Study Abroad Checklist

A complete study abroad checklist covering student visas, university enrollment, housing, finances, health and packing.

Visas and Documents

- [ ] Confirm the student visa required for your program
  Requirements vary by country and change often — check official embassy and government sources.
- [ ] Ensure your passport is valid beyond your program dates
- [ ] Gather your acceptance and enrollment letters
- [ ] Collect academic transcripts and certificates
- [ ] Prepare proof of finances for the visa application
- [ ] Make copies of all documents, stored separately

University and Enrollment

- [ ] Accept your offer and complete registration
- [ ] Register for courses or confirm your study plan
- [ ] Arrange transfer of credits with your home school
- [ ] Connect with the international student office
- [ ] Note orientation dates and the academic calendar
- [ ] Apply for any scholarships or grants available

Housing and Logistics

- [ ] Apply for university dorms or research rentals
- [ ] Arrange temporary accommodation for arrival if needed
- [ ] Confirm what your housing provides and what to bring
- [ ] Plan airport transport to your accommodation
- [ ] Research local transport and student passes
- [ ] Book flights and check baggage allowances

Finances

- [ ] Budget for tuition, rent, food, and travel
- [ ] Set up a way to access money abroad
- [ ] Research opening a local student bank account
- [ ] Notify your bank of your travel dates
- [ ] Confirm how scholarship or loan funds are paid
- [ ] Set aside an emergency fund

Health and Insurance

- [ ] Arrange the health insurance your program requires
- [ ] Check required and recommended vaccinations
- [ ] Refill and pack essential medications

- [ ] Collect your medical and vaccination records
- [ ] Find out how to access local healthcare as a student
- [ ] Note emergency contacts and embassy details

Packing for Students

- [ ] Season-appropriate clothing and a versatile wardrobe
- [ ] Laptop, phone, chargers, and a plug adapter
- [ ] Important documents in a secure folder
- [ ] Toiletries and a small first-aid kit
- [ ] Study supplies and any required textbooks
- [ ] A few comforts from home
  Pack light — most basics can be bought on arrival.