

10 Helpful hints when applying for ISEP exchange

1. Begin your ISEP application **early** and stay in contact with the WSU study abroad advisor. You will need to plan to have everything submitted for your ISEP application online at **least 2 weeks prior to the ISEP application deadline**, which for fall semester placements is **February 1st** and for spring semester placements is **August 15th**.
2. After you have submitted your ISEP application online, it will be reviewed by WSU study abroad advisor at which time your ISEP reference form will be uploaded. Then, you will be notified that it has been approved at which time you will need **to pay the \$100 non-refundable application fee** to ISEP no later than **February 15th** for fall and **September 1st** for spring. (Students will need to pay another \$325 placement fee to ISEP after they have been placed and accept the placement, which is generally 4 to 6 weeks after ISEP's application deadline.)
3. You can search for programs based on **subject** and **language of instruction**, which can help you narrow your choices. http://www.isep.org/students/US_students/search_for_a_program.asp
4. You should try to have **at least 3 different universities selected** to list on the ISEP application for the exchange option (if you have less, please consult study abroad advisor).
5. You should **only list universities that you are "okay"** with being placed at. Do not simply list another university so that you will have three on the application if you would not be satisfied going there. You could be placed at any of your choices.
6. When selecting universities, keep in mind the **"Chance of Placement"** for the exchange option for US students, which is listed on the overview page for each university. If all of your choices have a **"limited"** chance of placement for US students, then you should rethink your options and talk to the study abroad advisor.
7. As you are selecting each university that you plan to list on the application, be sure to **review all details** on the "Overview", "Academics" and "Campus Life" sections for that particular university before making your final selections.
8. In the **"Overview" section**, check chance of placement and program dates. Many universities do not follow the same academic calendar year as WSU so you will need to keep this in mind, especially if you plan to study abroad during the **fall semester only**. Some fall programs can go from October to February, which generally would not be an option for a WSU student.
9. In the **"Academics" section**, check the language of instruction. If you are not fluent in another language, then you will need to see if they offer courses in English. You should also check to see if they offer courses in your **area(s) of study (major)**. This section should provide brief information on courses; however you will also need to go to that university's website for more detailed information on courses. You will also be able to see if they offer language courses and if so at which levels (beginner, intermediate, advanced).
10. In the **"Campus Life" section**, check the living arrangements, estimated personal expenses and any other details on extracurricular activities/orientation offered.