

STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM – FINANCIAL AID CHECKLIST LOS RIOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

- Schedule preliminary financial aid meeting.** Schedule a preliminary meeting with a financial aid representative at your current campus to discuss eligibility, potential award amounts, and other funding sources: **ARC** -> **Dan Alexander** (alexand@arc.losrios.edu); **CRC** -> **Phuong Le** (lep@crc.losrios.edu); **FLC** -> **Irina Randak** (randaki@flc.losrios.edu); or **SCC** -> **Maritza LaVu** (lavum@scc.losrios.edu).
- Preview course applicability with a counselor.** Financial aid can only be used for classes that apply toward your specific degree or certificate pathway. You are highly encouraged to meet with a counselor at your current campus to review the Florence course options and determine which classes are applicable for financial aid. You should bring the **London 2024 Course Packet** to the meeting: tinyurl.com/Lon24Courses.
- Declare an eligible major.** Only specific majors are eligible for financial aid. In consultation with a counselor, consider which major best meets your academic goals while maintaining financial aid eligibility. For example, some student may choose **Transfer to 4-Yr Institution**. Undecided majors are **not** eligible. Majors can be changed in **eServices**: <https://ps.losrios.edu/student/signon.html>.
- Update and/or complete your FAFSA.** To be considered for the **California College Promise Grant (CCPG)** tuition waiver and other financial aid opportunities you must **complete the 2024-25 FAFSA**: <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>. Be sure to add **American River College (001232)**, **Los Medanos College (010340)**, **Santa Rosa Junior College (001287)**, and **Skyline College (007713)** as potential schools.
- Meet with study abroad program director Adam Windham.** Once you have paid your \$450 deposit, you will be scheduled a meeting time with study abroad program director **Adam Windham**. At that meeting, he will review your application materials and verify your eligibility for the program.
- Meet with campus financial aid representative.** After being accepted into the program, schedule a second meeting with your financial aid representative: **ARC** -> **Dan Alexander** (alexand@arc.losrios.edu); **CRC** -> **Phuong Le** (lep@crc.losrios.edu); **FLC** -> **Irina Randak** (randaki@flc.losrios.edu); or **SCC** -> **Maritza LaVu** (lavum@scc.losrios.edu). The financial aid process can take several weeks . . . so plan ahead!

Financial aid representatives will help you:

- Review your financial aid options
- Read and sign any required **American Institute for Foreign Study (AIFS)** paperwork
- Complete and submit requisite **Study Abroad Consortium Request** forms for classes you take through **Los Medanos College, Santa Rosa Junior College, or Skyline College**
- Review your eServices status and determine next steps

- Monitor your financial aid status in eServices.** Visit: <https://ps.losrios.edu/student/signon.html> often. Select **Message Center, Tasks, and Financial Aid** tiles for current information and **missing documentation**.
- Apply for Scholarships.** All scholarships have different processes and deadlines. **Don't wait until the last minute!**

Resources include, but are not limited to:

- gilmanscholarship.org/program/program-overview (due March 7, 2024)
- tinyurl.com/Lon24Schlr (due June 12, 2024)
- arc.losrios.edu/study-abroad-program-financial-aid
- losrios.edu/admissions/financial-aid-and-fees/types-of-financial-aid/scholarships
- fundforeducationabroad.org/scholarships/
- ccieworld.org/grants-scholarships/scholarships-for-study-abroad/

- **Apply for Grants:** You may be eligible for federal or state grants that don't have to be paid back. bit.ly/40fqd0Z
- **Apply for Federal Direct Loans:** A direct loan is money you borrow from the federal government that you have to pay back with interest. bit.ly/3REKjhn
- **Apply for Private Loans:** If you are not eligible to receive direct loans, you may opt for a private loan. A private loan is money you borrow from a private lender that you have to pay back with interest. bit.ly/3Dw3qnC

Note: ARC does not advise or promote private loans or lenders. It is the student's responsibility to research and determine the lender that best meets their needs.

- **BankMobile Disbursements** is a third-party company used by many colleges to disburse financial aid. You can have two different accounts if you attend two colleges that use BankMobile Disbursements. bit.ly/3kR3TdG

*Note: Before you go abroad, make sure your ARC BankMobile Disbursements refund preference is activated: bankmobiledisbursements.com/refundchoices. **You are responsible for all AIFS program fees if your preference is not activated.** Refund preferences include having refunds kept in your BankMobile account, sent to an existing bank account, or mailed as a physical check. If you request check, verify that your correct mailing address is on file in eServices: ps.losrios.edu/student/signon.html.*

CONTACT INFORMATION

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- **Study Abroad Program**, Los Rios Community College District
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