



Financial Aid on Semester at Sea



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Semester at Sea Overview



- Nonprofit 501(c)3: Institute of Shipboard Education (ISE)
- Academic Partner: Colorado State University
- Cross-cultural comparative program
- Visit 10+ countries each Fall and Spring Semester
- Spend ~5-7 days in each location
- Take 12-15 credits from ~70 course offerings
- 60 Years - Over 73,000 alumni from 1,700 institutions



CCC Students on SAS

Since Fall 2022...

- 5 from San Diego Mesa
- 4 from Moorpark
- 3 from San Diego Miramar, Saddleback, Palomar, & Orange Coast
- 2 from Southwestern, Santiago, Santa Monta, Santa Barbara, Pasadena, and College of the Canyons
- 1 from 19 other California Community Colleges





Semester at Sea as Provider

- Colorado State University as Academic Partner
- Affiliations with institutions, unofficial partnerships, or students sail independently
- Included in Affiliation:
 - Courses transfer as resident/transfer credit
 - Direct Bill vs pay independently
 - Financial incentive for students at institution
 - Acts as global consortium





Student Program Fees & Cost of Attendance

Cost of Participation

Fall 2025 Voyage: September 9 - December 22, 2025

The total cost of the program, depending upon cabin type and semester, is comprised of the following budget.

Billable Expenses ("Program Fees"):		
Cabin Type	Standard Cabins	Premium Cabins
Tuition	\$23,500	\$23,500
Room/Board	\$8,400	\$12,500
Fuel Fee <i>(Expenses are subject to change depending on global cost fluctuations. Please review our fuel surcharge policy.)</i>	\$1,850	\$1,850
Billable Program Fee Total	\$33,750	\$37,850
Additional Estimated Expenses:		
Airfare	\$2,000	\$2,000
Visas	\$825	\$825
Immunizations	\$550	\$550
Personal & Field Programs	\$4,725	\$4,725
Local Transportation	\$550	\$550
Books	\$550	\$550
Non-Billable Total	\$9,200	\$9,200
Total Cost of Attendance	\$42,950	\$47,050

What's Included?

- **Tuition**—up to 15 credits
- **Housing** (price varies by cabin category)
- **Travel** to multiple countries
- All **meals** aboard the ship
- All academically required **field courses**
- Premium **travel health** insurance
- **Advisement & assistance** by full-time, on-site residential & student services staff
- **Fuel fee**



How does a student use financial aid for SAS?

It depends on if and how the home institution works with SAS.

- Home school aid transfers
 - Direct bill
 - FAN/Consortium Agreement
- Home school will not transfer aid
 - Consortium Agreement
 - Leave of Absence (LOA)
 - Private Loans only (GAP & Postgraduate)
- ISE Payment Plan
- 529 Plan/ VA Benefits
- ISE Scholarships



Direct Bill

An agreement with ISE and the home institution. Billing options are as follows:

- Tuition Only
- Tuition, Room & Board
- Full Bill (Tuition, Room & Board, Fuel Fee)

For some institutions, we reduce the SAS scholarship amounts and for others we do not, the student receives a shipboard credit.



Consortium Agreement & FAN

If the Home school will transfer financial aid, the school may or may not request the consortium agreement. The home school will complete the FAN (financial aid notification form) so that I may defer the home school aid for the student. The FAN usually includes the following aid:

- Federal Pell Grant
- Federal Subsidized Loans
- Federal Unsubsidized Loans
- Federal PLUS Loans
- Private Loan
- Institutional Aid (Only in some cases)



LOA & Impact on Students

If a student is required to take a Leave of Absence (LOA), the student will only be eligible for a private student loan through a lender that does not require the student to be considered a matriculating student. This loan would be certified through CSU as a guest student. The student may also be able to utilize outside scholarships.



SAS Payment Plan

ISE offers an interest free payment plan to students. The way the plan works is that finance will split the payments for the number of months up to embarkation.

The SAS payment plan can be utilized with other methods of payment, like aid transferring, private loans, or 529.

The ISE Finance Team are in charge of the payment plans.



529 Savings Plan & VA Benefits

529 College Saving Plan

- A tax-advantage investment plan that helps families save for a beneficiary's education expenses.
- The 529 provider pay ISE directly, the parent, or may require the payment to be made to a Title IV institution.
- ISE never discusses the tax implications or benefits of the 529 plans.

Veterans Benefits

- SAS is categorized by the VA as a faculty-led program at Colorado State University.
- Benefits are calculated based on the cost of CSU (not SAS) tuition per credit.
- Last year, students approved for all four courses to transfer back to their major received ~\$7,600 in Benefits towards their program fees.
- Required to have a parent letter from their home institution sent directly to CSU.
- Postgraduate students and GAP students are unable to utilize VA Benefits.



Scholarships

- **Semester at Sea Scholarships and Grants**
 - [Need & Merit-Based Grants](#) (up to \$13,000)
 - Student Assistant Grants
 - Pell Grant Matches
 - Alumni Support
 - Minority & Hispanic Serving Institution
 - Inclusive Engagement
 - International Student Advancement Award
 - Tung Legacy
 - CY Tung & Tutu Ubuntu
- **Study Abroad Scholarships**
- **Outside Funding** - Scholarships (*Ex: Benjamin A Gilman*), Sponsorships, Fundraising



<input type="checkbox"/> Primary Educational Institution_...	Type	Financial Aid Title	Amount	
<input type="checkbox"/> Consumnes River College (4)	Is...	Endowed	Diversity Scholarship Fund	4,535
		Merit	ISE Merit Grant	1,500
		Need	ISE Need Grant	4,000
		TEMPR	Voyager's Fund Scholarship	3,000
	S...			13,035
<input type="checkbox"/> Modesto Junior College (6)	B...	Miscellaneous	Pell Match	3,697
		Need	ISE Need Grant	7,000
		TEMPR	Voyager's Fund Scholarship	1,000
		Work Study	Audio Visual Student Assistant	4,000
		Endowed	Diversity Scholarship Fund	4,535
		Deferment	Hm Sch Fin Aid Deferment-To Studen	24,403
<input type="checkbox"/> San Diego Miramar College (8)	E...	Deferment	Hm Sch Fin Aid Deferment-To Studen	10,601
		Miscellaneous	Pell Match	3,697
		Merit	ISE Merit Grant	1,500
		Need	ISE Need Grant	10,000
		Miscellaneous	MSI	5,000
		TEMPR	Voyager's Fund Scholarship	1,000
		Work Study	Computer Lab Student Assistant	4,000
		TEMPR	Financial Aid - SP23 Fund Scholarship	2,538
	S...			38,336

Scholarship Examples



**Consortium Agreement
(Part 1)**

This consortium agreement has been established between _____ and Colorado State University on behalf of: _____ (Home Institution)

Student's Full Name: _____
(LEGAL NAME - PRINT) first middle last

Address: _____
Street or Box No. City State Zip

Phone/Cell Number: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Agreement:

The Home Institution agrees that credit hours earned by its student while attending the Institute for Shipboard Education's Semester at Sea academic program will be accepted towards the student's degree program at the Home Institution.

The Institute for Shipboard Education (ISE) will notify the Home Institution within five business days of the student's change in enrollment or withdraw from the program. It is the student's responsibility to request a grade report or transcript be sent to his/her home institution for the purpose of evidencing successful completion of coursework.

Agreement to the above is acknowledged by the undersigned on behalf of their respective institutions:

Institute for Shipboard Education (ISE)

Name: Danielle Basile
Signature: Danielle Basile
Title: Director of Financial Aid
Date: 6/29/23

Home Institution

Name: _____
Signature: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____

Financial Aid:

The institution awarding aid agrees to determine the student's eligibility and maintain all financial aid records in accordance with federal regulations. This institution will also provide payment, and process any refund and/or repayments resulting from the student's withdrawal from classes according to their established policies and procedures.

The institution not providing aid agrees to withhold processing any federal, state, or institutional financial aid for the student during the period of enrollment noted.

Agreement to the above is acknowledged by the undersigned on behalf of their respective institutions:

Consortium Example

Financial Aid Continued:

Host Institution

Awarding Non-Awarding

Name: Cyndi Merris
Signature: Cyndi Merris
Title: Coordinator, Education Abroad
Date: 6/30/2023

Home Institution

Awarding Non-Awarding

Name: _____
Signature: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____

**Consortium Agreement
Data Sheet (Part 2)**

To Be Completed by the Home Institution Registrar's Office

Enrollment Status: 1st year 2nd year 3rd year 4th year Expected graduation date: Fall 2025

During the term that the student is attending the Semester at Sea academic program, is he/she considered a matriculated, degree-seeking student at the home institution? Yes No

Semester at Sea Voyage: Fall 2023 term Spring 2024 term

Name: _____ Title: _____
Registrar or Designee

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____ Fax: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

To Be Completed by the Home Institution Financial Aid Office

Is the student maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress? Yes No

Student's cumulative grade point average 3.22

Name: _____ Title: _____
Financial Aid Director or Designee

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____ Fax: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Note: This agreement is student specific and will cease at the conclusion of the student's enrollment.

FAN Example

Financial Aid Notification

(To be completed by the Home Institution's Financial Aid Office)

Please complete this form when the student's aid for the term mentioned is known. This form must be completed and received by our office 90 days prior to voyage departure so that we have the student's financial aid information prior to departure.

Student Name: [REDACTED] SAS ID: [REDACTED]
Home School: [REDACTED] Voyage: Spring 2025

I give my home institution permission to release information regarding my financial aid file and eligibility to Semester at Sea (SAS). By signing this form, I accept full responsibility for payment of all program costs for my specified SAS voyage. If financial aid funds are disbursed directly to me and/or if I receive less financial aid than is listed below, it is my responsibility to make arrangements to pay SAS directly. Any amount not deferred must be paid to SAS in full by the final payment due date. All deferred costs must be received by SAS within two weeks of the disbursement date listed.

Signature: [REDACTED] Date: 7/15/2024

Aid awarded by home school to be used for the Semester at Sea program semester only. Please check the appropriate status box on the right hand side of the chart for all awards indicated. (Please indicate net amounts only.)

Source	Amount Approved & Finalized Aid Ready for Disbursement	Amount Aid Pending Further Action, Paperwork or Federal Verification	Release date
Pell Grant	\$ 7395	\$ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	23/24
Subsidized Stafford/Direct Loan	\$ N/A	\$ <input type="checkbox"/>	23/24
Unsubsidized Stafford/Direct Loan	\$ N/A	\$ <input type="checkbox"/>	
Parent PLUS Loan	\$ N/A	\$ <input type="checkbox"/>	
FSEOG	\$ N/A	\$ <input type="checkbox"/>	
State Grant	\$ 1656	\$ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Institutional Aid	\$ N/A	\$	
Private Scholarship/Grant	\$ N/A	\$	
Private/Alternative Loan	\$ N/A	\$	
Other (Please specify source)	\$ EMERGENCY 1550	\$ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	23/24
Total	\$ 10601	\$	

The above funds will be disbursed to the mailing address of the following party:

Semester at Sea are Student ___ Parent ___

The check will be made payable to the following party (Please indicate if jointly payable):

Semester at Sea ___ Student ___ Parent ___

Please Note: If no disbursement date information is given or if the funds are not indicated as approved, finalized and ready for disbursement, we cannot credit the financial aid funds to the student's account prior to receipt.

Home School Representative Signature: [REDACTED] Date: [REDACTED]
Phone Number (Direct Line): [REDACTED] Fax Number: [REDACTED]
Printed Name: [REDACTED] Email Address: [REDACTED]



THANK YOU!