



Post-9/11 GI Bill: Study Abroad

Ways to Study Abroad with the Post-9/11 GI Bill

1. **Foreign University Direct Enrollment**: The student enrolls directly into a foreign university approved for GI Bill funding.
2. **Foreign Campus U.S. based School Enrollment**: The student enrolls in a U.S. based school but attends a branch or extension campus in a foreign location.
3. **Study Abroad Options Program**: The student maintains enrollment/matriculated in a U.S. based school degree program and attends majority of their classes in a foreign country or at a foreign university. The student's credits must transfer back to the US based home institution. VA recognizes two (2) study abroad program pathways:
 - **Guest Student Enrollment** – The student maintains matriculated in an U.S. based school degree program and attends majority of their classes at a foreign university approved for GI Bill funding as a guest student. The student's credits will transfer back to the home institution.
 - **Instructor Led Enrollment**- The student enrolls in a course at the U.S. based institution that may meet domestically, internationally or both. These types of arrangements usually come in the form of cultural immersion led by an instructor of the home institution (a student typically spends time at the domestic campus and then travels to a foreign country to continue their studies with instructor and classmates).

What the Post-9/11 Cannot Pay For

- **Third-party Fees**: VA cannot pay for any fees directly related to a study abroad program or third-party provider.
- **Exchange Student Programs**: These types of arrangements usually come in the form of direct exchanges (a student from the foreign university comes to the domestic campus and the domestic student studies at the foreign university) or direct reimbursements (the home institution directly reimburses the foreign university for the students' participation). No money exchanges hands – just the students.
- **Room and board, Airfare**: These fees must be excluded from certification to VA.
- **Other Amenities**: Any extra fees charged by the U.S. based university will also not be covered. Examples: amenity fees, vaccination fees, and trip merchandise fees.

What the Post-9/11 GI Bill May Cover:

<u>Study Abroad Option:</u>	Tuition and Fees:	Monthly Housing Allowance (MHA):	Books and Supplies:	Which Facility Certifies:
Foreign University Direct Enrollment	Up to National Maximum cap per academic year	National Average	Up to yearly stipend of \$1,000	The Foreign University
Foreign Campus U.S. based School Enrollment	Public School: All Tuition and Fee Payments for an In-State Student at Main Campus Or Private School: Up to National Maximum Cap per academic year	National Average	Up to yearly stipend of \$1,000	The U.S. Based School using the Branch or Extension Campus located internationally.
Guest Student Enrollment	Up to National Maximum Cap per academic year	National Average	Up to yearly stipend of \$1,000	The Foreign University
Instructor Led Enrollment	Public School: All Tuition and Fee Payments for an In-State Student at Main Campus Or Private or Foreign School: Up to National Maximum Cap per academic year	MHA per current main or branch campus zip code.	Up to yearly stipend of \$1,000	The U.S. based Institution using main or branch campus domestic location.

**** Yellow Ribbon is payable at a participating foreign school for approved study abroad programs starting on or after August 1, 2021. It remains payable at participating domestic schools for all approved programs.**

If you are looking for more general GI Bill information:

Call: 888-GI-BILL-1

Visit the website: www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/

Important Points for Study Abroad Programs

- The student must be enrolled in courses that will apply to their degree program.
- The courses must be at an institution of higher learning leading to a standard college degree or the equivalent.
- The program of education and courses at the foreign institution must be approved by VA for GI Bill funding.
- Any amounts payable or maximum amounts may be prorated based on the student's [eligibility percentage](#) if the student is not eligible for the full benefit under the Post-9/11 GI Bill.
- Students must be enrolled more than half-time to receive MHA.

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