

SCSU Office of International Education
Faculty-Led Program Abroad Application
Costa Rica

May 24– June 14, 2025
Deadline to apply: April 11

Please return this completed application to the Office of International Education at SCSU, Engleman Hall Room A-220, 501 Crescent Street, New Haven, CT 06515 with your **\$500 deposit** (see instructions at page footer).

A deposit is NOT a guarantee of acceptance and **non-refundable unless the application is rejected by the program Director. All decisions regarding admissions are made by the Program Director(s). The Program Director will review application and render a decision regarding admission in writing within 14 days. If student is accepted, the deposit is used to purchase program airfare and becomes non-refundable. The deposit will only be refunded if applicant is notified that they have not been admitted. **By submitting this application with my deposit, I acknowledge that I understand this deposit placement and refund policy.***

Essential Eligibility Criteria:

Participants Must:

- Be 18 years of age or older;
- Be punctual and manage time, alarms, etc., accordingly;
- Be able to manage all personal care and mobility independently;
- Be able to navigate public transportation independently;
- Be able to comprehend, retain, and follow complex directions;
- Manage any food restrictions independently, and find alternatives as needed;
- Maintain an international phone plan (with data) and monitor WhatsApp for the duration of the program.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full legal name (**as it appears on your passport**):

(First)

(Middle)

(Last)

DOB (mm/dd/yyyy): _____ Current University: _____

Student ID Number: _____ Major(s)/Minor(s): _____

Are you a tuition waiver recipient? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Anticipated Date of Graduation (mm/yyyy): _____ Current GPA: _____

Enrollment Status: ☐ Full-time ☐ Part-time ☐ Freshman ☐ Sophomore ☐ Junior ☐ Senior ☐ Graduate

****Deposit must be made online in the Touch Net store at the following website:**

https://secure.touchnet.net/C21400_ustores/web/store_main.jsp?STOREID=9&SINGLESTORE=true
staff would be happy to assist you with the online deposit (visit us in EN A - 220).

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____ Email: _____

Permanent Address: _____

PREVIOUS RELEVANT CURRICULAR EXPERIENCES

Please list any university-level coursework completed either at SCSU or another institution in Public Health or related field:

Passport:

- ☐ I have a U.S. Passport that is valid for at least 6 months after departure date. Enter expiration date here: _____.
- ☐ I have applied for a U.S. Passport.
- ☐ I have a valid Passport from another country (specify _____).

Passport Number: _____

COURSE INFORMATION

COURSES TO BE TAKEN IN COSTA RICA (Select **ONE**)

Students are required to enroll in at least one of the courses. Please contact the trip leader with any questions regarding course selection. **No prior Spanish language study is required to participate on this trip. The course will be delivered in English.**

Required (check at least one course):

- ☐ TSL 418 (3 credits; ESL Methods in Content Instruction) – for undergraduate students
- ☐ TSL 518 (3 credits; Content-based Instruction for Multilingual Learners)- for graduate students
- ☐ EDU 471 (1.5 credits; Supporting English Learners for School Success) – for undergraduate students
- ☐ EDU 472 (3 credits; Nurturing Multilingual Students in Early Childhood) - for undergraduate students
- ☐ EDU 571 (2 credits; Teaching English Learners in Regular Education Classrooms) - for graduate students

REFERENCE:

Please list one (1) reference that the Program Director may contact. This person must be either a professor or previous or current employer. **In addition, this person must also submit a letter of recommendation to the Office of International Education.**

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Relationship: _____

APPLICATION ESSAY INSTRUCTIONS

All applications for the Visitor Educator Program in Costa Rica **must include an essay and an unofficial transcript.**

The essay should be 300-500 words answering the following prompt:

How will participating in the Visitor Educator Program in Costa Rica benefit your education and career goals, and what, specifically, will you contribute to the trip? Some points to consider: how do you see yourself fitting into a big group? What are your personal strengths and weaknesses? What are your biggest concerns about participating in this program, and what are you most looking forward to?

A limited number of scholarships are available for participants in the Visitor Educator Program in Costa Rica. To be eligible for a scholarship, an applicant must be a matriculated full-time student during the Spring 2025 semester **and** submit a completed application, including the essay.

Link for the **Shea scholarship** application: https://inside.southernct.edu/sites/default/files/a/inside-southern/international/College_of_Education_Shea_Scholarship_Application_2023.pdf

PROGRAM FEE:

Program Fee: \$3,050.00 (Airfare NOT included)

Deadline to apply: April 11

Deposit: \$500.00

Due: with application

Second Payment: \$1,550.00

Due: May 1

Final Payment: \$1000.00

Due: May 15

Program Fee Includes:

- Lodging, transportation to and from airport, bus transportation to La Paz School (Monday through Friday), access to and support from La Paz School and its faculty, lunches at La Paz School (Monday through Friday), and CISI insurance (a stand-alone insurance policy that provides comprehensive medical coverage internationally and meets the University's minimum requirements for emergency medical evacuation and repatriation coverage required for all students studying abroad).

Program Fee **DOES NOT** Include:

- Airfare, breakfasts and dinners, free time excursions and touring, SCSU's tuition and summer registration fee (Undergraduate Students: 3 cr.- \$2,085.00 / Graduate Students: \$2640), (Undergraduate Students: 1.5 cr.- \$1,042.50 / Graduate Students: \$1320), (Undergraduate Students: 2 cr.- \$1,390.00 / Graduate Students: \$1760),** personal expenses, books, laundry, snacks, medical and living expenses, or any additional expenses that alter the itinerary or arrangements.

For eligible students, financial aid can be applied to the overall cost of the program. For information regarding financial aid, please contact The Office of Financial Aid at (203) 392-5222 or financialaid@southernct.edu.

STUDENT BUDGET

To ensure that you have thoroughly considered the financial obligations you will incur by registering for this course abroad, please complete the worksheet below:

Program Fee: \$ _____

*Tuition & Fees: \$ _____

Personal Costs: \$ _____ (meals, laundry, souvenirs, free time, etc.)

Total Cost: \$ _____

*Please note: all students participating in the SCSU Summer Course Abroad to Costa Rica are **required** to enroll in three (3) credits as directed by the trip leader. Students should register for the courses via their MySCSU account and submit all payments directly to Students Accounts. The OIE will not accept any payments for tuition expenses.

Please indicate how you plan to fund your course abroad experience given the costs listed above:

☐ Personal Savings: \$ _____

☐ Student Loan: \$ _____

☐ Credit Card: \$ _____

☐ Family Contribution: \$ _____

☐ Other _____: \$ _____

Total Funds Available: \$ _____

(Must be equal to or greater than the "Total Cost" on page 3)

ENROLLMENT VERIFICATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

If accepted for enrollment in a Summer Abroad Program, the student is responsible for registering in the related courses and paying associated SCSU tuition and fees for at least the minimum number of credits required by the program. Payment for tuition and fees must be made through the Office of the Bursar or Banner Web. By signing, the student assumes responsibility for managing his or her finances to account for payment of tuition and fees in addition to the Program Cost (detailed in both the brochure and the application).

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

MANDATORY HEALTH AND SAFETY AGREEMENT SESSION

In accordance with SCSU-OIE policy, all Study Abroad Participants are required to participate in a Mandatory Health and Safety Agreement Session prior to departure. Sessions will cover all insurance, health, risk, and liability issues associated with Education Abroad. The H&S Session will take between 30-60 minutes and encompass all aspects of the Health and Safety Agreement process, including Medical Self-Assessment. Students who do not complete the Health and Safety Agreement process will not be permitted to travel.

Students will need to register for one Student Health and Safety Agreement session specific to their program (Costa Rica). All sessions will take place at least 30 days prior to departure.

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION CANCELLATION POLICY

Currently, all courses abroad for the academic year are expected to operate. Southern Connecticut State University's Office of International Education (SCSU-OIE) will monitor world events and make any change to this decision on an individual course basis any time between now and the departure dates.

If Southern Connecticut State University cancels an off-campus course, students will be refunded their deposits and all monies the university is *able* to recover from program providers. The SCSU-OIE office will negotiate with providers for the refunds. Although the SCSU-OIE office will negotiate with providers for refunds, the university cannot guarantee that all monies will be returned.

If a student withdraws from an off-campus course at any time between now and the departure date, the student will forfeit his/her deposit but will be refunded all other recoverable amounts. In the event the price of the trip rises more than 20%, the student may withdraw and receive both recoverable funds and deposit.

Students who must cancel their participation in a course abroad program must do so in writing to Dr. Erin Heidkamp, Director of the Office of International Education.

The Office of International Education will work to delay payment to providers on costs for course abroad programs as long as possible and request clearly-stated refund policies from all providers for all programs prior to payments. Students who wish to purchase cancellation insurance should contact their insurance provider.

If Southern Connecticut State University cancels an off-campus course, the staff of SCSU-OIE will work with individual course abroad faculty members in adapting their course, when possible, for the Southern Connecticut State University campus. This is understood to be an emergency procedure in place as a result of unusual or unforeseen world events. If an off-campus course cannot be adapted to the on-campus setting, the faculty member will work to develop an alternative on-campus course for the students enrolled. If this is possible, efforts will be made to enroll students in existing on-campus courses.

I understand the material provided above regarding SCSU's International Programs Cancellation Policy, program costs, and dates. I also understand the faculty-led program deposit refund policy described on page 1 of this application.

Student Name (*print clearly*): _____ Student ID: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

“AGREEMENT: “I certify that the information submitted on this application is correct. I agree to be subject to the academic and financial policies of SCSU. I am in good academic and disciplinary standing at my home college/university and agree to notify SCSU if my status changes. I have read the SCSU Summer Program in Costa Rica brochure, understand the policies therein, and realize that they are binding.”

“I consent to allowing my photograph to be used in promotional material for the SCSU Summer Program in Costa Rica in the future.”

Signature: _____ Date: _____