THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA
Columbus School of Law
Office of Financial Aid

STUDY ABROAD/VISITING AWAY
SUMMER 2009 FINANCIAL AID PACKET

1. What steps are necessary for summer aid if I am studying abroad or visiting away?
   1. Complete the Summer Financial Aid Request form
   2. Complete the Consortium Agreement Request form

All of the forms listed above are available on our website (http://law.edu/finaid/) under FORMS as well as in our office.

2. What is a Consortium Agreement? It is an agreement between schools that recognizes that the student is matriculating at the “home” school and visiting at the “host” school. The agreement explains that the home school will process financial aid (with program costs provided by the host school) and will accept credits taken at the host school. A loan application cannot be completed without it. Usually a student will file financial aid forms with the “home” school which will send loan proceeds to the “host” school. Our Office will fax or send a consortium agreement to the other school when a Visiting Student Worksheet and Consortium Request Form are submitted.

3. WHAT IS CARDINALPAY?
   We are requiring each student to sign up with CardinalPay’s Direct Deposit Option. Due to the likely possibility of students departing abroad before the disbursement of their refunds, CardinalPay will electronically deposit the refund to the student’s bank account as soon as refunds are available. NOTE: Students will need to plan ahead and prepare to pay any initial costs as well as spending money out-of-pocket until their loan refund is available.

   To enroll, please visit http://treasurer.cua.edu/controller/sa/CardinalPay/studentrefund.cfm for instructions. For more information about CardinalPay, please contact the Student Account Office (202-319-5036) or visit their website.

4. CAN I BORROW A STAFFORD LOAN?
   If you have not borrowed the full $20,500 (the maximum amount available for one academic year) through the federal Stafford loan program for Fall 2008 and Spring 2009, you may borrow your remaining Stafford loan eligibility or the COA listed above, whichever is less. If your remaining Stafford loan eligibility is less than the COA, then you may borrow the rest (up to the COA) using either a Federal Grad PLUS Loan or a Private Commercial loan.

   Stafford Loan Requirements and Restrictions:
   The 2008-2009 FAFSA must be completed by March 10, 2009 and a valid, verified (if necessary) Student Aid Report must be in the Financial Aid Office by April 1, 2009. These deadlines are necessary in order to process the paperwork in a timely manner and to receive loan funds on time.

   If the above deadlines cannot be met, a student has the following options:
   a. Borrow through a commercial loan program (which would not require the FAFSA and can be disbursed earlier).
   b. Pay out of pocket or from another source. Once the loan funds are received, the student will be reimbursed from the proceeds of the loan.
NOTE: Federal loan may be electronically disbursed no sooner than 10 days prior to the start of the enrollment period. Therefore, the Student Accounts Office may not be able to issue a refund prior to a student’s departure date, especially if he/she plans to travel before starting the program.

5. HOW MUCH CAN I BORROW?
A student can borrow a federal Stafford, a federal PLUS, and/or a Private Commercial loan (pending lender approval) for the summer period up to the Cost of Attendance. The COA budget will be determined by the “host school” on the completed Consortium Agreement. **Additionally, there is a CUA charge of $250 transient fee to all students visiting away.**

6. LOAN APPLICATION DEADLINE:
Submit a Stafford (if applicable), Grad PLUS, or Commercial loan application to the Financial Aid Office by mid-April. Check with the Financial Aid staff to make sure that you are using the correct loan application. Lenders revise their applications each year. **If applying for loans for the summer, you must use a 2008-2009 loan application.** Since 2009-2010 loan applications may be available in April, it would be in your best interest to indicate the loan period on your loan application and/or advise our office that the loan application is for the summer and not for the following year. Loan funds are transferred from the lender electronically in one disbursement making it more likely that a refund will be available before departure if applications are completed well in advance.

7. WHAT LOAN PERIOD SHOULD I USE ON MY APPLICATION?
When completing a Stafford, PLUS and/or Commercial loan application for, use June 09 – Aug 09 as your loan period.

8. WHAT SHOULD I DO ABOUT MY 2009-2010 FINANCIAL AID (FALL 2009 & SPRING 2010)?
You should take care of your Fall 2009 financial aid and check on the status before departing your summer program. Complete a 2009-2010 FAFSA form and submit loan applications to make sure there will be no delays. You can check on the status of your financial aid throughout the summer by contacting your lender or our office. More information is available on our website: [www.law.edu/finaid/rtrnborrower.cfm](http://www.law.edu/finaid/rtrnborrower.cfm).

9. Have you requested permission to visit away from the Academic Dean’s Office?
You must request permission to ‘visit away’ in writing from the Academic Dean. The Academic Dean will ask for course descriptions of the summer classes to verify that they are acceptable for transfer. Some schools require permission of the host school to visit there. Check with your program.

10. EMERGENCY LOANS?
Emergency (Keefe) loans are not available for summer abroad/away programs under any circumstances.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact our office directly at 202-319-5143 or fin-aid@law.edu.