



The College of New Jersey

Center for Global Engagement

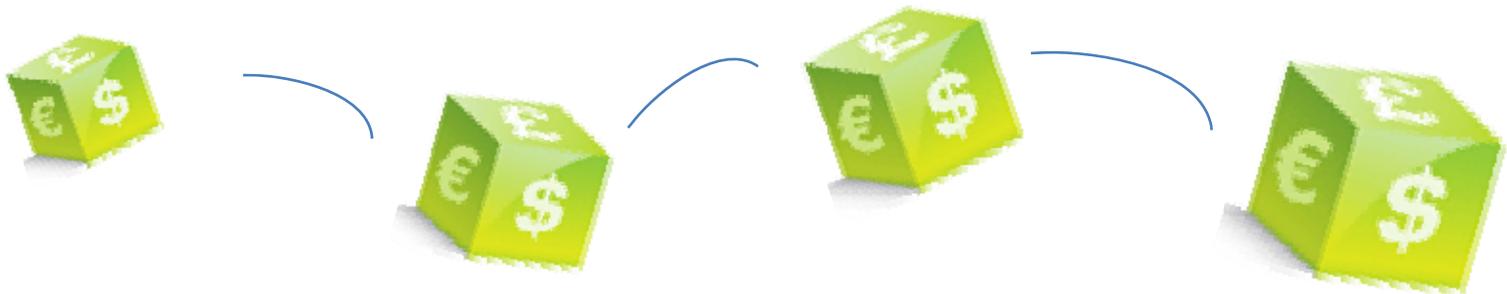
Studying Abroad & Financial Aid



CONGRATULATIONS!

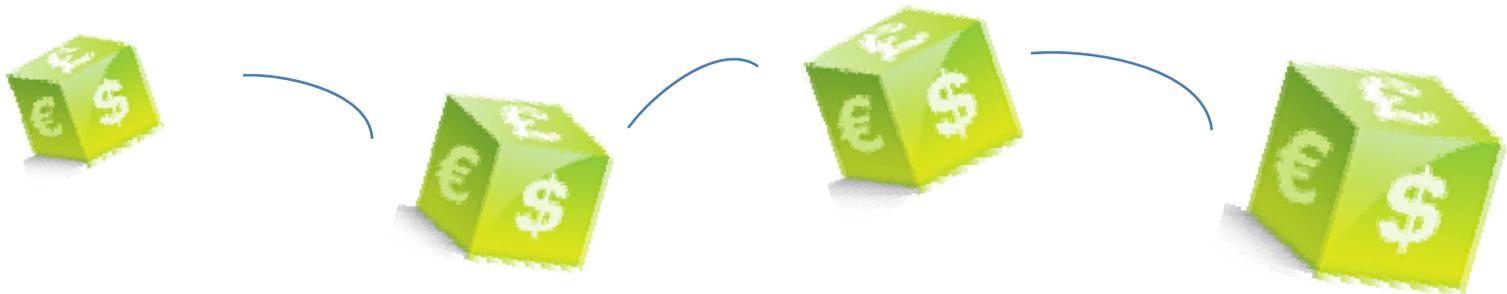
You've just taken your first step towards an amazing study abroad experience!

We're here today to see how your Financial Aid will apply towards your study abroad program



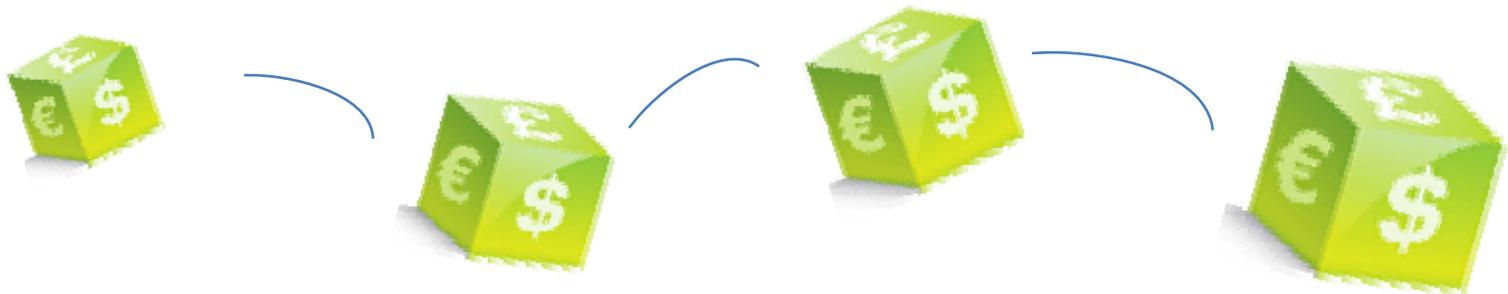
WHAT IS STUDENT FINANCIAL AID?

- Refers to funding intended to help students pay educational expenses including tuition and fees, room and board, books, etc.
- Includes Grants, Loans, Assistantships, Scholarships, Fellowships, Tuition Waivers, and other monies provided to meet the student's needs
- Funded by Federal, State, Institutional and Private sources



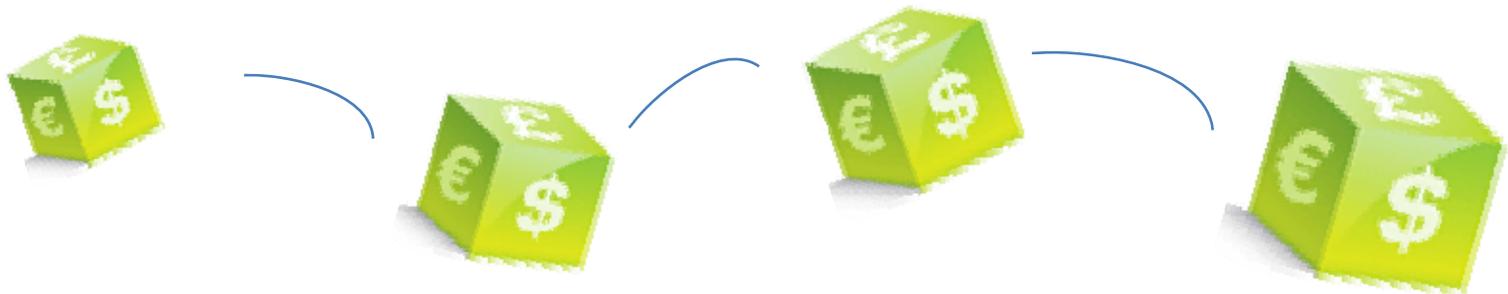
DOES MY FINANCIAL AID WORK WHEN I'M ABROAD?

- In most cases, Financial Aid can be applied to the cost of the study abroad program
- Must be considered a “full time” student: 12 credit (3 Unit) minimum for semester-long programs
- Exclusion may apply depending on the restrictions of the specific loan, grant or scholarship



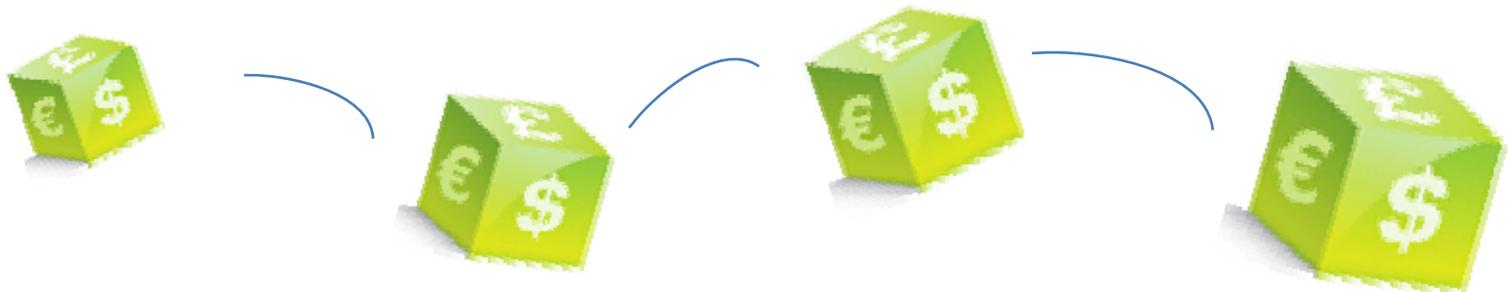
WHAT IF I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH FINANCIAL AID I'M GETTING?

- It is very important to know what type of aid and how much you are receiving
- To find out your Financial Aid Summary:
 - Log on to MYTCNJ → PAWS
 - Under “Student Center” → “Finances” → “Financial Aid”
- (Lists everything from your Financial Aid summary to your Award History by year and cost of attendance)



NOW THAT I'VE APPLIED FOR STUDYING ABROAD, WHAT SHOULD I DO?

1. Make sure you have your Program Cost Sheet – you can get one on our website or stopping by our office
2. Use the Program Cost Sheet to complete the Program Cost & Financial Aid Form – can be found under the “Application Procedures” page on our website
3. Make an appointment to meet with a Financial Aid Advisor – be sure to bring both the Program Cost Sheet and Financial Aid Form with you



WHEN SHOULD I SEE A FINANCIAL AID ADVISOR?

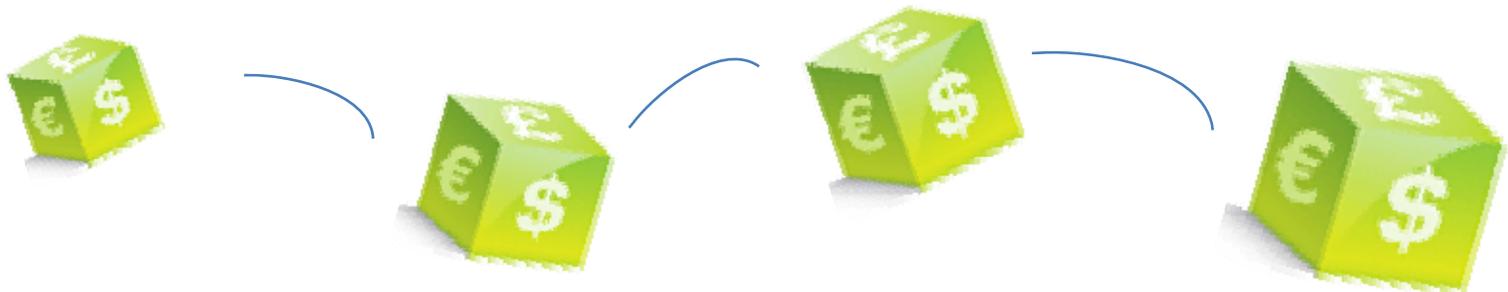
A. Once you've been accepted by your program/university

AND

B. (1) If you are receiving Financial Aid but are unsure about how much will be covered/if you specific aid will cover you

(2) If you are not currently receiving Financial Aid but think you may need to apply

- (All transactions, meetings and /or appointments with the TCNJ Financial Aid office must be completed 2 weeks before the end of the semester, otherwise there is no guarantee the funds will be released in time)



I'VE APPLIED FOR FINANCIAL AID. NOW HOW DO I GET MY FINANCIAL AID REFUND?

- Financial aid is generally applied to your student account at the beginning of the semester you are abroad:
- For students on all programs (EXCEPT for EXCHANGE PROGRAMS): you will have NO CHARGES on your PAWS account for the semester you are abroad. Because of this, any financial aid you receive will be issued to you through a refund check.
- For students on EXCHANGE PROGRAMS: you *will* be charged TCNJ tuition and fees on your PAWS account, and any financial aid will be automatically applied to these charges.

FINANCIAL AID REFUND CHECK:

- Refund checks are available **approximately 14 days after** the disbursement of your financial aid. Students must monitor their student account via PAWS for the disbursement date of the refund check:
- When the refund check is posted to your student account, if you are still in the United States, you may pick it up at the **Office of Budget and Finance in the Administrative Services Building on Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.** with your TCNJ student ID.
- After 1:00 p.m., the refund checks are mailed to the permanent home address.
- If you have already departed for your study abroad program and are no longer in the United States, the refund check will be mailed to your permanent home address.

I'VE APPLIED FOR FINANCIAL AID. NOW HOW DO I GET MY FINANCIAL AID REFUND?

- Some types of financial aid (i.e. private loans) require that you sign a paper check before funds are applied to your account. Once the checks are received, the Office of Student Accounts will contact you to endorse the funds. If the check requires a borrower's signature (i.e., a parent), the borrower must sign the check before it is applied to the student's account.

DOES TCNJ SEND THE REFUND TO THE PROGRAM/UNIVERSITY FOR ME?:

NO,

TCNJ cannot send the financial aid refund to your program provider/university for you. It is the student's responsibility to use their financial aid refund to pay their study abroad costs by the deadline dates set by their program provider/university.

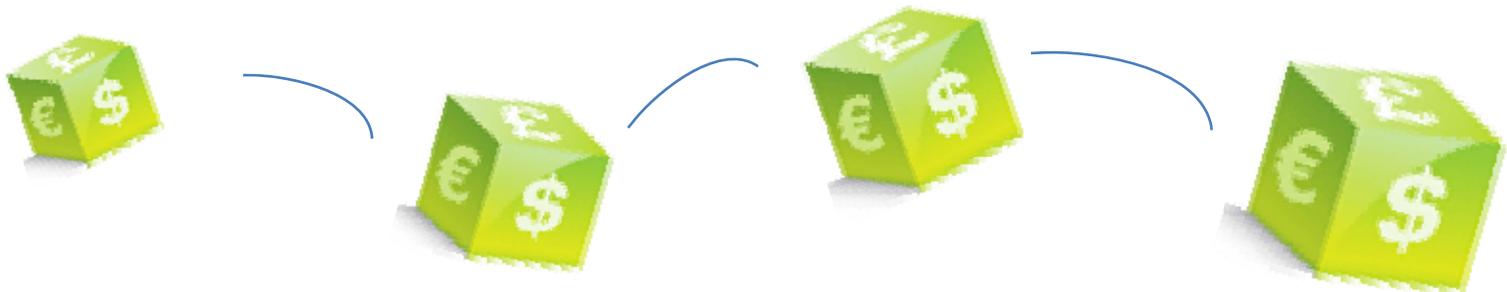
- It is suggested that students should arrange with a family member or close friend about what to do with the refund check once it is received and where to send the refund check.



WHAT IF I'M ON A PROGRAM THAT'S NOT LISTED IN THE "STUDY ABROAD FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES" PACKET?

- In most cases, this applies to students attending petitioned programs or "TCNJ Direct" programs.
- Students are encouraged to contact their program or university to determine their policies on Financial Aid
- You may be expected to make a small deposit for some programs, while others may simply need to keep a record of your financial aid information

FOR ALL STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS, it is important that you keep in touch with your program provider/university in regards to your financial aid



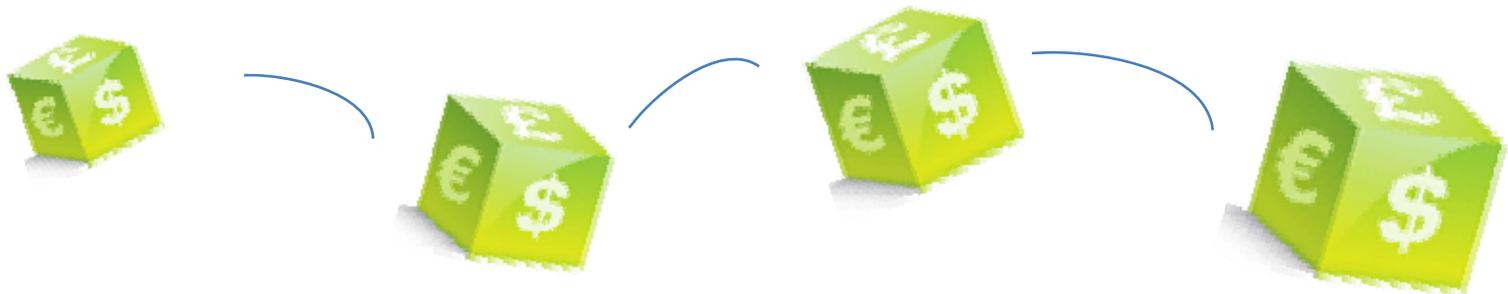
DOES YOUR OFFICE OFFER SCHOLARSHIPS?

Although we currently do not offer any specific scholarships for students through our office, there is other aid available. Students can find a list of scholarships and other opportunities on our website:

<http://www.tcnj.edu/~goglobal/undergraduate/StudyAbroadScholarships.htm>

DON'T FORGET!

Many study abroad programs and universities also offer their own scholarships for students.



SO TO RECAP, WHAT SHOULD I DO?

- 1.) **Talk with the TCNJ Financial Aid office** to determine if you're your Financial Aid can be applied and how much
- 2.) **Determine your additional expenses** based on your Program Cost Sheet
- 3.) **Contact your Program Provider/University** to determine their policies on Financial Aid if they have not already informed you
- 4.) **Research other Financial Aid resources** if what you have determined is not enough to cover you
- 5.) **Budget Ahead!** Your Financial Aid may not be disbursed in time or be enough to cover you for "settling-in" costs, such as blankets, pillows, meals and other living necessities upon your arrival

Each Study Abroad Program/University has their own policies, so don't forget to let them know that you are planning to use Financial Aid!

