

## SU-in Stirling

This document serves as a resource for you to help your student as they prepare to study away. Your student has all of this information.

The semester before your student studies away, they will be provided with information regarding the GO Long Process Overview and a Program-specific resources.

Students should refer to their acceptance documents for exact program dates. The typical semesters are similar dates to Susquehanna's. Students should refer to their acceptance documents for exact program dates. In general: Spring runs January-May and Fall runs August-December.

### Application

Students will complete an online Stirling [application](#) by the internal deadline of March 1st for Fall and October 1st for Spring. Students are applying as a "fee paying study abroad" student and will identify courses that they would like to take within their application.

They will also need to submit additional supporting documents in one email to [studyabroadin@stir.ac.uk](mailto:studyabroadin@stir.ac.uk) including a transcript (ordered online for a small fee), an academic recommendation and a copy of their passport.

#### Next Steps:

After the application is reviewed, your student will receive an Offer Letter, which includes a listing of modules for which they have been pre-approved, and an Acceptance Form, which should be signed and returned by email to [studyabroadIN@stir.ac.uk](mailto:studyabroadIN@stir.ac.uk). Admission will not be confirmed until the Study Abroad Office has received the signed Acceptance Form.

Further details about accommodation will be emailed to students following their acceptance. Housing is limited so it is recommended that they apply for accommodation at the earliest possible opportunity.

### Courses

Students should complete the course approval process through GO - there is some information [HERE](#) – in addition to the course selection in their application to Stirling.

- Courses at Stirling are referred to as "modules"
- Students can take up to 60 Scottish credits (typically between 3-5 courses), which is 15 Susquehanna credits.
  - Note: 20 Scottish Credits is 5 US credits
- IF your student would like to take 70 Scottish credits instead of 60, there is an extra fee.

Required Course: students can choose a course that is focused on Scotland (chosen from the faculty of arts and humanities, communications, media, & culture, history, or politics department). The remaining courses can be chosen based on academic or personal interests.

- They can search courses here:  
<https://portal.stir.ac.uk/calendar/calendar.jsp?view=visiting> or here:

<https://www.stir.ac.uk/international/study-abroad-exchange/coming-to-stirling/what-can-i-study/>

## Housing

Study abroad students have three housing options: Alexander Court apartments (STANDARD OPTION, price on budget sheet), Juniper Court Flats, and Union Street Housing. Each housing option has a shared kitchen/living area within the apartment, meaning that students will be responsible for their own meals. All rooms are single rooms.

Students studying for the fall semester will have an 18-week rental agreement (September – January). Students studying for the spring semester will have a 20-week rental agreement (January – June).

### Alexander Court

- Flats with 5-7 bedrooms, all single rooms
- Each flat has two bathrooms and a shared kitchen/living area
- 24-hour security personnel
- Heat/Electric, internet and theft insurance included in the cost of the room
- Bedding and linens provided
- On-site laundry

### Juniper Court Flats

- Flats with 5-10 bedrooms, all single rooms
- All rooms have their own attached shower room
- Flats share a kitchen/living room including a TV
- 24-hour security personnel
- Heat/Electric, internet and theft insurance included in the cost of the room
- Bedding and linens provided
- On-site laundry

### Union Street Development

- Flats with 4 or 6 bedrooms, all singles
- located further from campus, closer to the town center.
- Each flat consists of a shared kitchen/living area equipped with cookers, fridges, freezers, microwaves and kettles.
- Shower/WC facilities are also shared.
- On-site laundry

Dining options:

While there is no meal plan, there are plenty of [dining options on campus](#) to choose from including traditional Scottish food, a buffet, burgers/pizza, grab-and-go sandwiches and a coffee shop. Students can register their ID card with the [University of Stirling Loyalty program](#) to receive points toward free food/drinks.

## Visas

U.S. citizens do not require a visa. Students can seek 'Leave to Enter' as a Short Term Student for the purposes of study from an Immigration Officer at the airport when you arrive in Scotland.

Arriving to and while in Scotland, your student should:

- Show their University of Stirling offer letter to the Immigration Office upon arrival in Scotland
- Keep the proof of financial support letter from Susquehanna in their carry-on luggage in case they are asked to show it when they arrive
- Have a copy of their return flight ticket in their carry-on luggage if they have already purchased it
- Keep their University of Stirling offer letter with them if traveling outside of the country
- Ask to be granted 'Leave to Enter' upon returning to Scotland if they travel outside of the U.K.

\*note that visa information is provided based on US citizenship. Students holding a non-US passport should consult with the host consulate for any visa considerations.

## After Acceptance:

Students will receive an acceptance offer via email. Once received they must act quickly: complete the acceptance form and return to Stirling by the designated deadline. Do not make payments directly to the University of Stirling as Susquehanna should be billed directly. If you receive a bill, please forward it to the GO Program ([goprogram@susqu.edu](mailto:goprogram@susqu.edu)) right away. Your student is responsible for any damage deposits

Students are automatically covered under Susquehanna's Emergency International Insurance. If they would like additional coverage for maintenance health needs, they can contact GO ([goprogram@susqu.edu](mailto:goprogram@susqu.edu)) to purchase an additional plan.

At this point, the University of Stirling local program coordinators will be sending emails with valuable Study Abroad Student Handbook information about everything from packing and selecting courses to the airport experience. Stirling will send the updated to your student, which includes all the information need to know. The first week of the program is reserved for orientation.

## Booking flights and Arrival information:

Students are responsible for booking their own flight to Scotland and back. They should book the flight after receiving the official acceptance letter from University of Stirling and have confirmed program dates. They must fly into Scotland WITHOUT a layover in Dublin to obtain the stamp needed to register upon arrival and to complete enrollment on campus.

If you'd like to use a travel agent to assist with travel planning, Student Universe ([studentuniverse.com](http://studentuniverse.com)), Travel Time ([trvltime.com](http://trvltime.com)) and STA Travel (<http://statravel.com/airfare-deposit-program.htm>) have been used by students in the past. If not using a travel agent we recommend booking airfare directly with the airline rather than a third-party website.

### Upon Arrival:

US citizens will arrive to Scotland as a short-term student with a 'Leave to Enter' enrollment since their purpose of being in Scotland is that of study. They will obtain that from an Immigration Officer at the airport when they arrive in the Scotland.

When your student arrives in Scotland, they should explain to the Immigration Officer at the airport that they are coming to study and show the Offer Letter from the University of Stirling to confirm this. They may be asked to provide proof of financial support, such as the letter provided by GO from Student Financial Services, or recent bank statements or a student loan confirmation, to show enough money for the duration of the semester and therefore should carry all of these documents.

### **Getting to campus:**

Stirling Direct opens a shuttle service from three airports in Scotland to the University of Stirling for a small fee from Edinburgh Airport, Glasgow Airport or Prestwick Airports. The shuttle should be reserved at least two weeks in advance. This airport collection service operates 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year.

If not using the pick-up service, the best way to get to Stirling from the airports is by airport bus then train to the rail station in Stirling. Taking a taxi directly from the airports to campus is expensive.

Airport bus from Glasgow airport to Glasgow Queen Street station or from Edinburgh airport to Edinburgh Haymarket station and take a train to Stirling from there. From Stirling rail station it is either a ten minute bus or taxi ride (less than £10) to the University of Stirling campus or a comparable distance to any off-campus university accommodation.

From Prestwick airport there is a direct rail link from the airport into Glasgow Central railway station. Then a bus from outside the main entrance to Glasgow Central to transfer to Glasgow Queen Street railway station (less than 10 mins) for the train to Stirling, or it is a ten minute walk.

### **Other Matters:**

Packing: Pack all essential items in your carry-on (medicine, jewelry etc.). Refer to the guidelines for bringing liquids in a carry-on (<https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/liquids-rule>) as well as the airlines' luggage weight limits. We have additional resources posted in your students' application regarding some tips for Traveling and Packing.

Medication: For prescription medicines, students must either bring enough with them for the duration of the semester. Note that some medications are prohibited, including many medications for the treatment of attention deficit disorders. Please reach out to a physician to determine a plan of action. We recommend that your student has a written prescription with them as they may be asked for it by customs officials.

Money Matters: We recommend having some local currency. Most local banks have access to give GBP (pounds) or your student can convert USD at the airport. ATMs are also readily available throughout Scotland and they can withdraw cash from ATMs. Students should inform their bank about all travel plans, and also find out whether the bank and credit card issuers charge international transaction fees.

### Health Insurance:

## Travel Day:

Your student should carry their passport, acceptance letter, student travel visa letter (the letter from University of Stirling), Program Contact and Arrival Instructions in their carry-on luggage. DO NOT CHECK THEM!

We recommend arriving at least three hours before an international flight is scheduled to board to give time to get through airport security, bag check, etc. If the flight is delayed or cancelled, contact the travel agent or airline where you booked the ticket to be put on the next flight and alert the host program/university of any travel delay