

Home School Tuition (HST) Policies
Trinity College
Effective August 28, 2018

I. Home School Tuition (HST)

Trinity College is committed to making study away an integral and viable educational opportunity for all undergraduates, regardless of financial need. For study away to be equally accessible to all students, the College therefore must be able to provide institutional financial aid to eligible students when they study away on Approved External Programs (AEPs). By charging home school tuition for AEPs, the College is able to garner the financial resources to make study away fiscally viable for both students and the institution.

Trinity College's Home School Tuition policy applies to Fall/Spring and Academic Year programs only. The Home School Tuition policy does not apply to summer or short-term study away programs, which run outside of the academic year.

II. Approved External Programs (AEPs)

Approved External Programs (AEPs) are international and domestic programs on which Trinity students may satisfy their major, elective, and general distribution requirements. AEPs are not administered by Trinity College, but have been approved by the Curriculum Committee, in conjunction with the Office of Study Away. These programs extend students' study away options to countries in almost every part of the world. AEPs are selected based on their academic rigor and integrity as well as the quality of their student support services. Program costs are reviewed with the aim primarily of finding programs that do not exceed Trinity tuition so that students do not incur additional expenses.

III. Academic Credit & Grades

Academic credits and grades earned on semester-long AEPs will be treated as Trinity College credits and grades. Trinity College academic regulations will apply to eligible credits and grades earned abroad.

Study away courses, credits, and grades earned on AEPs will be reviewed, and when approved, posted on the student's Trinity academic transcript. Study away course grades earned on AEPs will be calculated into the student's Cumulative Grade Point Average. In sum, Trinity will charge Trinity tuition for awarding Trinity academic credit.

IV. Opting-Out for grandfathered students

The Home School Tuition policy is compulsory effective August 28, 2018. However, students who matriculated at Trinity on or before January 22, 2019, are exempt from compliance, and may opt-out of the HST requirements.

An Opt-Out deadline will occur each semester during the post-acceptance phase of the study away application process. Students accepted to AEPs in the spring semester will have an opt-out deadline of October 25, and those accepted to AEPs in fall semester will have an opt-out deadline of May 25. If a

student does not make a decision by the applicable deadline, the student will automatically be assigned to HST. Opt-out deadlines will remain consistent for six semesters, ending in May 2021.

The first opt-out deadline is **October 25, 2018**; all students who plan to study away in Spring 2019 and do not opt out by October 25, will be charged tuition according to the HST policy.

Opt-Out: Opting out means that a student must pay the study away fee (\$3,500 for one semester; \$4000 for a full year) and receive transfer credit in lieu of Trinity credit, for courses completed abroad. The transfer credit will not be calculated into the student's Cumulative Grade Point Average. **Once a student has chosen to opt-out or to remain under the HST policy, he/she may not change his/her choice at any point thereafter.**

V. Financial Aid

Students with financial aid who are approved to participate in study away under the HST policy will have their financial aid package reviewed by the Office of Financial Aid for the semester or year that they will be abroad. In some instances, the total aid amount may be adjusted, based on the total cost of the program abroad. Federal Work-Study wages, by U.S. law, are not portable for study abroad. However, in some cases that amount can be replaced by additional loan or outside grant aid in order to keep the student's financial aid total the same.

Trinity will pay the program's tuition up to the Trinity tuition rate amount. Students who elect to go on approved programs with a higher tuition cost will be charged by the AEP the tuition differential between the program rate and the Trinity rate.

A. Internal Financial Aid Packaging

Expected family contribution is developed under the same methodology whether or not a student is studying domestically or abroad. Under HST, students will be billed at the domestic rate. The study away cost of attendance will reflect Trinity tuition and fees and actual living and travel costs.

Financial need will still be met 100% in the following descending order:

- Outside grant aid, where available;
- Federally subsidized loans/institutional loans included as part of the student's self-help expectation during terms of domestic study;
- Trinity grants funds, the amount of which will be the lesser of: 1) funds needed to meet need or 2) the maximum amount of Trinity grant funds the student would be awarded if he/she remained on campus;
- Available unsubsidized federal aid; and
- Unsubsidized loans, including referrals to private educational loans

B. External Financial Aid Packaging

Expected family contribution for students studying away will be calculated the same as if they had remained on campus. As noted, the study away cost of attendance will reflect Trinity's tuition and fees. Other costs of attendance (travel, rent, food, etc.) will reflect the actual/estimated amount needed to participate in study away for that term. Trinity College's financial aid package will meet the family's demonstrated need (COA – EFC) 100%. The financial aid package for students on study away will not include an expectation of work for that term.

VI. Billing & Home School Tuition

Students participating in study away under the HST model remain responsible for payment to both Trinity College as well as the host institution for each term of enrollment. Students will receive two bills.

1. The Office of Student Accounts will issue a bill that includes charges for tuition and a general fee at the prevailing rates for full time study at Trinity College. Any/all financial aid will be applied against Trinity College's tuition and fees before any other charges. Any disbursed financial aid remaining after satisfaction of Trinity's tuition and fees will be refunded to the student, or a parent borrower, as appropriate.
2. Tuition and fees at the host institution will be paid directly by Trinity College.
3. The student will be billed directly by the host institution for room, board, supplies, or any other miscellaneous items associated with the course of study. These charges are the sole responsibility of the student. Any refund a student receives from Trinity College after the disbursement of financial aid are to be applied against these charges.
4. Some study away programs require that certain fees be paid up front and out of pocket by the student regardless of the types and amounts of financial assistance a student has applied for and is receiving. Some examples of such fees would be an enrollment deposit, damage deposit, insurance fee, round trip airfare, taxes and fuel charges. Students should contact the host program for information regarding their payment policies.
5. Full payment of the program is the sole responsibility of the student; Trinity College will have no responsibility to pay any expenses to the AEP beyond the AEP's mandatory charges related directly to instruction.
6. Billing and payments to Trinity are subject to the same policies and procedures as outlined elsewhere in this document. Billing and payments to the AEP are not covered in his document and are the sole responsibility of the student.

VII. Cancellation Policy

Trinity's standard Tuition and Fee refund policy will apply to students who study away under the HST policy.

Any charges incurred by Trinity College because a student cancelled enrollment in a study away program will be charged to the student. These costs will be charged to the student regardless of whether the student enrolls at Trinity College for domestic study in the same semester, or whether they withdrew for that semester.

In instances of financial hardship, students may appeal for assistance to cover their cancellation costs. Appeals must be submitted in writing to the Assistant Vice President for Enrollment and Director of Financial Aid, whose decision shall be final.

VIII. Leave of Absence & Voluntary Withdrawal

While taking a leave of absence or a voluntary withdrawal, a Trinity student may not study away and receive Trinity academic credit without going through the [required application process](#) of the Office of Study Away and the Dean of Students. No academic credit will be approved or awarded absent prior approval by these two offices.