Studying Elsewhere:
Student Funding Issues
Erasmus, Year Abroad, & Industry Placements

What this Guide will cover:
- Welsh & English Students
- Erasmus (Term/Year)
- Year Abroad
- Year In Industry
- Funding & Fee information
- FAQ’s for Students Studying Elsewhere
- Academic Year 2014/2015

Please see our Undergraduate Funding Guide for general student funding information
Studying Elswhere: Who, Why, Where?

Find out more…….

Swansea University’s International Development Office can provide more information about working and studying abroad.

Tel: 01792 606850
Email: studyabroad@swansea.ac.uk

For Information about studying or working abroad whilst on an NHS funded course please contact the department with whom you intend to study.

Please Note:

Information in this leaflet is correct as of September 2013 & may be subject to change.

What is A Year Abroad?

Students may have the opportunity to spend a period of time studying/working abroad at a partner University. Students on 4 year degree programmes normally spend the whole of the third year abroad.

Students on a 3 year degree programme may be able to spend one semester abroad on a study placement. Students interested in this option will need to discuss it with the department as the planned study abroad will need to be fully approved in advance of the placement.

What is the Erasmus Programme?

Students may be able to spend time studying or working in another EU country as part of the Erasmus Student Mobility Programme which is funded by the European Commission. Placements last between 3 and 12 months.

What is A Year Industry?

Also known as a ‘Sandwich Year, students on certain courses may have the opportunity to spend a year working with a partner organisation as a way of gaining valuable experience and skills.

Placements are usually undertaken as part of a 4 year course and may be paid or unpaid.
**Swansea Uni Tuition Fee Charges 2014/15**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheme</th>
<th>Welsh Domiciled Students</th>
<th>English Domiciled Students</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year Abroad:</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Study</td>
<td>15% of full fee i.e. £1350</td>
<td>15% of full fee i.e. £1350.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tuition Fee Loan Available: 50%</td>
<td>Tuition Fee Loan Available</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tuition Fee Grant Available: 50%</td>
<td>Tuition Fee Loan Available</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Work</strong></td>
<td>15% of full fee i.e. £1350</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tuition Fee Grant Available: 50%</td>
<td>Tuition Fee Loan Available</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Erasmus:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Abroad</td>
<td>Standard Tuition Fees payable</td>
<td>Standard Tuition Fees Payable</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tuition Fee Grant Available</td>
<td>Tuition Fee Loan Available</td>
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<td><strong>Year Abroad</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tuition Fee Grant Available: 50%</td>
<td>Tuition Fee Loan Available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year in Industry</strong></td>
<td>20% of full fee i.e. £1,800</td>
<td>20% of full fee i.e. £1,800</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tuition Fee Loan Available: 50%</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tuition Fee Grant Available: 50%</td>
<td>Tuition Fee Loan Available</td>
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</tbody>
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Please note:

Figures may be subject to change in line with any updates made by the Welsh Government.

Eligibility for Tuition Fee Loans and Grants is subject to the usual eligibility criteria. See our Undergraduate Student Funding Guide for more information.
**Access to Maintenance Funding for Welsh and English Domiciled students**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scheme</th>
<th>Maintenance Loan</th>
<th>Means Tested Maintenance Grant</th>
<th>Erasmus Mobility Grant</th>
<th>Additional Travel Grant</th>
<th>Supplementary Grants</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year Abroad: Reduced Rate Work</td>
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<td>Year In Industry Paid Reduced Rate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year In Industry Un-paid</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Access to Maintenance Loans and Grants is subject to the usual eligibility criteria. See our Undergraduate Student Funding Guide for more information.

*Please ensure you check with your funding provider as the provision of an additional funding varies around the country

**Always check with your funding provider regarding eligibility for means Tested Maintenance Funding and Supplementary Grants as the criteria for receiving these varies depending on individual circumstances and the type of placement you are undertaking.**
Funding FAQs for Students Studying Elsewhere

How should I apply for student loans and grants?
You should apply to your funding authority, Student Finance Wales or Student Finance England as you normally would. However you must ensure the appropriate section of the application form is completed with details of where you intend to study/work and for how long.

Remember to put Swansea University as your ‘home’ institution; you do not need to change this to the university you are travelling to.

How do apply for the Erasmus Grant?
Swansea University’s International Development Office will write to you once your place on the scheme is confirmed.

How much will I receive via the Erasmus Grant?
The amount of grant varies from year to year. In 2012/2013 students received 270-370 Euro’s per month, depending on the host country. The grant is paid in two instalments.

Will I still be eligible to receive University bursaries & scholarships?
Whilst you are away from your home institution you will still be eligible to receive any university bursaries to which you are entitled. Remember that you will have needed to have consented to share you information with the university to receive any income related bursaries.

Can I get help with cost of travelling to my placement abroad?
If you are travelling outside of the Erasmus scheme, you may be able to secure an additional travel grant from your funding provider. This is available to cover one return journey to and from your year abroad placement. Check with your funding provider for more details.

For more information about the Erasmus Programme and other opportunities to travel abroad contact Swansea University’s International Development Office
Tel: 01792 606850
Email: studyabroad@swansea.ac.uk

Remember…..
When on a work placement you may need to purchase specific items for your role such as work boots or a lab coat.
Swansea University has a Personal Accident and Travel Insurance policy that covers all students during their year abroad. More information is available on the university web pages:

http://www.swan.ac.uk/finance/staffinformation/insurance/traveladvice/

Some destinations will require that you take out additional insurance cover, particularly in Canada and the USA. Make sure you check on any requirements you host institution/nation need you to fulfil. You should always ensure you have adequate cover for yourself and your belongings wherever your destination.

The Money Advice and Support Office administer the Financial Contingency Fund (FCF). This is a discretionary, means tested fund that is intended to help students to cover unforeseen costs that may occur whilst studying. Eligibility criteria apply.

It is important to remember, that whilst the Money Advice and Support Office always endeavour to assist students, issues such as time differences and differences in international banking protocols may limit when and how we are able to assist students.

Both the Department of Health:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/PolicyAndGuidance/HealthAdviceForTravellers/fs/en

and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office:

https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice

are great sources of information about everything travel related; from information about inoculations to local customs and practices or a countries political situation.

Did you know…?

If you are travelling within Europe you may be covered for some medical emergencies through the European Health Card (EHIC)

Remember…

You don’t need to pay for the EHIC – get free via the NHS
General FAQs for students studying elsewhere continued...

What’s the best way to keep in touch with family and friends?
Not all destinations will have readily available access to the internet, so you may need to check whether you can use Skype, Facebook etc. to keep in touch. Using a mobile phone when abroad can be very expensive so, if you intend to use your phone, check out the cost with your service provider before you travel and use comparison websites to get the best deal.

Will I need specific items for my year in Industry?
It’s important to remember that you may be required to provide specific items related to your work placement such as a lab coat or steel toe-capped boots. If you are working in an office environment there may be a dress code you have to adhere to. Speak to your department about what is required so that you can budget for the cost of purchasing additional items.

Should I advise my bank/credit card company that I’m studying abroad?
Yes. Prior to departure, call your financial institutions with the dates and location of the trip abroad. Many banks have implemented strict anti-fraud measures, and overseas charges can trigger a security alert that may temporarily freeze your account(s) pending verification of your location. You should also ask your bank for a phone number to call in case you encounter any problems.

Can I choose to add on a period of independent travel whist abroad?
Many students may wish to take the opportunity to add on some independent travel whist they are abroad. You will need to budget in advance for this, make sure that family and friends are aware of your plans and ensure that you are fully insured for any additional travel.

Remember...
You will need to ensure you have adequate insurance to cover any activities you make undertake such as skiing or scuba diving.

Remember...
When travelling abroad it’s a good idea to have photocopies of all your important documents and a list of numbers to contact if things do go wrong.
For more information, please contact the Money Advice and Support Office:

01792 606699
moneydoctors@swansea.ac.uk

Money Advice and Support Office
Student Support Services
Keir Hardie Building
Swansea University
Swansea
SA2 8PP

www.swansea.ac.uk/money-advice

This leaflet is also available in Welsh and alternate formats such as Braille, large print etc. For further information please contact: Student Support Services Reception on 01792 602000.