Emory Semester Programs
General GPA Eligibility Requirements and Waiver Process

For Emory semester programs, CIPA requires students to have a minimum 3.0 GPA. Some programs may require a higher GPA and/or language or area studies course pre-requisites.

Students with below 3.0 GPA are encouraged to petition to apply to certain programs. Students are also strongly encouraged to meet with a CIPA Advisor to discuss their interest in study abroad and to explore their program options. The following criteria are considered when assessing an application for acceptance:

- Clear articulation of how the study abroad program fits into the student's academic goals at Emory (in the CIPA essay)
- Strong grades in courses relevant to the study abroad program (language, area studies, other courses with relevant content to the program)
- GPA in the academic major/minor (weighs higher than overall GPA)
- Academic improvement over past two semesters (weighs higher than a low GPA freshman year or poor performance in 1-2 courses)
- Letters of recommendation from faculty members (indicating positive academic performance in recent courses)

In order to petition for a waiver, students must include the following in the CIPA semester application:

- Obtain two letters from faculty members supporting the request for a waiver. (If the program secondary application requires 2 letters of recommendation, students do NOT need two additional letters; if the program secondary application does not require letters, then students need to submit 2 letters for the petition process.)
- Address the request for a waiver in the CIPA application essay? give specific reasons that support the application to study abroad despite not meeting the specified pre-requisite, such as GPA requirement. Students are encouraged to meet with a CIPA Advisor to discuss the waiver essay.
- Schedule and attend an individual session with a Learning Specialist at Learning Programs in the Office for Undergraduate Education and follow recommendations suggested by the Learning Specialist. More information about Learning Programs is available at www.epass.emory.edu. To schedule an appointment, please contact Learning Programs at 404.727.5300.