How much will I owe for my study abroad program?

Use this worksheet to estimate your remaining program bill. Gather your financial aid information and estimated program costs before you begin.

Step 1: Calculate your estimated program costs

Include the estimated costs that will be charged to your program bill.

- You can find the GEO fee estimates per program on the GEO portal.
- For ISEP ***EXCHANGE*** programs, students are billed as if they are living on campus here at Lake Forest (standard room rate). There is usually an additional charge of around $1,100 for administrative fees and international health insurance.
- *The College's Activity fee, Health Center fee, and Rec fee are waived for all study abroad students.*

Program Cost	Amount
LFC Tuition	$ 30,102*
Estimated GEO fee	$_____
A. Total Estimated Program Costs	$_____

Add all of your estimated program costs together.

Step 2: Add up your financial aid

List all financial aid that applies to your study abroad program.

Financial Aid Source	Amount
Scholarship(s)/Grants(s)	$_____
Loan(s)	$_____
Other Aid: _____	$_____
B. Total Financial Aid	**$**_____

Add all of your financial aid amounts together.

Step 3: Calculate your estimated balance

Now subtract your total estimated program costs from your total financial aid.

Calculate your Estimated Cost	Amount
A. Total Estimated Program Costs:	$_____
− B. Total Financial Aid:	- $_____
= C. Estimated Balance:	= $_____

*As of October, 2026

Remember: This is an estimate, not your official bill. Confirm your actual balance, which aid will apply to your program, and payment deadlines with the appropriate office. Loans may need to be repaid, and some financial aid may have restrictions or timing requirements.

Sample Budget – Out of Pocket Expenses

*This worksheet is for planning for expenses that will NOT show up on your LFC bill.

Research costs specific to your destination and program duration. Estimates should reflect your expected spending habits and the expenses not covered by your program fees.

BEFORE DEPARTURE

Item:	Note:	Amount:
Passport	*Ensure your passport is valid for the duration required by your host country. Some countries require at least six months of validity beyond your program dates. Include renewal fees if needed.*	**$**
Visa / Residence Permit	*Costs vary depending on your destination, visa requirements, and length of stay. Include application and processing fees.*	**$**
Health Insurance*	*Some countries require enrollment in a national health insurance plan, which cannot be billed to your LFC bill.*	**$**
Immunizations	*Check whether any vaccinations or travel-related medications are recommended or required for your destination.*	**$**
Flight	*Estimate round-trip airfare, including baggage fees and transportation to and from the airport. Prices vary by destination and booking date.*	**$**
Housing Deposit / Partial Rent	*Some programs require a refundable housing deposit or an advance rent payment before arrival. Note when the payment is due and whether it is refundable.*	**$**
		Total:

WHILE ABROAD

Item:	Note:	Amount:
Meals*	*Check whether meals are included in your program or housing. Many direct-enrollment programs without homestays do not include meals, so students should budget for groceries and dining out. Costs depend on the local cost of living.*	**$**
Course fees	*Some courses require additional fees for materials, excursions, etc.*	**$**
Essential daily living	*Budget for toiletries, laundry, personal care items, and other everyday necessities.*	**$**
Phone plan	*Consider the cost of an international phone plan, local SIM card, eSIM, or mobile data plan.*	**$**
Books and supplies	*Check whether textbooks are available to borrow from the host institution's library or provided digitally.*	**$**
Local transportation	*Budget for public transportation, taxis, rideshares, or other local travel. Costs vary by destination and city size.*	**$**
Independent travel	*If you plan to travel outside of your host city, set aside money for personal trips within your host country and/or to other cities and countries. Consider transportation, accommodations, meals, and activities.*	**$**
Personal spending	*Budget for cultural activities, entertainment, souvenirs, shopping, and other discretionary expenses.*	**$**
Emergency	*Set aside money for unexpected expenses, such as replacing lost documents, medical costs, or last-minute travel changes. Keep emergency funds accessible through a combination of payment methods rather than carrying large amounts of cash.*	**$**
		Total:

*Only include these expenses if they are not already covered by your study abroad program or billed to your LFC student account.

Please contact GEO staff if you would like assistance getting started with your budget planning.