



Due to the number of visas for which you will be applying and the complicated nature of the application process for these visas, SIT asks you to return this form acknowledging your understanding of the following information. SIT will send you visa application instructions during the three months preceding your departure for your program. It can take anywhere from several days to several weeks for a single consulate to process your visa application. Processing time and required materials will vary from country to country and consulate to consulate so it is important to begin as soon as possible to avoid delay. Please review the following points and provide all the requested information so that our office may begin preparing your visa documents.

Name (*print*): \_\_\_\_\_ Program Title: \_\_\_\_\_

### For all travelers, I understand that:

- I am solely responsible for obtaining the proper visa to participate on my SIT program which will cover me for the duration of my stay in each country.
- Applying for another type of visa other than what was instructed by SIT could prevent me from participating in the program.
- SIT cannot assist students planning to remain in any country for periods longer than the SIT program dates nor can it assist with pre or post program travel.
- The various consulates may change visa requirements and fees at any time. Before beginning the visa application process, I must verify the current required documents and fees requested by my consulate as they may differ from other consulates around the US.
- Issuance of visas is at the sole discretion of the respective consulates. SIT assumes no responsibility for the application process or if the participant's visa is delayed or denied.
- Some countries will issue a visa that becomes active as soon as it is issued, and then is no longer valid for the specified duration that is actually needed. I will pay close attention to this when researching the visa and once it is issued.
- Participating in international travel during the four months prior to the start of my program has the potential to prevent me from obtaining all of my required visas and is strongly discouraged.
- I understand that my enrollment may be withdrawn and that I will not be allowed to participate in the program if I have not obtained all required visas prior to arriving at the program launch venue.

### For non-US passport holders, I acknowledge that:

- It is my responsibility to make myself aware of the requirements pertaining to traveling on a non-US passport. Students traveling on a non-US passport may be subject to different or additional requirements and/or fees for obtaining a visa or meeting other conditions of entry into the countries visited during your program. I will contact the embassy of each country the program will be traveling shortly after being offered admissions to the program to confirm visa and/or entry requirements applicable to my country of citizenship and determine next steps while allowing plenty of time to apply.
- I am responsible for making sure I obtain a transit visa for any of the countries that the program has layovers in.
- Non US passport holders requiring supplemental supporting documents are responsible for notifying their admissions counselor of those needs in a timely fashion.
- Many countries require individuals to apply for visas in person at the relevant embassy or consulate located in their country of citizenship, though not always.
- If the foreign consulate(s) permits non-US passport holders to apply for the required visa from within the United States, applicants are encouraged to contact Travia Visa Services. As an experienced visa agent working closely with a number of SIT programs, Travia may be able to assist you in your visa application process.
- It is your responsibility to confirm and complete the visa application process particular to your situation, and to keep your admissions counselor informed.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call SIT at: 1-888 272 7881.

**Please complete both sides of this form and return to SIT through the student portal or via email to your Admissions Counselor or by mail to - SIT Study Abroad, 1 Kipling Road, Brattleboro, VT 05302**

**Permanent Mailing Address:** *Some consulates are jurisdictional and your permanent address determines which consulate will process your visa. SIT will prepare visa application supporting documents based on this address, and the consulate will require proof of your residency. We will also mail you any unique visa supporting documents during the three months immediately preceding the start of your program. These documents are necessary for your visa application and you cannot obtain a visa without them. Please note that we cannot provide the supporting documentation early under any circumstances.*

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**Special notes on your individual process** *(travel plans prior to program, non-US passport, etc.):*

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**By providing this information, I confirm my acknowledgement of the aforementioned points and that the information below is current and correct.**

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

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