

SIE (*Sophomore Int'l Exp.*) Parent FAQ's

<p><i>What is the Sophomore International Experience (SIE) program?</i></p>	<p>The SIE program is a 3 credit, short-term study abroad course. Students participating in an SIE meet several times before traveling for 9-12 days abroad with other Bryant students, faculty and staff.</p>
<p><i>What items should my student have ready before he/she applies for SIE?</i></p>	<p>Most importantly a valid passport! This should be valid for at least 6 months <u>after</u> the student is scheduled to return home. We find with youth passports, people don't realize they expire sooner, so they may need renewed. The application will also ask for a \$500 deposit (non-refundable) and an essay.</p>
<p><i>How are SIE students selected?</i></p>	<p>SIE is NOT a first-come, first-serve program. Eligible students who apply must submit an essay explaining why they are applying to that program. Faculty members select their students based on the essay.</p>
<p><i>My student didn't get his/her first choice, what happens now?</i></p>	<p>Students will be given the opportunity to select a second choice program to apply to and submit a new essay for their new program once we know which programs are still accepting students. If students decide to apply to a second choice program, their deposit will be applied towards that program; if they decide not to apply to a different program, they need to let us know and we will work with the Bursar's Office to get their deposit refunded. Note: NO SIE program offers a waitlist option.</p>
<p><i>Can my student switch programs after they've been accepted?</i></p>	<p>Switching programs is NOT permitted after acceptance; Faculty members make reservations, and payments, for their accepted students very early, which makes switching impossible.</p>
<p><i>I have decided I don't want my student participating in the SIE anymore, can I get a refund? (this also applies to medical withdrawals, transferring schools, etc.)</i></p>	<p>The application deposit of \$500 is non-refundable once the student is accepted on a program. If the withdrawal is within 2 – 3 weeks of acceptance, than you may only be out the \$500. <u>Please remember that we work with program providers on these programs, and we are under contract to pay the full cost of the program. Airfare, hotels, tours, etc. are booked early to get us the best prices, so a refund is highly unlikely.</u></p>
<p><i>My student wants to come home from SIE, how can I make that happen?</i></p>	<p>If your students wants to leave SIE, then he/she will be permitted to do; however, there is not a refund for the program, and you are responsible for the price of the return ticket.</p>
<p><i>What will Bryant do if something does happen in the places where the group is traveling?</i></p>	<p>Bryant's in-country leader group and on-campus emergency contacts will do everything they can to see to getting the group to a safe place should something happen while they're traveling. The students have been given several meeting places to go to for each city they're traveling to in case of an emergency situation occurring, and the leaders will be sure to communicate with the on campus contacts who will be available to offer any support necessary.</p>
<p><i>Can my student do the Sophomore International Experience (SIE) AND a semester abroad?</i></p>	<p>Absolutely! In fact, many of our students decide to study abroad after participating in the SIE. Students should start to make themselves aware of the program requirements in order to participate in each option soon after arriving at Bryant.</p>