Parent & Family Pulse Poll – January 2014: Study Abroad Opportunities

Results (139 responses)

My student is a:		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
High school student	2.2%	3
Freshman	41.0%	57
Sophomore	25.2%	35
Junior	18.7%	26
Senior	10.1%	14
Grad student	2.9%	4

If your student told you that he or she is interested in studying abroad, what would be your reaction?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
I would be excited for my student and offer my full support for studying abroad	46.0%	64
I would support my student's interest in studying abroad, but with reservations	45.3%	63
I would be neutral about it	3.6%	5
I would not support my student's interest in studying abroad	5.0%	7
Other (please specify)		5

What questions do you have or what information do you need about studying abroad? (please check all that apply)

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Safety	73.4%	102
Expense	82.7%	115
Academic quality of programs	52.5%	73
Missing my student	9.4%	13
None	6.5%	9
Other (please specify)		15

Most parents and family members surveyed would support their student's interest in studying abroad. The most common questions about studying abroad were about the expenses involved and safety.

Tips from TTU's Study Abroad Department:

- Discuss with your student the reasons he/she wants to study abroad. The focus should be on the academic aspect of the program.
- Support them in their decision. Although you may have some reservations, your support is crucial to your student's success abroad.
- Stay in touch, but not as much. Study Abroad can be not only academically fulfilling, but a chance for your student to become more independent and self-sufficient. It's important that students 'take ownership' of their study abroad experience.
- Study Abroad's web site, www.studyabroad.ttu.edu, has great information on paying for study abroad, student safety while abroad, and student health while abroad.
- Encourage your student to attend the Study Abroad Fair, offered February 5, 2014, visit the Study Abroad website, and attend a Study Abroad information session offered Monday – Friday at 4 p.m. in the International Cultural Center on campus at 601 Indiana Ave.