

Honors SAGA Policies

Application

- Students can apply to the study abroad program of their choice and SAGA concurrently, but they cannot be paid until they are awarded the SAGA. They must also offer proof of acceptance into a study abroad program in order to be paid (an email confirmation will suffice). Note: students may wait to purchase their tickets until after a SAGA is awarded, but they must show acceptance into their study abroad program.
- SAGA will have two annual deadlines—one for spring travel and one for summer/fall travel. Upcoming deadlines are listed at <https://www.uah.edu/honors/study-abroad>.
- Students should begin the process by selecting the program or exchange that interests them, and meeting with Beth Wilson and the Director of the Office of Study Abroad to go over requirements.
- Selection will be made by an *ad hoc* selection committee composed of members of the Honors Council and additional members with expertise in global studies, study abroad, and foreign cultures and languages

Eligibility

- Students must have completed 6 hours Honors Credit at the time the study abroad program begins.
- They must be in good standing in Honors. They may apply while on Honors Probation.
- They must have made application or be in the process of making application to the study abroad program of their choice

Honors Credit

Students can earn Honors credits for study abroad. Once study abroad credits appear on the transcript, students can have up to 3 credit hours “honorized.” (In some exceptional cases, the Honors College may choose to honorize more than 3 credits; for example, students who enroll full time for a semester or more may receive more than 3 credits.) All Honors credit awarded depends on a transcript review. Please notify the Honors Advisor when your Study Abroad credit is on your transcript.

Honors SAGA Payment Policy

The UAH Honors College SAGA Program will pay a stipend to reimburse airfare costs associated with travel to and from the approved education abroad destination. The stipend for airfare costs **will not exceed** the amounts determined by average airfare for particular regions. There will be a one-time determination of the maximum amount reimbursable based upon this average airfare. These amounts are listed at <https://www.uah.edu/honors/study-abroad> and updated annually.

For reimbursement, the Honors College will need proof of your study abroad program, your SAGA acceptance letter, and your airfare receipt that clearly shows it's been paid. If you are working with a travel agency, you will need to request an itemized receipt that shows the amount of airfare and that it's been paid.

Students will be reimbursed at the beginning of the semester in which they travel.

Extending Time Abroad

If a student wants to extend his or her time abroad and/or wants to arrive at or depart from a different location, students can request permission from the UAH Honors College to do so. If approved, the stipend will not exceed the original amounts determined by average airfare. The student is responsible for any additional costs incurred from extending/changing their travel itinerary. Also, the University of Alabama in Huntsville and the Honors College are not responsible for arranging any of the travel details and/or activities of the students before, during, or after the designated dates of the education abroad program. Finally, any travel before or after the scheduled dates of the education abroad program or any alteration of the itinerary is at the discretion of the traveler. Students will also have to assess and manage the risks involved in extending their stay and will have to arrange on their own travel health insurance for the extended time abroad.

Example:

Education Abroad Program through a UAH or affiliate program in Somewhere, Intheworld with dates from May 10 to May 25. This trip is the main destination.

At the close of this program, the student then wants to travel to Somewhereelse, Intheworld on May 26 and return to the U.S. from this second location on June 1. The student must pay all costs for this next leg of the trip. However, the Honors SAGA funding *can* be applied to the return trip for an amount that does not exceed the cost of returning from the main destination. Suppose it costs \$500 for 2 one-way flights to and from Somewhere, Intheworld. If the student chooses to return from Somewhereelse, Intheworld, and the cost of this return trip is \$700, the Honors College will reimburse only up to the \$500 that a flight from the main destination would have cost. In other words, the total amount the student is eligible for, in this case, would be \$1000.

Also, the student is completely responsible for all arrangements for the trip. The UAH Office of Study Abroad will inform the student of cost of UAH application fee and the cost for the required travel health insurance and risk management for the designated time of the education abroad program. The student will be responsible for these expenses. If student wants insurance to cover extra time abroad, the student must make his or her own arrangements.

“Share” of SAGA Experience

Honors Students are required to generate a weekly “share” of their study abroad experience. This can take the form of a blog, a photo-journal, video, etc. *It is essential that students share their experience with other students if they receive the SAGA. (They can “share their SAGA”!)*