

Study Abroad Disciplinary Policy

All Boston College students must pass a disciplinary clearance to determine whether they will be approved for an education abroad program (all BC programs, external programs and BC summer programs). The disciplinary clearance will occur after students have applied. Students who have minor to moderate records may receive a precautionary e-mail by the OGE. The e-mail will remind students that further violations may result in a revised disciplinary review and possible withdrawal from a program.

Students who have a significant status such as: university probation, university suspension, deferred university suspension, housing dismissal and/or housing suspension will be reviewed by the OGE and the Office of the Dean of Students.

The review will determine one of the following:

1. the student is not eligible to study abroad through any Boston College or approved external program;
2. the student is given conditional approval to study abroad;
3. The student is given full approval to study abroad.

One review will take place in the spring semester after the application deadline for all students going abroad the following year. A second review will take place in the fall semester for those going the subsequent spring semester. In addition, those students who are placed on one of the above-mentioned sanctions after having been cleared to study abroad will be subject to a review and possible cancellation of their program.

Factors that will be taken into account during this review process will include, but not be limited to, the nature and scope of the student's disciplinary violation(s) and the timeframe of the violation(s). The review may consider when a student's probation/suspension ends. Students whose university probation or housing suspension overlaps with their time abroad may not be allowed to study abroad.

Students who are afforded the opportunity to study abroad, but have had significant disciplinary records may be conditionally approved to study abroad. These students will be notified of their status. These students may need additional meetings with the OGE and may need to submit a brief essay outlining that they understand the conditions of their approval.

A student who has been denied the opportunity to study abroad under this policy has the right to appeal this decision. The student must request a review in writing to his/her OGE Program Manager within three business days of being notified of the denial. The student will then submit a written statement to a Review Committee. The applicant's written appeal should highlight why the student should be allowed to study abroad, the student's contribution to the Boston College community since the violation(s) and the student's demonstrated personal growth and development since the incident(s). The decision of the review committee will be final.

Students who are currently completing disciplinary sanctions, yet are approved to study abroad, must complete these sanctions prior to studying abroad, unless otherwise noted by their Hearing Officer. Students who do not complete sanctions may be prohibited from studying abroad. Students may review their disciplinary standing with the Office of the Dean of Students.