

## **Salve Regina University's Home School Tuition Policy Frequently Asked Questions**

Salve Regina University and the Center for Global Education & Fellowships operate under a Home School Tuition Policy for study abroad. Through this policy, students pay Salve Regina tuition when studying abroad on an approved program during an academic year semester.

In conjunction with our policy, Salve Regina institutional merit and need-based financial aid will be portable for approved study abroad programs as will applicable federal financial aid packages. Please note: students with an SRU grant may experience a drop in the amount of the SRU grant if they have been residing in on campus housing up until departure on study abroad. This drop is similar to the drop that occurs when moving from on-campus to off-campus housing in the junior or senior year. In addition, some students may find their federal aid package adjusts upward or downward depending on the comparative cost of room and board expenses in the study abroad destination.

By utilizing this policy, the University applies a fiscally responsible pricing structure and financial aid policy for study abroad used by many of our peer institutions and other leading private liberal arts colleges. The tuition and financial aid structure make study abroad more affordable and accessible for all students, regardless of financial means. It reflects the University's commitment to academic excellence by making study abroad an integral component of the undergraduate educational experience. By extending the campus classroom to the world, "the University encourages students to work for a world that is harmonious, just and merciful" in support of the Salve Regina Mission.

### **WHY DO I PAY SALVE REGINA TUITION WHEN I STUDY ABROAD?**

Students on study abroad remain continuously enrolled at Salve Regina University while on study abroad, allowing for the portability of federal financial aid and institutional aid and scholarships to the study abroad program. Continuous enrollment also allows for the smooth transfer of academic credit; academic credits and grades earned on study abroad are treated as Salve Regina credits and grades. The courses, credits, and grades are reviewed, approved and then posted on the academic transcript. Course grades are calculated into the Cumulative Grade Point Average. In sum, Salve Regina charges Salve Regina tuition for awarding Salve Regina credit.

In addition, as a continuously enrolled Salve Regina University student study abroad students access the full range of support services from the Center for Global Education & Fellowships from initial inquiry through pre-departure preparation, support while abroad and return to the Salve Regina campus, which would not be the case for a student embarking on study abroad outside of their enrollment at Salve Regina.

Finally, Salve Regina is committed to making study abroad a more integral and viable educational opportunity for all our undergraduates. This means, in order for study abroad to be equally accessible to all students, the University has to be able to provide institutional financial aid for students on aid when they study abroad. To accomplish that, the University relies on tuition revenue, since institutional merit and need-based financial aid comes from this revenue.

### **HOW DOES SALVE REGINA CHOOSE AND APPROVE STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS?**

There are hundreds of programs and their quality is not all the same. The Center for Global Education & Fellowships has developed a list of recognized programs that is reviewed and approved by the Provost. The program list is regularly evaluated and revised in order to insure that Salve Regina is approving only those programs that offer both high academic rigor and student support services. Programs are also chosen based on economic feasibility for the institution. Prices of approved programs do not exceed Salve Regina

University's average net tuition revenue (i.e. tuition less institutional aid). The Center for Global Education & Fellowships requires that returning students complete an extensive program evaluation as part of the review and evaluation of programs.

### **WHAT IF I CHOOSE A PROGRAM WHOSE TUITION IS LESS THAN SALVE REGINA TUITION?**

The Center for Global Education & Fellowships, in conjunction with the Provost, selects and approves study abroad programs based on their academic rigor and integrity as well as for the quality of their student support services. We aim to find programs where our students do not incur additional expenses. Should the student partake in an approved program that extends beyond the normal start/end date of an academic semester, the student may be responsible for additional program fees.

The Salve Regina tuition revenue from the students studying abroad is used to cover the costs of the programs that students go on as well as the management of the study abroad office itself, which support students during the study abroad process. In addition, with the portability of institutional financial aid, tuition revenue, as for students on campus, is used to cover the Salve Regina financial aid amount for students with aid going abroad. Thus, in order to make study abroad fiscally viable for the institution, the University has adopted the practice used by many private liberal arts colleges in charging home school tuition for study abroad.

### **I RECEIVE FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID. HOW WILL MY AID APPLY FOR STUDY ABROAD?**

Students with financial aid who apply for a study abroad program will have their financial package reviewed by the Financial Aid Office for the semester or year they will be abroad. In some instances, the total aid amount may be adjusted higher or lower, based on the total cost of the program abroad. Federal work-study wages, by US law, are not portable for study abroad. However, in some cases, that amount can be replaced by additional loan or grant aid in order to keep the student's financial aid total the same.

### **CAN YOU SAY MORE ABOUT HOW STUDENTS WILL BE BILLED FOR STUDY ABROAD?**

When studying abroad, students will be invoiced by and pay the following to Salve Regina:

- Salve Regina Tuition
- Study Abroad \$650 Fee

The study abroad fee will be reflected on the semester abroad tuition invoice. This fee is to cover administrative costs in arranging the Study Abroad assignment, a student insurance program, and the transfer of academic credit to Salve Regina University. Students will pay room and board charges directly to the program or host institution. In the instance where that is not included with the program fee, in whole or in part (e.g., the program provides only a 15 hour meal plan), student will pay their own living and food expenses. In addition, students are responsible for any other costs affiliated with the program (e.g., insurance, security deposit). Students remain responsible for airfare, visa, any required inoculations as well as other personal items and expenses.

### **HOW WILL MY COURSE WORK ABROAD SHOW ON MY SALVE REGINA TRANSCRIPT?**

The name of the program will be listed, along with the course titles, amount of credit and grades received, just as they do for courses taken on the Salve Regina campus.

### **WHAT ABOUT SUMMER STUDY ABROAD-DO I STILL PAY SALVE REGINA TUITION?**

Salve Regina students can participate in short term summer study abroad programs following the freshman, sophomore or junior year. Students can either participate in study abroad through our own faculty-led, short term programs or programs operated through program providers. If students are participating on a Salve faculty-led program, the student will be billed the entire program fee as dictated by Salve Regina (tuition included). If a student participates on a non-Salve program over the summer, the student must pay the program fee directly to the program.

The University Registrar offers a transfer credit approval process. More information on Salve Regina's short-term study abroad programs can be found on our webpage under the study abroad section.

### **HOW MANY SEMESTERS CAN I STUDY ABROAD?**

Students may spend a maximum of two semesters abroad. Students can elect to go on study abroad during their second semester sophomore year, junior year or senior year. Sophomore transfer students may be able to spend only one semester abroad based on progress towards degree and class standing. Please note there is no limit to how many times a student can partake in Salve Regina faculty-led short-term program.

### **WHAT IS ACCEPTING FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY?**

Each Salve student who chooses to participate in a study abroad program must accept fiscal responsibility in their MySalve account prior to their departure, just as Salve students do every enrolled term. The acceptance of fiscal responsibility signals to stakeholders on campus, including the Salve Regina registrar's office and business office, that the Salve student is staying enrolled full time at Salve and agreeing to pay Salve tuition and fees for the student's intended semester or academic year program abroad.

When students accept fiscal responsibility, the registrar's office enrolls the Salve student into a placeholder course (i.e. GTS-300, 12 credits) that signals to stakeholders on campus that the student remains enrolled at Salve Regina while abroad. Failure to accept fiscal responsibility in a timely manner may impact a student's ability to go abroad, receive a bill for tuition and financial aid (if applicable).

### **WHEN DO I RECEIVE MY GRADES FROM MY PROGRAM ABROAD?**

Our partner programs, hosted by institutions and third-party providers, issue their transcripts after completion of the program itself. Typically, depending on the program, transcripts are received and processed at Salve Regina University about 2-3 months after the completion of a program.

### **WHAT HAPPENS IF I DECIDE OR NEED TO CANCEL OR WITHDRAW FROM MY PROGRAM?**

Salve students, and parents/guardians of students, are required to sign the Participation Agreement that detail the payment obligations and policies related to responsibilities for a program. Student participants agree to Terms & Conditions with their third party provider or host university abroad related to certain costs of the program, such as room, board and accommodations. These expenses are held to those Terms & Conditions.