



Disability Services Contacts at Suffolk's International Programs

About 3% of study abroad participants today have disabilities, both apparent and non-apparent, and that number is on the rise. If you've always wanted to study abroad, think about what you'd like to experience please visit the Study Abroad Office and the Office of Disability Services at Suffolk to decide which programs are best for your goals and how to plan for accessing your accommodations.

U.S. laws and society recognize specific physical, mental, learning, and health conditions as disabilities, but not all of these conditions are formally recognized everywhere in the world. This could affect if and how you receive accommodations for your disability abroad. The accommodations made for your abroad are not always the same type or quality you're used to at home, but there are still important things to see, amazing people to befriend, and great experiences waiting for you abroad.

Tips for Studying Abroad for a Student with a Disability:

- 1. Research which programs best fit your interests first. Then research whether or not accommodations can be provided.** Learn the facts about the programs you find appealing. Will they meet your academic needs? Programs vary widely in the way they are designed and operated, so make sure you look at options in a few different countries and for a few different academic terms (program lengths range from a few weeks to a full academic year). When you have narrowed your list down to two or three programs then look to see if accommodations can be made for your disability.
- 2. Share your ideas with the Study Abroad Office and the Office of Disability Services at Suffolk.** The Study Abroad Office can advise you on the specifics of the academic program, living arrangements, cultural nuances and traveling within the country. The Office of Disability Services can advise you on how and who to ask for help with your accommodations abroad, what you should be thinking of in terms of building a support network away from home, medication considerations and other concerns specific to your disability. Make sure to pick up a copy of your Suffolk accommodation letters to bring with you.

- 3. Identify yourself as a person with a disability early in the process.** By self-identifying early on in the process you will empower those at Suffolk to help you to find a study abroad experience that best fulfills your goals. With your permission, the Office of Disability Services can share information about your disability with your host school in an effort to ensure you have access to the accommodations you need.
- 4. Plan logistics and pack.** What do you need to take with you? Do you need special equipment like an adapter or transformer for your wheelchair, a laptop with adaptive software, or hearing aid batteries, extra doses of medication to get you through your visit? Talk to the consulate of your host country and to your airline about entering the country with special equipment or medications.
- 5. Once you arrive at your study abroad experience discuss your accommodations with the program staff.** Find a point person that you are comfortable with, your advisor, RA, or other program specific staff member to identify your needs to. Provide them with a copy of your accommodation letter from the Office of Disability Services. Ask them to help you identify a point person on your foreign campus who provides similar services.
- 6. Take ownership of your disability and learn what you can do to accommodate your own needs.** This may mean memorizing bus routes or which streets have curb cuts, seeking support groups and therapists, or identifying people willing to provide you with informal support like assisting you with grocery shopping, monitoring changes in your condition, or keeping you on schedule.
- 7. Allow yourself to accept more assistance than you would at home.** If you're like most students with a disability, you'll build a support system abroad made up of program staff and new friends. And you may have to accept that there are some things you'll need help to tackle. Maybe that means one of the first things you'll learn in Japanese is “my battery is dead for my assistive technology; can you help me find a new one?” If you can't find a therapist, AA meeting, or doctor abroad, access them remotely by the internet, schedule Skype sessions.
- 8. Be realistic about challenges and open to new experiences.** The more open-minded you are about the ways things can happen, the more you'll experience. Realistically, though, you may not end up participating fully in every activity. Not every museum has assistive listening options and not every field trip will be worth joining if you're fatigued, or anxious. Used the strategies you have learned over the years to help you cope with new situations.

**Part of this document steams from Mobility International USA's Knowledge brochure.*

Suffolk's Study Abroad Partnerships

Country	School	Contact Information for Disability Services
Argentina	Lincoln University College, Buenos Aires	Speak with your international advisor
Australia	Bond University	http://www.bond.edu.au/about/life/support-services/disability-support.html
	La Trobe University	http://www.latrobe.edu.au/equality/disability/index.html
	Macquarie University	http://staff.mq.edu.au/campus_life/wellbeing/disability_service/
	University of Newcastle	http://www.newcastle.edu.au/service/disability/
Austria	Austria-Illinois Exchange, Vienna	Speak with your international advisor
Costa Rica	International Center for Sustainable Human Development (ICDS), San Jose	http://www.icds.ac.cr/studentServices.shtml#needs
Czech Republic	Charles University, Prague	http://www.cuni.cz/UKENG-130.html
Denmark	Aalborg University, Aalborg	Speak with your international advisor
	Aarhus School of Business (ASB), Aarhus	http://www.e-pages.dk/aarhusuniversitet/223/
	Copenhagen Business School (CBS), Copenhagen	http://www.cbs.dk/en/CBS-International/International-Students/The-CBS-Academic-Experience/Menu/Student-Academic-Counseling
Egypt	American University of Cairo, Cairo	http://www.aucegypt.edu/STUDENTLIFE/GETHELP/Pages/disabilityserviceserv.aspx
England	Regent's American College at Regent's College, London	http://www.regents.ac.uk/student_life/student_services/disability_information.aspx
	Regent's American College at Regent's College, London	http://www.regents.ac.uk/student_life/student_services/disability_information.aspx
France	Cavilam, vichy	Speak with your international advisor
	École Supérieure de Gestion (ESG), Paris	Speak with your international advisor
	Euromed Marseille École de Management,	Speak with your international advisor

	Marseille	
	La Sorbonne, Paris	Speak with your international advisor
	Pôle Universitaire Léonard de Vinci, Paris	Speak with your international advisor
Germany	Justus Liebig University (JLU), Giessen	http://www.uni-giessen.de/anglistik/IFIStud/IFIStud_5.htm
Greece	American College of Thessaloniki (ACT), Thessaloniki	Speak with your international advisor
Hong Kong	City University of Hong Kong	http://www.cityu.edu.hk/sds/home/service/sfds/
Ireland	University College Cork, Cork	http://www.ucc.ie/en/dss/
	Waterford Institute of Technology, Waterford	http://www.wit.ie/StudentLifeServices/Disability/
Italy	Florence University of the Arts, Florence	Speak with your international advisor
	John Cabot University, Rome	http://www.johncabot.edu/Admissions/Admissions_Disability_Policy.aspx
	Lorenzo de' Medici, Florence	Speak with your international advisor
	The Mediterranean Center for Arts and Sciences, Sicily	Speak with your international advisor
	Palazzo Rucellai, Florence	Speak with your international advisor
	Studio Art Centers International (SACI), Florence	Speak with your international advisor
Japan	Kansai Gaidai University, Osaka	Speak with your international advisor
	Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto	Speak with your international advisor
	Sophia University, Tokyo	Speak with your international advisor
Mexico	Technologico de Monterrey, Multiple Cities	Speak with your international advisor
	Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City	Speak with your international advisor
Monaco	International University of Monaco (IUM), Monte Carlo	Speak with your international advisor
New Zealand	University of Otago, Dunedin	http://www.otago.ac.nz/disabilities/
	Victoria University, Wellington	http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability/
Norway	Aalesund University College (AAUC), Aalesund	Speak with your international advisor
South Korea	Yonsei University, Seoul	Speak with your international advisor
Spain	Suffolk University Madrid Campus, Madrid	http://www.suffolk.edu/campuslife/disabilityservices.html
Sweden	Stockholm University School of Business, Stockholm	http://www.fek.su.se/en/Education/Practical-information/Students-with-disabilities/

Taiwan	Tamkang University, Taipei	Speak with your international advisor
Turkey	Yeditepe University, Istanbul	Speak with your international advisor
Vietnam	Hoa Sen University, Ho Chi Minh City	Speak with your international advisor