



## International Wilderness Leadership School – IWLS

**Dates:** Semester, Academic Year, and Summer

**Location:** Various Locations

**Cost:** Costs vary according to location and program. Please read “Program Costs” section below.

**Additional Information:** International Wilderness Leadership School (IWLS) [www.iwls.com](http://www.iwls.com)

### The Program

The Department of Expeditionary Studies at the State University of New York College at Plattsburgh (SUNY Plattsburgh) and the International Wilderness Leadership School (IWLS) have formed a partnership that provides training in outdoor leadership, as well as academic credit in Expeditionary Studies at SUNY Plattsburgh. IWLS is a separate organization from SUNY Plattsburgh providing short-term and semester-long programs throughout the world and in a variety of fields: mountaineering, rock climbing, ice climbing, sea kayaking, skiing, snowboarding, backpacking etc... Program sites have included the U.S., Canada, Nepal, Tanzania, Ecuador, and Chile.

### Minimum Enrollment Eligibility

This program is open to all undergraduates who are currently enrolled as students at a university in the U.S.

### Academic Credit

The credits you earn through IWLS will be in Expeditionary Studies. Depending on the location and length of your program of choice, you can earn from 3-15 credits. However, you must do more than enroll in an IWLS program to earn academic credits. Please see the attached syllabus for more information.

### Program Costs

*All program cost are paid directly to SUNY Plattsburgh’s Study Abroad Office.*

You will pay for your IWLS program through SUNY Plattsburgh. IWLS determines the price for all of its programs. In addition, SUNY Plattsburgh charges a \$1,000 administrative fee for SUNY students and \$1,500 to all non-SUNY students. To determine the cost for the program you are interested in, go to the IWLS website ([www.iwls.com](http://www.iwls.com)) and add the appropriate administrative fee to that amount.

You are also required to pay a deposit to confirm your participation in the IWLS program when admitted. This deposit is made to SUNY Plattsburgh’s Study Abroad Office. The deposit is \$1,850. Please note that \$1,500 will be applied to the cost of your IWLS program and that \$350 of the deposit is not refundable. If you decided to withdraw from the program please refer to the IWLS refund policy for more information <http://www.iwls.com/register.html>.

You must also budget for equipment required for your program (usually indicated in the program description on the IWLS website), passports (currently \$110), visa (costs vary), airfare, pocket money, health insurance (\$150-\$500 depending on program), and any fees charged by your home institution while attending IWLS. SUNY Plattsburgh students will be billed for the Technology and College Fees only. Non-SUNY students will be billed for SUNY Plattsburgh’s College Fee. Other SUNY students may be responsible for fees on their campuses, but will not be billed for fees from Plattsburgh.

## **Financial Aid**

In many cases, U.S. Federal and New York State financial aid can be applied toward your IWLS program costs. If you want to use or apply for financial aid for your program, first complete the FAFSA (consult the financial aid office for more information). Once you have been accepted into a program, we will send you a budget letter. Make an appointment with your the financial aid office and take your budget letter with you. They will be able to determine which forms of aid you are eligible to receive based on your FAFSA results and the program's cost of attendance. Non-SUNY Plattsburgh students may have additional steps.

## **Insurance**

You must have health insurance while participating in an IWLS program. If your program takes place outside of the U.S., you must have international health, repatriation and evacuation insurances. The current prices for health insurance at SUNY Plattsburgh are \$454 per semester for international coverage and \$128 per semester for U.S. coverage. Some IWLS programs take place both inside and outside the U.S. If you choose one of these programs, you will need to purchase both policies.

You may waive the SUNY-contracted insurance policies if you have your own insurance with comparable coverage. To waive SUNY insurance, you must sign and return a waiver form to the Study Abroad and Exchanges Office with proof of medical insurance. Please be aware that most insurance policies limit or do not include coverage outside the U.S. Also, if your health insurance waiver is approved, you are required to maintain the repatriation and evacuation insurance. This insurance currently costs \$37.50 for one semester programs or \$6 per month.

Another insurance option is Travel Guard. You will need to purchase Travel Guard within two weeks of paying the deposit in order to receive the primary coverage (Umbrella Package). Travel Guard information and pricing is located on the following website: [www.iwls.com/insurance.html](http://www.iwls.com/insurance.html).

## **Transportation**

You are responsible for making your own travel arrangements to and from the origination and conclusion points for your IWLS program. You should not make any travel arrangements until you receive arrival and departure dates from IWLS.

## **Passports and Visas**

If your program is outside the U.S., you must have a passport. The U.S. Department of State issues passports for US citizens. To learn how to apply for a passport, please see: [www.travel.state.gov/passport/passport\\_1738.html](http://www.travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html). Apply for a passport as soon as you have been accepted to a program outside of the U.S.!

You may also be required to have a visa from your host country depending on your nationality and/or the amount of time you will be spending in the host country. If so, you will have to apply for your own visa and satisfy requirements of your host country's government. Neither IWLS nor SUNY Plattsburgh can obtain a visa for you. However, we will be happy to assist you.

## **Application Information**

To apply, you must submit the following: a completed SUNY Study Abroad application, a completed IWLS application, and a \$35 application fee to SUNY Plattsburgh's Study Abroad Office. You may request a copy of both applications from the Study Abroad and Exchanges Office.

**Application Deadline: Four months prior to the start date of the IWLS program.**

SUNY Plattsburgh, Study Abroad and Exchanges Office 101 Broad Street Plattsburgh, New York 12901 Phone: (518) 564-2321 / (800) 388-6784 Fax: (518) 564-2326 E-mail: <a href="mailto:studyaway@plattsburgh.edu">studyaway@plattsburgh.edu</a> <a href="http://www.plattsburgh.edu/academics/studyabroad">http://www.plattsburgh.edu/academics/studyabroad</a>
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