To Affiliate or Not to Affiliate: Criteria for Institutions and Education Abroad Providers

2014 NAFSA Regions 10+11 Conference 28-30 October – Albany, NY

Criteria

Put a check in the first column for each criterion that you want your institution to consider in the decision to affiliate with an education abroad provider organization. Use the second column to rank the importance of each criterion. Make notes about who will assess each one, how it will be assessed, or questions you have about each one. Use the blank rows to add other criteria you want to consider.

1	Rank	Criterion	Notes
		Quality of overall programming	
		Crisis management procedures and protocols	
		Quality and rigor of academic offering	
		On-site support available	
		Housing options/assistance	
		Transferability of academic credit	
		Accredited host institutions	
		Overall reputation	
		Reputation of members/affiliated institutions	
		Overlap/complement to our existing options	
		Cost of program	
		Language of instruction	
		Courses similar to ours	
		Offers courses we don't	
		Scholarship opportunities	
		Discounts to students from affiliates	
		Recommendation/interest from faculty	
		Student interest	
		Visa assistance to students	
		Intercultural programming	

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Steps we need to take

Document the values, priorities, and goals of our institution Draft a list of criteria to consider

- Consider the criteria from the survey and session
- Consult/compare with similar institutions

Assemble a group to finalize the criteria

- Write up the goals and likely steps the group needs to take
- Determine who needs to be involved in affiliation decisions
- Obtain approval from _____ [whom?]
- Invite individuals (include goals and likely steps in invitation)
- Set a meeting date
- Send draft of criteria to members

Send final criteria to _____ [whom?]

Consider how public you are able and want to be with your criteria (post on website, share in writing with providers, etc.)

Assess current affiliations against the approved criteria, making adjustments as needed Create system for using approved criteria for future affiliation decisions

Agree on a calendar/cycle for reviewing and evaluating affiliation agreements

Agree on a calendar/cycle for reviewing, evaluating, and revising criteria and process

Who needs to be involved in the decision

Add a name, if you know it, and check whether the person needs to be involved in the decision to affiliate with an education abroad provider organization. Use the blank rows to add others who need to be involved at your institution.

Title/Name
President/Chancellor
Provost/Chief Academic Officer
International Programs Director
Education/Study Abroad Director
Academic Dean(s) or Department Chair(s) of
Internship Director
Risk Management Director
Legal Counsel