

STUDY ABROAD APPLICATION

We are pleased that you are submitting your application to participate in Rio Salado College's (RSC) study abroad program to Portugal! All students and community members are eligible to apply. To ensure a healthy, comfortable, and educationally productive environment for students, faculty and the host institution, general qualifications for acceptance are based on: academic and student conduct background, two letters of recommendation, a personal statement of interest, and an interview with the program director.

PROGRAM NAME: Portugal Study Abroad

YEAR: Summer 2027

Legal Name: _____

Maricopa Email Address _____

If you do not have a Maricopa email address, please email the Program Director listed on the last page for further instructions

Academic Information

Are you currently enrolled in any Maricopa Community College or university?

Yes, list college(s): _____

No, I am not a current student

Are you pursuing a degree at any Maricopa Community College?

Yes, list college(s) and degree program: _____

Not seeking a degree

Are you currently receiving Federal Financial Aid at RSC or another institution?

Yes (if yes, when did your current semester start?) _____

No

Cumulative GPA _____

Are you applying for more than one program? If so, please list other program(s):

1. _____ 2. _____

List any other study abroad programs in which you have participated:

1. _____ 2. _____

Have you ever received a disciplinary warning or been on academic or disciplinary probation?

Yes

No

If yes, please list dates of probation and explain details of circumstances (attach another page). *Student academic and conduct records will be verified by the appropriate MCCCDC office.*

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS AND MEDICAL INFORMATION *(This information will be kept confidential.)*

Information for Students with Disabilities Who May Require Accommodations

While Rio Salado Community College will try to accommodate students with disabilities, some international programs may not comply with US Federal ADA guidelines for accommodation requirements. Students seeking accommodations are strongly encouraged to notify the [Disability Resources and Services](#) (DRS) office at (480) 517-8797 regarding their interest in a study abroad program and their accommodation/academic adjustment needs. The DRS Manager will meet with the student, the Program Director (or designee) and other relevant personnel to determine whether the student's needs can be accommodated, given the international nature of study abroad. If you have a disability that requires accommodations/academic adjustments, you will be required to participate in the interactive process. Only the DRS office can evaluate and grant reasonable accommodations/academic adjustments. For more information, see Maricopa County Community College (MCCCDC) [Administrative Regulation 2.8.1](#) Eligibility for Accommodations & Required Disability Documentation.

While abroad, you will be separated from your family, friends, typical daily routine, and the cultural norms you are used to. Trying to adapt to a new routine and/or nuances of an unfamiliar culture may exacerbate current disabilities or create concerns that otherwise were not present such as depression and/or anxiety, etc.

[Mobility International USA](#) (MIUSA) is a great resource for students with disabilities interested in traveling abroad.

Reasonable Adjustments for Pregnant Students

Students who are pregnant or are experiencing related conditions are entitled to reasonable adjustments to prevent sex discrimination and ensure equal access to MCCCDC's education program and activity. Any student seeking reasonable modifications must contact the Regional Director/Title IX Coordinator at (480) 517-8196 to discuss appropriate and available reasonable modifications based on their individual needs. Students are encouraged to request reasonable modifications as promptly as possible, although retroactive modifications may be available in some circumstances. Reasonable modifications are voluntary, and a student can accept or decline the offered reasonable modifications. Not all reasonable modifications are appropriate for all contexts. For more information, please review [Reasonable Adjustments](#).

Students experiencing pregnancy-related conditions that manifest as a temporary disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act are eligible for reasonable accommodations. The Regional Director/Title IX Coordinator will consult with Disability Resources and Services (DRS) to ensure the student receives reasonable accommodations for their disability as required by law.

☐	I require accommodations and have visited Disability Resources and Services. <i>(Check the box if applicable. If you fail to pre-disclose needed accommodations, you will not be guaranteed any provisions in the host country.)</i>
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Medications

Some countries (e.g. Japan) PROHIBIT certain medications (prescription/non-prescription) and/or may require that you obtain a medical provider note or prescription documentation. If you are in possession of illegal medications (even if you obtained them legally in the US) or do not have the proper documentation, your medications may be confiscated and you may be arrested and/or deported.

If you need medications for a medical/psychiatric condition while traveling abroad, check with the [embassy](#) of your host country to verify if those medicines are legal and to see if any additional documentation is required (e.g. original prescription, physician letter). If you need to make any changes to your medication, do so several months before departure, so you can have time to consult with your doctor on any resulting complications and have stability of your condition for travel. MIUSA has a great resource: [Medications When Traveling Internationally](#).

Application Deadline

Application Deadline: November 18, 2026

- ❑ *Apply early!* Space is limited. Late applications may be accepted at the discretion of the Program Director.
- ❑ Students will receive a response from the Program Director by no later than **November 24, 2026**. The Program Director may request a personal or group interview as part of the selection process.
- ❑ Accepted students will be required to complete pre-departure paperwork.
- ❑ Accepted students must make a **\$500 deposit** to secure their space by **December 1, 2026**. The deposit will be applied to the program fee and is **non-refundable after February 26**. All program fees are due by February 26, 2027.
- ❑ For more detailed information, please visit [Study Abroad](#)

PLEASE SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS (MUST be included for consideration)

Personal Statement of Interest reflecting on how the program will fulfill your academic, personal, and/or professional goals (*maximum of 1 page, double-spaced*)

Unofficial Transcript (downloadable from the Student Center link at the top of the [Maricopa Community Colleges page](#).)

TWO Letters of Recommendation from an instructor, advisor, or supervisor (*using attached template*)

Please submit this application including your personal statement of interest and an unofficial transcript combined into one submission to lamont.slater@riosalado.edu. The two letters of recommendation should be emailed directly to lamont.slater@riosalado.edu by the person completing the form. **INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED.**

YOUR SIGNATURE VERIFIES THE FOLLOWING:

I am aware that programs are open to all students and community members ages 18 years and above. I understand that my application will be reviewed and that I can be accepted or denied participation in the program based on availability.

I understand that I am participating in an ACADEMIC program that includes the following: attending all classes, completing all assigned work, taking all examinations at the scheduled days/times, as well as attendance at the pre-departure orientation, on-site lectures, excursions, events, projects, and post-program activities. I AGREE TO COMPLETE any REQUIRED PRE-DEPARTURE or POST-TRIP COURSEWORK (if applicable). I understand that non-compliance with these requirements may result in a failing grade and/or removal from the program.

During the application process, I will be asked to provide a minimum of TWO *non-familial* General Recommendations. These can come from current/past professors, advisors, supervisors at work, or someone in another supervisory capacity. If I am a community member, a waiver can be discussed with the program director. To send an electronic request, I must email the Program Director at lamont.slater@riosalado.edu. **Be careful not to enter your own contact information** to request your General Recommendation references.

If I require accommodations for a disability, I MUST notify [Disability Resources and Services](#) (DRS) as soon as possible. If I fail to engage in the interactive process with the DRS office, I will not be guaranteed any provisions in the host country. Physical exertion including long walks, uneven surfaces, and stairwells with no elevator access may be required in your program.*

After notification of acceptance, I must make a **\$500 deposit** at Rio's Student Business Services to secure my space **by December 1, 2026**. Upon acceptance, the deposit fee will be charged to my [Student Center](#). The deposit will be applied to the program fee.

I certify that I will meet financial obligations and will adhere to all program fee and tuition payment deadlines for my individual study abroad program (date listed in the Payment of Program Costs section of this application). Payments can be made by calling [Student Business Services](#) at 480.517.8330, paying in person at the RSC Student Business Services Office on the second floor, or by paying online in my Student Center (once charges have been posted).

If I am not a current Rio Salado College (RSC) student, I must submit an admissions application within the [Student Center](#) in order to make a deposit and register for Summer courses.

I agree to complete and return all pre-departure documents (i.e. passport, visa, required vaccination records, etc.) and information by deadlines required by the Program Director.

Since all communication occurs through email, **it is imperative that my email address is accurately updated in the student information system (SIS) and that I regularly check and be responsive in a timely manner to any communications** during the application process and prior to departure. I will check my spam folder to ensure I receive all messages regarding my study abroad program.

I have read and understand my rights and responsibilities as a student and agree to adhere to the policies under the [MCCCD Administrative Regulation 2.5 Student Conduct Code](#).

If I do not have a passport, I must allow 6-8 weeks for processing. The current passport cost is \$165. If it needs to be expedited (2-3 weeks processing time), there is an additional \$60 fee.

If accepted into the program, I must attend the mandatory orientation on **Saturday, May 15, 2027 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM**.

I certify that all information on this application is accurate as of the date of submission and agree to notify the Program Director, Dr. Lamont Slater, of any changes to the information presented on this application.

Signature

Date

**Students with disabilities are served under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act. Under these laws, universities and colleges must ensure that their programs do not discriminate against students with disabilities. However, U.S. laws do not govern foreign institutions, even when U.S. institutions collaborate with them. It is the student's responsibility to learn about the types of accommodations typically provided in the host country and consider their own openness to different ways of accommodating their disability.*

PLEASE SUBMIT COMPLETE APPLICATION TO:

Dr. Lamont Slater - SA Program Director

Rio Salado College
2323 W. 14th Street
Tempe, AZ 85281

Phone: 480-517-8071

Email: lamont.slater@riosalado.edu

Website: www.riosalado.edu/study-abroad



The Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD) is an EEO institution and an equal opportunity employer of protected veterans and individuals with disabilities. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, or national origin. A lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in the career and technical education programs of the District. The Maricopa County Community College District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs or activities. For Title IX/504 concerns, call the following number to reach the appointed coordinator: 480-731-8499. For additional information, as well as a listing of all coordinators within the Maricopa College system, visit <http://www.maricopa.edu/non-discrimination>

PERSONAL STATEMENT OF INTEREST
Rio Salado College Portugal Study Abroad Program
1-page maximum (about 300 words), typed and double-spaced

Applicant's Name _____

Year: 2027

Writing a paragraph, please reflect on the following:

- How does the content of the study abroad program relate to your present and future academic, personal, and/or professional goals.?
- What expectations do you have for your own personal growth as a result of your participation in this program?
- What cultural understanding do you hope to achieve during your abroad experience?

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

Rio Salado College: Portugal Study Abroad

(To be completed by an instructor, advisor or supervisor)

First Name _____ Last Name _____

is applying for admission to a Rio Salado College study abroad program.

Study Abroad Program	Program Director	Year
Portugal Study Abroad	Dr. Lamont Slater	2027

Participants in Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD) study abroad programs must possess the character, reliability, and maturity necessary to manage the demands of international travel, cross-cultural interactions, and intensive study schedules. As Maricopa Community College students, participants are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on themselves, the college, and the district, as well as their own culture and country.

Based on the above criteria, and your personal experiences with this student as their instructor, advisor, or supervisor, we would appreciate your candid assessment of their potential to benefit from, contribute to, and safely participate in a successful study abroad experience.

Please rate the applicant in the categories listed below. After completion, please email this form to RSC's Study Abroad Program Director, Dr. Lamont Slater, lamont.slater@riosalado.edu. If you have inadequate knowledge of the candidate in any area, please choose "Unable to Judge." Thank you for your prompt submission of this form to ensure that the applicant is considered for admission to the program.

Criteria	Outstanding	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Unable to Judge
Academic ability					
Capacity for Independent Study					
Written and Spoken Communication Skills					
Motivation					
Adaptability and Flexibility					
Common Sense and Judgment					
Maturity and Emotional Stability					
Self-Reliance and Independence					
Diligence and Perseverance					
Open-Mindedness					
Ability to Relate Well to Others					
Reliability					
Integrity					

Additional Comments

How long have you known the applicant?

Relationship to Applicant (advisor, instructor, supervisor, etc.)

Your Information

Your name

Title

Institution

Phone

Email

Signature and Date



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