

2 Preparing for Departure

[Pre-departure Checklist Booklet](#)

Great to keep you on track as you get ready to go! Print it out and use it. We also have Pre-Departure meetings at the end of the semester where you can ask questions and get advice – watch our website for dates.

Required Travel Documents

You will need a passport and sometimes a student visa. If a visa is required, OIE/Auburn Abroad will help you complete the application.

Passport

[Apply for a passport](#) at the Lee County Justice Center, 2311 Gateway Drive, Opelika (Phone: 334-749-7141) You will need to apply for a new passport if you have never had one before, if your passport was issued before your 16th birthday, or if your passport has expired. In general, you'll need the following to apply:

- Application form
- Proof of your citizenship (an original birth certificate or a previous passport)
- Proof of identity (driver's license or a previous passport)
- Two identical 2" x 2" passport photos taken within six months
- Fees (\$97 for a new passport or \$60 to renew)

Allow 12 weeks for processing (check with OIE for updates). If your passport's expiration date is any earlier than 6 months after your planned return date, you will need to renew your passport before departure. This can be done by mail - see the State Dept. Passport Web Site for a downloadable form. This site also contains information about how you can also have your passport expedited if you are running out of time before your departure.

http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html