (from SU Lånekassen, Kela, or CSN). You can apply for this when you study at recognized schools abroad, and if the program you are taking is not too expensive, you might be able to cover all your costs with the government grants and loans.

If your home country doesn't offer student aid programs, you might be able to get student loans from the country where you will study. Ask your school for more information about this.

Scholarships

Another way to get funding for your studies abroad is to apply for scholarships. They are quite common in countries like the US where tuition fees are high. The school where you will study is the most likely scholarship giver, especially if you study at a big university. Students who maintain good grades can often get a scholarship that reduces their tuition costs by 10-20%. Some schools also provide financial aid for poor students. However, it is very rare to get a full scholarship on undergraduate level (unless you are a sports star or something similar). Scholarships can be a help, but they will rarely cover all your costs.

DreamStudies' scholarships

DreamStudies offers 4 yearly scholarships with a total value of 5000 Euro. The scholarships can be used for studies at selected colleges, universities or language school abroad. The application deadline is December 15.



**ILLINOIS
COLLEGE**

Illinois College, USA

Guaranteed \$23,000 USD per year scholarship at this four year campus college.

dreamstudiesabroad.com/schools/illinois-college



READ MORE

Scholarship guide:

dreamstudiesabroad.com/articles/scholarships-for-studying-abroad



Apply for DreamStudies' Scholarship:

dreamstudiesabroad.com/articles/dreamstudies-scholarship

Scholarship and discounts from our partner schools:

dreamstudiesabroad.com/discounts



PREPARING FOR YOUR STUDIES ABROAD

There is a lot to prepare when you study abroad, but if you follow our checklist on page 2, you don't have to miss anything.

Book student housing

International students usually stay in dorm rooms, shared apartments, or with a host family. Booking your accommodation through your school is usually the most convenient solution. However, if you are on a tight budget, you might find cheaper options off campus. We can currently help you with student housing in Japan and Korea. Read more in our article about student housing.

Apply for a student visa

You usually need a student visa when you study abroad. The only exception is EU-students studying in another EU-country and short language courses that you often can take on a tourist visa. So make sure to check the visa requirements and apply on time. Step one is to apply to a school abroad. Once you get accepted, they will send you a document that you need to proceed with your visa application. Read more in our visa guides.

The trip to your place of study

Check when you can arrive before you book your tickets. Some schools require you to come and sign up for your classes a couple of weeks before the semester starts, and campus housing often has fixed moving in dates. Your student visa will also restrict when you can arrive.

Get study abroad insurance

Don't forget to get study abroad insurance! It is easy to forget, but the insurance can be a lifesaver if something happens. A good insurance policy does not only cover theft and health care but also other costly things such as legal assistance, liability, and sick transport.

Many schools demand that you show proof of insurance on the first day at school. On our website you can find more information and links to recommended insurance companies.

Pack for your studies abroad

Don't forget your passport, visa, tickets, acceptance letter, addresses, chargers, adapters, money, credit card, medicines, etc. See our packing list for more information.



Foothill and De Anza Colleges

Study at Community College in Silicon Valley. Over 100 programs at favorable prices.

dreamstudiesabroad.com/schools/foothill-de-anza



READ MORE

Study abroad insurances:

dreamstudiesabroad.com/pages/insurance



Student housing when studying abroad:

dreamstudiesabroad.com/articles/student-housing-abroad

Student visas to study abroad:

dreamstudiesabroad.com/pages/visa



Packing list for studying abroad:

dreamstudiesabroad.com/articles/packing-list

MAXIMIZE YOUR STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCE

Reality never matches the dream

One thing is for sure when you study abroad: Your experience will differ from what you envisioned before you left home. It doesn't mean that it will be bad, but it will be different. There are some dull routine days even when you study abroad, and in the beginning, you might feel a bit lonely. However, when your classes start you will meet a lot of new people. Most students enjoy their studies abroad more the longer they stay.

Keep busy to avoid homesickness

Don't spend too much time alone in your room, chatting with friends and family at home. That's an easy way to get homesick. Go out, explore your new city and country. Be active and sign up for activities organized by the school or join those planned by your friends. Say yes! You will return home eventually, but you can only experience your study abroad period right here and now.

Make the most of your studies

Studying is a central part of your studies abroad. Try to learn as much as possible. If you are taking a language course in France, you want to come home and be good

at speaking French, right? Then you need to make an effort and study in your spare time. You will still have plenty of time to have fun, and you will feel a lot better if you take your studies seriously.

Remember your goals and plan

Remember your goals when you are abroad and think about how you are going to achieve them. Without a plan there is a risk that time passes, and before you know it, it will be time to go home again. Then it will be too late to do everything that you wanted to do, so start working towards your goals right away. For many people studying abroad is a once in a lifetime opportunity!

Network and make friends for life

Most people are looking for new friends when they study abroad. Try to get to know people; it will pay off and give you a better understanding of other cultures. You might find friends for life, meet your significant other, or find a future business partner.

Have fun!

Studying abroad is an amazing opportunity to see the world and grow as a person. Make the most of your time abroad and don't forget to have fun!



Los Angeles City College, USA

Study amongst the stars and live in Hollywood, California. Small classes & good prices.

dreamstudiesabroad.com/schools/losangelescc



Southern Utah University, USA

SUU offers over 150 undergraduate and 32 graduate programs close to 30 stunning national parks.

dreamstudiesabroad.com/schools/southern-utah-university



Adema University School in Mallorca, Spain

Study Dentistry and Fine Arts in English on an exciting Mediterranean Island.

dreamstudiesabroad.com/schools/adema-university



European School of Political & Social Sciences

Study International Relations or Political Science in English in Lille, France.

dreamstudiesabroad.com/schools/espol



POPULAR STUDY ABROAD DESTINATIONS



Study in the USA

The US is the most popular study abroad destination in the world. Take language courses, high school years, study abroad semesters or a full degree at selected colleges and universities.

Read more at: dreamstudiesabroad.com/study/usa



Study in the United Kingdom

Home to some of the best universities in the world, the United Kingdom has always been a popular study abroad destination. We have a partner who can help you apply to all universities in the UK.

Read more at: dreamstudiesabroad.com/study/uk



Study in Australia

Experience life down under and study in sunny Australia. We have a partner who can help you free of charge with the application, visa etc to most Australian universities, colleges and language schools.

Read more at: dreamstudiesabroad.com/study/australia



Study in the European Union

For EU-students the cheapest and easiest way to study abroad is within EU where you don't need a student visa. We have many attractive partner schools in the EU that are open for students world wide.

www.dreamstudiesabroad.com/articles/study-europe





Study in Japan

We have worked with schools in Japan for many years and helped thousands to student to Japanese Language Schools, vocational schools (Senmon Gakko) and selected university programs in English.

Read more at: dreamstudiesabroad.com/study/japan



Study in Korea

Learn Korean language at universities or language schools, take study abroad- semesters or full degree programs at selected universities that offers courses in English. We are Korea experts!

www.dreamstudiesabroad.com/study/south-korea



Study in other countries

We are in touch with universities and language schools in many countries around the world including New Zealand, Canada, UAE, Switzerland, China, Malaysia, Scandinavia (for non-EU students) etc.

Request more info: dreamstudiesabroad.com/pages/request



ASIA
EXCHANGE

Asia Exchange

Study abroad semesters & degrees in many Asian countries. 40 Euro discount with the code DreamStudies.

dreamstudiesabroad.com/study/asia-exchange



LTL LANGUAGE SCHOOL
THE LITTLE LANGUAGE

LTL Language School, Korea

LTL have language schools all over East Asia. Their latest school is located in Seoul.

dreamstudiesabroad.com/schools/ltl-korea



QUESTIONS ABOUT STUDYING ABROAD

Can I work when I study abroad?

Whether you are able to work or not when you study abroad depends on where you study and what kind of visa you have. Many countries (for example, Australia and Japan) allow you to work part-time on a student visa, but other countries are more strict so make sure to check the regulations for the country where you will study. In the U.S., for example, you are only allowed to work on campus from your second semester. It can be difficult to find a job if you don't study at a university with a large campus.

While working in your country of study can give you more money for living costs, it can never be taken for granted. In some places, it is hard to find a job, especially if you don't speak the native language well, and to get a student visa you will need to show that you have sufficient funding at the time of applying.

Can you help me to finance my studies abroad?

No, you need to have your own money to pay for your studies abroad. If you cannot show proof of financing schools abroad cannot accept you or sponsor your student visa.

We and some of our partner schools offer partial scholarships that can lower your costs but there are no guarantees. Read more on page 12-13.

Can I use my studies abroad to work or study in my home country?

Yes, a degree that you take abroad is usually worth at least as much as a degree from your home country. So if you take a Bachelor of Business at an accredited school abroad you can come home to take a Master's Degree or start working in your home country.

However, if you want to study health related subjects like medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, nursing, psychology etc you usually need a professional license to work in your home country. Depending on where you have studied you might need to take some extra tests or courses to get the license. For EU-students it is recommended to study these subjects within EU if you want to work in your home country afterwards.

Law and accounting are other country specific subjects that might need additional training if you study in one country and want to work in another.



Institut Lyfe, France

Study Hospitality & Restaurant Management, Culinary Arts and Pastry in English in France.

dreamstudiesabroad.com/schools/institut-lyfe



READ MORE

Ask a question in our FAQ:

dreamstudiesabroad.com/faq



Checklist to study abroad:

dreamstudiesabroad.com/articles/checklist-for-studying-abroad

Information request to get help:

dreamstudiesabroad.com/pages/request



HOW WE CAN HELP YOU TO STUDY ABROAD

We give you free study abroad info online

At DreamstudiesAbroad.com you can find a lot of articles, guides, videos, and questions and answers about studying abroad. Search among thousands of schools in our school database, and fill out our info request form to get help to find a school that is right for you.

We give free study abroad information online, but we don't have the resources to give personal support by phone or online meetings. Below you can read more about how we can help you to study abroad:

Help to choose and apply to international schools

Fill out our info request form if you want help to find and apply to suitable schools abroad. We have partners who can help you apply to almost all universities in the UK, Ireland, and Australia. We also have connections with many schools in North America, Europe and East Asia. Our partners will help you with the application process and many of them can take a video meeting to give you further guidance. You don't commit to anything by filling out our request form and our help is always free of charge.

Questions about study abroad

We have answered thousands of study abroad questions on dreamstudiesabroad.com. If you have a general study abroad question (that is not related to school choice, application, grades or scholarships) you can ask it in our FAQ-section. We also answer study abroad questions on Tiktok and Instagram several times per month.

Videos and webinars

On our website you can find free study abroad webinars from us and our partner schools. There we also have a video section with previous webinars and instruction videos to help you prepare for your studies abroad.

Scholarships

You will need your own money to study abroad, but scholarships can lower the costs. Many of our partner schools offer special scholarships to students from DreamStudies. We also hand out 4 DreamStudies' scholarships with a total value of 5000 Euro each year. Find current scholarships at DreamStudiesAbroad.com

You can find more information about DreamStudies and links to our social media accounts on the next page.



Samu Language School, Japan

Study Japanese in Tokyo's Korea Town close to Shinjuku and get help to find a job in Japan.

dreamstudiesabroad.com/schools/samu



IBA International Business Academy, Denmark

Study marketing, management, finance, design etc in Denmark. Free for EU-students.

dreamstudiesabroad.com/schools/iba-denmark



GoAcademy! Germany

Study at a popular German Language School in Düsseldorf in the heart of Germany.

dreamstudiesabroad.com/schools/goacademy



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Study Abroad webinars:

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@dreamstudiesabroad get recommendations and inspiration from our partner schools around the world



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FREE INFORMATION ABOUT STUDYING ABROAD

OR IF YOU PREFER SWEDISH:



UTLANDSSTUDIER.SE
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