

1



Start planning early. Applications vary from program to program and can be due 4-9 months in advance. Age requirements vary, as well as cost. Many programs will interview you to make sure you are a good fit for the program and/or a host family.

2



Talk to your Parents. Be sure your parents are aware of your desire to study abroad and include them in your research of programs. Consult the CSJET Advisory List at www.csiet.org for a detailed listing of study abroad organizations that participated in CSJET's rigorous evaluation process.

3

Meet with your High School Counselor.

You need to have a plan in place before you leave to stay on track for graduation when you return to CMS. You will need an official transcript from the school abroad in order for your CMS school counselor to evaluate the transcript and determine if any of the course work abroad can be transferred to your CMS transcript.

4



Apply! Most programs have a specific deadline. Know the deadline and be sure to turn your application in on time.

5



Cost/Financial Planning. Research what services are and are not included in the program fee. Make sure you consider all costs and develop a budget with your parents. Inquire about and apply to scholarships (needs-based and merit-based).

6



Health/Medical Insurance. Check with your health insurance to make sure it will cover you wherever you go. Know before you go if you have coverage.

7



Visa, Tickets and Passport.

If not provided by your program, be sure to get your visa and tickets early. You can find student visa information and learn more about the documentation needed to apply for a passport at the US Department of State's website: www.travel.state.gov. Make sure to allow enough time when applying for your passport.

8

Pre-departure Orientation.

Participate in all pre-departure events. Your program will provide you with dates of pre-departure events.

9

Saying goodbye!

Make sure to notify your school counselor if your schedule changes while you are studying abroad.

10

Re-entry. Welcome Home! Meet with your high school counselor about your transfer credits and re-enrollment.

