How far in advance should I start planning?
The sooner, the better! While you might be able to design your program fairly quickly, you’ll want to make sure you have plenty of time to recruit students. If you are starting a program from scratch, we recommend at least 9 months in advance, but you may also need to follow timelines and deadlines at your institution. Many institutions may have 12–18-month program approval timelines, so check with your Study Abroad Office to be safe.

How long does it take to receive a proposal?
It depends on a few factors. SAA can provide most proposals within a week, depending on the complexity of the program. CCIS Hosts may take a bit longer. If you have a specific deadline when you need to have a proposal, please let us know ASAP.

What kind of program can I design?
Through the collaborative program design process, you let us know the ideal program you envision, and we’ll evaluate what is possible through our CCIS Hosts and/or SAA. From a spring break program to an integrated semester, from guest lectures to service-learning, from STEM to hospitality, our goal is to help you achieve your ideal program!

How do SAA or CCIS Hosts manage health, safety, and risk on Faculty-Led and Custom Programs?
Programs run with SAA will have 24/7 on the ground support to help manage any health and safety issues that arise. All students and staff on the program will be given an on-ground orientation upon arrival to go over the emergency response guidelines and what to do in case of an emergency. SAA also includes an all-inclusive traveler’s insurance policy. Programs run with a CCIS Host may also have 24/7 on the ground support, but this will vary by Host and what services the Host institution offers.

What is the minimum number of students needed to run a program?
Generally, to keep the program cost affordable, 10 students or more are needed.
I don’t see my country or academic subject area of interest on your lists. Can you still help me with my program?
Possibly! Our Host institutions are adding new academic fields regularly and SAA is continually expanding locations. Contact us with your location or field of choice and we’ll let you know what’s possible.

How much does a program typically cost?
As every program is uniquely designed, price is dependent on many factors such as: country location, length of the program, time of year offered, housing options, number of excursions, etc. Programs can start as low as $1,500 (including airfare) per person. The goal is to meet your budget needs through the collaborative program development process, so CCIS Hosts and SAA will work with you to fine-tune the itinerary and included components so your students get the best value for their money!

Can faculty leaders bring guests, spouses, or children?
This will depend mostly on your home institution’s policies about guests on faculty-led programs. Programs organized by SAA allow guests and CCIS Hosts will each have their own policy about guests.

Can you help me recruit students?
CCIS Hosts may be able to help with student recruitment, but the majority of that responsibility will fall to you. Programs organized through SAA include pre-trip marketing assistance, such as school-branded promotional posters and videos, as well as review of on campus marketing strategy.

Do you offer virtual Faculty-Led and Custom Program options?
Yes! SAA offers virtual program possibilities and some CCIS Hosts do as well. This is a great way to reduce financial risk and liability, while still providing your students an international experience related to your curriculum, through innovative virtual programming.