

PARENT FAQ

TCC 131
24255 PACIFIC COAST HWY
MALIBU, CA 90263-4230
310.506.4230
INTERNATIONAL.PROGRAMS@PEPPERDINE.EDU

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Guide by Pepperdine International Programs

ON YOUR MIND

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Will my student be safe there?

02

What do they do during winter break?

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How will we communicate?

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Can I come visit my student?

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Why study abroad when there is so much to be done in Malibu?

01

SAFETY ABROAD

Student safety is a top priority. Pepperdine implements multiple safeguards for our student community abroad including:

Safety Training

Students receive safety training at both the required orientation sessions in Malibu and upon arrival.

Self Defense Classes

Students can sign up for optional self defense classes so that they're prepared to defend themselves if needed.

Travel Tracker with International SOS

Students are required to log travel during weekends and travel breaks. This allows our staff to locate and contact students quickly in the event of an emergency. Students must request permission from IP staff before traveling to locations with an elevated travel warning.

International SOS Safety Information & Concierge Service

All Pepperdine students abroad are registered for International SOS, which provides them with 24/7 access to health and safety advice, information and resources. They are provided with emergency hotline numbers to call if they ever have an issue or feel unsafe while traveling. Learn more about International SOS on our [website](#).

Our office will provide students with additional information on all of these resources via email and at orientation. In the meantime, please review our Parent Resources [page](#) or reach out to our office with any questions.

Winter Break

During Winter Break, all abroad campuses are closed. Students are responsible for their own lodging and transportation during this period. Many students choose to come home during that time to see loved ones and celebrate the holidays. Others utilize the time to continue traveling and exploring.

03 Communication Abroad

Keeping in touch with your student while they are abroad is a great way to make them feel connected to home and keep them in the loop. Some ways to maintain regular communication with them:

Have a Plan

Scheduling regular, standing times to have phone calls or FaceTime is a great way to make sure you are checking in.

Good, Old-Fashioned Written Word

For those who want to get around the time-difference, emailing is a fun way to exchange updates. Even a quick text to your student letting them know you are thinking of them does not go unappreciated.

Blog

Your student will be traveling, taking amazing photos, and experiencing wonderful, new things! Encourage them to share them through a blog and let their friends and loved ones take part in the adventures!

Please note that students are required to have a cell phone that can make and receive calls while abroad, so that we can contact them in case of emergency.



04

PARENT VISITS

Parents are welcome, in fact, encouraged, to visit their student abroad! Getting to see your student thriving in a new city and calling it home is a special experience. Some programs have designated weekends with planned programming for parents who make it out.

Before scheduling and booking travel, check the program's academic calendar to ensure your trip doesn't conflict with other mandatory events, like Educational Field Trips, etc. Program dates will be available in June 2019. For approximate dates, check out our [calendar](#) to see the timeline for this year's programs.

On-campus lodging is not available for visitors, so they will need to secure their own accommodations. Suggested hotels are provided on [each program's page](#) in the "About" section.



05

BENEFITS OF STUDYING ABROAD

In response to a [survey conducted](#) after a study abroad program, students reported:

96%

Increased Confidence

95%

Lasting Impact on their Worldview

76%

Acquired Skills that Influenced Career

72%

Enhanced Foreign Language Abilities