Go abroad with ISEP

Gaye Eksen- International Relations
What is ISEP?

- ISEP is a network of more than 350 colleges and universities in 52 countries.
- non-profit organization
- 2 possibilities
  - ISEP-DIRECT = fee-paying
  - ISEP-Exchange = You basically switch places with another ISEP student: each pays fees for tuition, housing and meals to home university. Your host institution then covers these costs for you during your stay abroad.
What are the possibilities?

- ISEP has member universities across the world
- Just over half are in the US = popular destination for Leiden students
- Also e.g. Europe, Asia and – if you’re proficient in Spanish or Portuguese – South America
Application procedure
Step 1: internal selection (Deadline 1 December, 23:59 hrs!!!)

- ISEP is a part of university-wide program. First you apply to Leiden University International Relations office for internal selection via Study-Abroad Application System.
  - Choose “University-wide agreements” → United States (because you apply via the ISEP head office). Note that you can’t choose specific ISEP universities just yet! But you can mention them in your motivation letter!
  - Upload a certified transcript with your GPA on it.
  - Upload a motivation letter in which you motivate your top 3 ISEP member universities.
- International Relations office places and nominates you to ISEP.
Application procedure
Step 2: Application directly to ISEP
(deadlines: Feb 15 and Sep 1)

• Then you will apply directly to ISEP via ISEP online application
• Select up to 10 Universities (programs/sites). Find out which programs are open for Leiden University here.
  • Select 10 courses.
  • Motivate each choice of university.
• The head office decides which member university you may attend.
• You will always be placed somewhere.
• You pay the fixed costs in advance.
• You may need to do an English language test (TOEFL or IELTS) – scores vary per member institution.
• Initial language assessment may be needed (LPR)
Discover the world at Leiden University

Payments & legal requirements

• Registration fee to ISEP: US $ 100 non-refundable fee (during online application)
• Placement fee to ISEP: US $ 325
  • You need a credit card or you can pay by wire transfer.
• Housing and meals to LU: €3500 per semester (in June)
• Compulsory ISEP Student Health Insurance: US $ 77 per month (subject to change)
• Additional travel insurance
• Visa/Residence permit
### In short: timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 December 2017</td>
<td>Application deadline internal selection Leiden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-January</td>
<td>ISEP infosession for selected students</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 February 2018</td>
<td>Application deadline ISEP (for Fall 2018)</td>
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<td>1 September 2018</td>
<td>Deadline Spring 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 2018</td>
<td>Pre-departure meeting for all students</td>
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<tr>
<td>May-July 2018</td>
<td>Results from ISEP</td>
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<td>Mid-April 2018</td>
<td>Attend pre-departure orientation</td>
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<td>May-August 2018</td>
<td>Preparing your stay: insurance, visa, housing, scholarships, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 2018/January 2019</td>
<td>Start your exchange!</td>
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Questions & More information

• Go to the walk-in hours of the International Relations Office staff:
  • Mondays 9:30-12:00 Turfmarkt 99, The Hague
  • Mondays 13:00-16:00 at Plexus, PITStop
• Blackboard ➔ Study Abroad: Outside of Europe
• studyabroad@sea.leidenuniv.nl
• www.isep.org
• Facebook