

UTRGV Study Abroad Refund Policy

The Study Abroad Refund Policy outlines the financial liability of students when they withdraw from a study abroad program. In the case that a student has a change of plans for unexpected personal, academic, or family circumstances, they are permitted to withdraw their application before acceptance or withdraw from the program after confirming their acceptance.

Students participating in Independent Study Abroad programs not administered by UTRGV must adhere to the refund policy of the host institution or service provider for their program fee refunds.

Definition of Non-Recoverable Costs

A non-recoverable cost is defined as any amount that has been paid out to a vendor on a student's behalf for their participation in the program. While non-recoverable costs vary by program, they may include, but are not limited to housing costs, program provider fees, overseas tuition, transportation, and administrative fees.

UTRGV is not responsible for the cost of airfare, visas, housing or any other expenses incurred by the student. Denial or delay of visa or passport does not waive a student from the refund policy. Students are advised to purchase airfare after obtaining the visa or passport (when applicable).

UTRGV Sponsored Programs Refund Schedule

Students who withdraw after being approved for a program will be subject to the following refund schedule:

- **From the date of approval to 91 days before the start of the program: Program fee will be refunded, minus non-recoverable costs.**
- **90 — 61 days before the start of the program: 50% program fee refunded, minus non-recoverable costs.**
- **Withdrawal 60 days or less before the start of the program: During this late withdrawal period, all program fees and non-recoverable costs will be committed, and students will not receive a refund of any kind.**

Withdrawal Due to Safety Concerns

Unless UTRGV has officially canceled the program, students are responsible for all costs related to withdrawal. Financial liability will be determined according to how far into the process the student is at the time of withdrawal. Any unusual circumstances will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Study Abroad Application Fee and Deferrals

Application fees are non-refundable once paid. Students will only be responsible for paying the application fee of \$125 if their application is approved AND the study abroad program is approved. If the study abroad program is not approved then the student will not be responsible for paying the application fee. Once accepted into a program, students may not postpone or defer their acceptance to a later term. Students who decide to delay their participation must re-apply for the new intended term. Application fees may be transferred to a new application for the same term academic year. Program fees are non-transferable to another program or term.

Study Abroad Program Fees

Once a student has been approved and has accepted to participate in a UTRGV sponsored study abroad program a charge will be applied to their student account for the total program fee.

Advanced Program Fee Payments

Some UTRGV sponsored programs require that students be charged an advanced program fee payment toward their study abroad program fee at the time of application. Many expenses must be paid to vendors on students' behalf before the start of the program and therefore are non-recoverable. Students will only be refunded their advanced program fee payment if they are NOT accepted into the program.

UTRGV tuition refunds

Tuition fees are separate from program fees and follow a different refund and payment schedule. For information on tuition refunds, refer to the student catalog. Some study abroad programs begin several weeks before the start of UTRGV's academic term. If a student decides to withdraw from their study abroad program, whether they have intentions of taking UTRGV courses that term, they may be liable for the full overseas tuition charges (see non-recoverable costs), in addition to their standard UTRGV tuition.

Exchange Program

Students must maintain their full-time student status while abroad on a long-term exchange program. If the student falls below the minimum credits, this could mean significant UTRGV financial aid ramifications. If the student takes above the maximum credits, they will be billed for each credit exceeding the credit limit.

By checking the box in my study abroad application, I agree that I have read the refund policy above and understand its implications.