

# POST-ACCEPTANCE CHECKLIST



## 6 MONTHS OR EARLIER

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- Travel Preparation**
  - Apply for/Renew passport (expiration date must be  $\geq$  6 months after the end of your program)
- Financial Planning**
  - Review the budget for your study abroad program on your program page: [geo.uoregon.edu/programs](http://geo.uoregon.edu/programs)
  - Research and plan for scholarship applications (deadlines such as the Boren are only once a year)
  - Visit the GEO scholarships page: [www.geo.uoregon.edu/scholarships](http://www.geo.uoregon.edu/scholarships)
  - Meet with a financial aid advisor at your home institution

## 3 – 6 MONTHS BEFORE ARRIVAL

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- Travel Preparation**
  - Complete additional required materials in your GEO study abroad program application
  - Research/book flights and cancellation insurance packages **after** program confirmation
  - Apply for student visa if necessary (information regarding visas will be provided by GEO upon acceptance)
- Health Preparation**
  - Check with your doctor if you have any chronic health conditions, dietary restrictions, etc. to talk about preparations abroad
  - Inform your GEO study abroad advisor if you have any accommodations you will need abroad
- Academic Preparation**
  - Meet with an academic advisor to ensure how study abroad will fit into graduation requirements, keeping in mind the term(s) you will be abroad
  - Familiarize yourself with courses offered on your program
- Cultural Preparation**
  - Learn key phrases: buy a dictionary and/or phrasebook for the language of the country you are studying in
  - Research on how your identities may be received abroad (e.g. gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, faith, etc.)

## 1 – 3 MONTHS BEFORE ARRIVAL

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- Health Preparation**
    - Complete all related travel clinic/health forms required in your GEO application
    - Discuss medications and prescriptions/supplies abroad with your doctor
    - Familiarize yourself with your host country's healthcare system
    - Request copies of pertinent medical records that you may need abroad
  - Academic Preparation**
    - Select courses for your time abroad in consultation with your academic advisor
    - Research academic cultural differences in your host country
    - Familiarize yourself with your program's grading and credit system
  - Financial Preparation**
    - Ask your bank about transaction fees and foreign partners abroad
    - Look into ordering foreign currency from your bank (if going abroad for an extended period of time)
    - Research local banks in your host country if you are considering opening a foreign bank account
    - Consider international student discount programs like the International Student Identity Card (ISIC)
  - Personal/Cultural Preparation**
    - Talk to your cell phone company and research local options in your host city
    - Reach out to other students in your program or study abroad returnees
    - Familiarize yourself with host country's cultural norms
    - Research safety/travel advice in your host city (note the local emergency services number): [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov)
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## 1 – 3 WEEKS BEFORE ARRIVAL

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- Financial Preparation**
  - Check in with bank/credit card company regarding travel and using your cards abroad
  - Withdraw cash (if applicable)
  - Familiarize yourself with currency exchange rates
- Academic Preparation**
  - Verify your GEO study abroad application is complete so you can be registered for courses/financial aid abroad
- Personal/Cultural Preparation**
  - Contact your cell phone company to unlock your phone if you are planning on using it with a foreign SIM card
  - Create a travel itinerary with housing locations, transportation details, and important contact information
  - Make copies of important documents: passport/visa, itinerary, credit card/bank details. Leave a copy with trusted family/friends.
  - Think about communication plan with family/friends while abroad: how will you stay in touch while away?
  - Download related phone apps: e.g. transportation apps, communication apps, currency converter

**Note:** *This is **not** a comprehensive list of preparation materials, as requirements will differ from country to country and from student to student.*

Programs: [www.geo.uoregon.edu/programs](http://www.geo.uoregon.edu/programs)

Study Abroad Scholarships: [www.geo.uoregon.edu/scholarships](http://www.geo.uoregon.edu/scholarships)

For Advising Phone Appointments: Call 541-346-3207

**Personal to-do list:**