FSU International Programs First Year and First Semester Fall 2020 Frequently Asked Questions

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Summer 2020 Online Courses

Do I have to take a Summer 2020 course?
If you were admitted to FSU for the Summer term or through the Seminole Pathways program, the answer is YES. You were originally going to take our online 3-credit hour course, Global Foundations, that was intended to help prepare you for your time abroad. Now that fall programs are cancelled, Global Foundations will no longer be offered during Summer C.

In order to fulfill your admissions requirement to FSU as a Summer or Seminole Pathways admit, you must take at least one 3-credit hour course during the FSU Summer C session from June 22- July 31. While you are not required to take more than 3 credit hours during the summer term, the typical summer course load is 6 credit hours; those expecting federal or state financial aid, such as Bright Futures, to put toward the cost of summer tuition will need to take a minimum of 6 credit hours.

What are my Summer 2020 course options?
You can take Summer C courses through International Programs and/or main campus; all courses will be held online. We strongly recommend taking ENC1101 or ENC2135 as FSU students are typically expected to take an English class in their first term.

International Programs Courses: International Programs is offering both ENC1101 and ENC2135, so students who already have credit for the first level English will have an option. If you would like to take a second course, we have a variety of Summer C courses, which can be found here.

Main Campus Courses: You can view the main campus course offerings through Student Central in myFSU.

Is there a cost difference between main campus courses and IP courses?
This depends on your residency status as determined by Admissions.

In-State Florida Residents: The rate will be the same for both main campus and International Programs courses: $215.55 per credit hour.

Out-of-State Residents: The rate will be different. You will pay out-of-state rates for main campus courses ($721.10 per credit hour) and in-state rates for International Programs courses ($215.55 per credit hours).

Further details can be found here: https://studentbusiness.fsu.edu/tuition-fees.

How can I pay for the remote courses offered by IP?
Similar to main campus tuition, the fees for International Programs Summer 2020 remote courses will be assessed to students’ myFSU account according to the number of credit hours students register for. Students can either

• Pay course fees online via myFSU.
• Delay payment of course fees until International Programs begins disbursing refunds of Fall 2020 program fees in mid-August. Summer 2020 remote course fees will be deducted from the balance of any refunds disbursed to students. If the refund amount is not sufficient to cover all course fees, the student will be responsible for paying the difference online via myFSU.
Can I use Financial Aid to help pay for IP Summer 2020 remote courses?

Yes, financial aid like Florida Prepaid, Bright Futures, Loans, Grants, etc. can still be used towards Summer 2020 remote course fees. For more information, contact IP-FinancialAid@fsu.edu or review Student Business Service’s FAQs.

Fall 2020 Courses

What are my Fall 2020 course options?

You can take Fall 2020 courses through International Programs and/or main campus.

International Programs Courses: IP will offer courses that satisfy several liberal studies, academic mapping and graduation requirements, language courses, such as Spanish and Italian, and courses unique to International Programs. Click here to view the list of Fall 2020 online International Programs course offerings.

Many IP classes will incorporate international components, such as virtual museum or city tours and cross-cultural activities, and we encourage all students to consider taking these courses regardless of admission type, residency status, or future study abroad plans.

FYA out-of-state students must take a minimum of 12 credit hours of online coursework through International Programs in the Fall 2020 term, followed by successfully completing the spring and summer terms abroad as planned, to remain eligible to earn the FYA tuition waiver for the remainder of their undergraduate degree. More information about waiver requirements is available under the Transfer Admission and Fees section below.

Main Campus Courses: FSU also currently intends to offer the majority of main campus courses online, and we anticipate FSU will officially announce finalized plans for the fall term at the end of June or early July. You can view the main campus course offerings through Student Central in myFSU.

How many courses do students normally take during a fall semester?

Students must take a minimum of 12 credit hours to be considered “fully-enrolled” at FSU. However, the University encourages students to take 15 or more credit hours each semester as research has shown students who do so have higher GPAs, higher retention rates, and many more benefits.

Out-of-State FYA students are welcome to take main campus courses in addition to the 12 credit hours of required IP coursework, but please be aware main campus courses will be assessed at the tuition rate associated with your residency status on file with FSU admissions.

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Yes, financial aid like Florida Prepaid, Bright Futures, Loans, Grants, etc. can still be used towards Fall 2020 remote course fees. For more information, contact IP-FinancialAid@fsu.edu or review Student Business Service’s FAQs.

**Main Campus Topics**

**What is main campus planning to do for the Fall 2020 term?**
Florida State University is completing a proposed plan that prioritizes the health and welfare of the entire FSU community and follows the guidelines set forth in the State University System of Florida’s blueprint for reopening campuses. Click here to view a draft of the plan.

**What are my housing options for the fall term?**
You can choose to either stay at home and complete online courses from your hometown or move to Tallahassee. All incoming freshmen students will be faced with a similar decision, which is why University Housing has given students until July 16th to cancel their housing contracts.

**Live at home, take all remote classes:** IP will offer all its Fall 2020 courses online, meaning you can take them from anywhere. IP Fall 2020 courses offerings were selected to help keep our students “on-track” for their current academic map. FSU also currently intends to offer the majority of main campus courses online as well; but if you plan to take any main campus courses, you will need to make sure that you have not registered for any courses that will involve a “face-to-face” instructional component since you will not be in Tallahassee.

Regardless of whether you plan to take IP courses, Main Campus courses, or a combination, if you contracted with University Housing for the Fall 2020 semester you will need to cancel your contract directly with University Housing in accordance with the process they shared in their recent correspondence with you. If you did not receive an email, you should contact University Housing at Housing@fsu.edu.

Keep in mind, main-campus housing contracts last for the academic year; canceling your Fall 2020 housing contract means you are also cancelling your Spring 2021 housing contract. However, those who live on campus during the fall will be released from their spring housing contract if spring study abroad programs proceed as expected.

**Live on-campus in Tallahassee:** If you contracted for on-campus housing and decide to keep your contract after July 16th, you are making a financially binding decision to move to Tallahassee and pay for University housing according to the terms of your contract.

Those who live on campus during the fall will be released from their spring housing contract if spring study abroad programs proceed as expected. University Housing is also aware that IP students would like to get to know each other by rooming together or through on-campus activities. They will try to provide ways for this to happen, but there could be limitations based on overall housing occupancy rates and other factors. What we do know is that University Housing will allow you to edit your housing preferences, such as roommate requests, until July 3rd.

**Live off-campus in Tallahassee:** If you choose not to live on-campus but still wish to live in Tallahassee during the fall semester, you may do so. Keep in mind off-campus residences normally require students to sign year-long leases, which could impact future study abroad plans.
Who should I contact regarding on-campus housing & meal plans?
You can contact University Housing at Housing@fsu.edu.

Who should I contact regarding main campus orientation?
You can contact New Student and Family Programs at DOS-NSFP@fsu.edu. If you did not complete the online main campus orientation session June 14th – June 16th, you must do so as soon as possible.

How can I identify and contact my Academic Advisor?
Click here to find your Academic Advisor’s name and contact information. Regardless of whether you decide to continue to participate in your program or cancel, you should have been contacted and advised between June 10th and June 12th. If you did not participate in the advising session during this time, you need to contact your advisor or the International Programs advisor, Sarah Lovins Bacani at slovins@fsu.edu.

Can I take a gap year or defer my admission to FSU?
FSU does not currently give applicants the option to defer their admission until next year, and Gap Year applications are currently closed. This means if you choose not to attend FSU this year, you would need to apply again next year. If you have any additional questions, contact FSU Admissions at admissions@fsu.edu.

Can I defer my FYA participation until Sophomore year?
Unfortunately, you must be a “First Time in College” student to be eligible to participate in the FYA program; earning college-level coursework at FSU or another college or university would make you ineligible to participate in future FYA programs (AP/IB/Dual Enrollment credit earned during high school excluded). If you choose not to attend any college or university this year, you must reapply and be accepted to FSU for the Summer 2021 or Fall 2021 semester to be eligible to participate in FYA next year.

How can I cancel my admission to FSU?
If you no longer plan to attend FSU, you should inform Janice Finney with FSU Admissions via email at JFinney@fsu.edu. You should also:
- Notify International Programs of your intent to cancel from your program and withdraw from FSU by emailing IP-Cancel@fsu.edu.
- Cancel your contract with University Housing (if applicable)

Option 1: Transfer Admission & Fees

Continue with FYA

How do I remain committed to participate in the FYA 20-21 program?
Students must complete this survey on or before July 15th to indicate they would like to continue to participate in the FYA 20-21 program.

Will I still be charged a Fall FYA program fee?
No, we will remove the charges associated with the fall semester FYA record. The $2,500 commitment fee for the FYA Program (both the charge and the payment we’ve already received) will be moved to the Spring 2021 FYA record. Any additional payments made toward the fall FYA program will be transferred to the Spring 2021 FYA program fee. Click here for the updated FYA Payment schedule.
Students who continue with the FYA program will be responsible for paying the following expenses out-of-pocket for the Fall 2020 term:

- Tuition (assessed per credit-hour according to the rates described under the Fall 2020 Courses section above)
- Housing (if applicable)
- Food/meal plans
- Textbooks and any other expenses

If I continue my participation in the FYA program, can I later decide to cancel?

Students who demonstrate their continued intent to participate in the FYA program by having their commitment fee transferred to the Spring 2021 program fee will become fee liable for the $2,500 FYA commitment fee after July 15th. After this date, the $2,500 commitment fee is non-refundable. Program participants who have not provided written notice of their intent to withdraw from the FYA program at least sixty days prior to the beginning of the Spring 2021 term remain fully liable for all Spring 2021 program fees paid or deferred.

What happens if I continue with the FYA program, but Spring 2021 programs are also cancelled?

All Spring 2021 international programs are currently expected to proceed as scheduled. If programs are cancelled, we anticipate FYA students would still be required to take a minimum of 12 credit hours of International Programs coursework during the spring semester (which we anticipate could be online or hybrid delivery), as well as participate in Summer 2021 programs, to remain eligible to earn an out-of-state waiver. As we have learned, many factors contribute to decisions related to this question, many of which we cannot predict or control. Therefore, we have provided this response as a ‘best guess’, rather than a definitive answer.

What requirements will I need to meet to earn an FYA out-of-state tuition waiver for the remainder of my undergraduate degree?

FYA students must:

- Remain admitted and committed to participate in the Spring 21 & Summer 21 FYA terms abroad
- Enroll in a minimum of 12 credit hours of International Programs coursework during each of the Fall 2020, Spring 2021, and Summer 2021 terms
- Complete the FYA program with a minimum of 36 International Programs credits with a GPA of 3.0 or better (excluding any main campus coursework)
- For the remainder of their first undergraduate degree, students must attend consecutive semesters at FSU without interruption (summer terms excluded), remain in good academic and judicial standing, and progress towards their degree completion by staying “on map.”

Can FYA Florida residents still receive the in-state scholarship?

Normally, FYA Florida Residents who complete a semester abroad, earn at least 14 credits while abroad, and maintain a cumulative FYA GPA of 3.0 or better receive a $1,500 scholarship that gets applied toward the next semester of FYA program fees. Unfortunately, Florida residents will not be eligible to earn this scholarship based on Fall 2020 grades since students will not be abroad during the fall semester.

However, if Spring 2021 programs proceed as scheduled, Florida residents who take at least 14 credits abroad in the spring and earn a 3.0 spring GPA will be eligible to earn the $1,500 discount toward the Summer 2021 term.
Switch Study Abroad Programs

How do I switch to a future program?

FSA students who wish to study abroad during the Spring 2021 or Summer 2021 terms can choose to transfer their participation and any fees paid to a future program.

FYA students who choose not to continue with the FYA program but would still like to study abroad during either the Spring 2021 or Summer 2021 terms can also choose to transfer their participation and any fees paid to a future program. Students who choose this option will not be eligible to earn an out-of-state tuition waiver.

Students must complete this survey on or before July 15th to indicate they would like to switch to another program.

What programs can I switch to?

In addition to freshmen programs, International Programs offers Broad Curriculum programs and Curriculum Focused programs.

Broad Curriculum programs are similar to freshmen programs in that they are based at the four FSU study centers and offer a wide-variety of course offerings to choose from, which can help satisfy academic mapping/major requirements, liberal studies and graduation requirements, language courses, etc. Full semester programs are available during fall, spring, and summer semesters, and partial semester programs are available during the summer.

Curriculum Focused programs are faculty-led programs focused on specific majors or areas of study and include set course offerings all students on the program will take. These programs are hosted at FSU study centers or other locations across the globe. Curriculum focused programs are offered during the summer term and vary in length between 2-8 weeks.

Applicants must meet the eligibility requirements (published on each program page) of the program they wish to switch to and remain in good academic & judicial standing in order to be admitted and participate.

If I transfer my admission and fees to a future program, can I later decide to cancel?

Depending on which program/term you apply for, you have until the date listed below to cancel from your new program and request a refund of your paid program fees. After this date, you become fee liable for your new program fees in accordance with the IP Fee Liability and Refund Policy.

- Spring 2021 programs: September 11, 2020
- Summer 2021 programs: December 2, 2020

If I transfer to a future program, will the program fee change?

International Programs will transfer the fees you’ve paid for your Fall 2020 program to your new program; you will be responsible for paying the remaining balance of fees (if any) by the payment due dates for your new program. Program details (start/end date, payment due dates, prices, courses, etc.) are provided on each individual program page on the IP website.

Option 2: Receive a Refund of Paid Program Fees

How do I select this option?

Those who choose not to transfer admission and fees to a future program should complete this survey on or before July 15th to indicate you wish to receive a refund of all paid program fees, excluding the application fee.
**Do I still have to study abroad?**

All current FYA/FSA students made a financial commitment to study abroad beginning the Fall 2020 semester. Following the cancellation of Fall 2020 programs, all students (FYA & FSA, summer admits, pathways admits, and fall admits) have the option to cancel their study abroad participation without penalty and receive a refund of all fees paid, excluding the $100 application fee. **Out-of-state FYA** participants who cancel from the FYA program will not be eligible to earn an out-of-state tuition waiver.

Deciding not to study abroad will not impact any student's acceptance to FSU; even if you choose to cancel your study abroad participation rather than transfer your participation to a future semester, you will still be able to take online IP courses during the Summer 2020 and Fall 2020 semesters, and we encourage you to do so.

**If I choose option 2, can I still apply for a future International Program?**

Yes, you are always welcome to apply for a future International Program (Spring 2021, Summer 2021, or beyond), though we can only guarantee acceptance to those who elect to transfer their admission and fees to another program by July 15th. Early application is advisable as program enrollment is limited and acceptances are offered on a rolling basis, especially for Summer programs that tend to have a waitlist within weeks after applications open. Application open dates for future programs will be listed on the IP website: [www.international.fsu.edu](http://www.international.fsu.edu). If you have questions about the application process, contact an IP Admissions Officer at [IP-Admissions@fsu.edu](mailto:IP-Admissions@fsu.edu).

**Will I receive a refund of program fees?**

Yes, students admitted to a Fall 2020 international program who choose not to transfer admission and fees to a future program on or before July 15th will automatically receive a refund of paid program fees, excluding the application fee, in process with the timeline described below.

**How will I receive my refund?**

We will work with FSU Student Business Services to deposit refunds directly into each student’s FSU account. The permissions associated with each account will determine exactly what happens with the funds. For most students, this means you will have a positive balance with the university, which will then disburse to your designated bank account through a direct deposit. Please make sure you have updated the direct deposit information for refunds in your FSU account. [Click here for instructions on how to set-up Direct Deposit.](#)

We will work individually with students who have an outstanding balance with the University to determine the flow of funds. This includes students who register for IP Fall 2020 online courses and wish to have those course fees deducted from their program fee refund.

**When can I expect the refund?**

Students admitted to a Fall 2020 program who choose not to transfer admission and fees to a future program will receive their refund on later than August 15th.

_Last updated 6/23/20_