

Managing Your Finances

You may handle your personal finances while in Bologna in following ways:

- **Personal checks - DUE TO NEW BANK RULES, THIS OPTION IS NOT AVAILABLE ANYMORE**

- **Credit / Debit cards and ATMs**

You may use a credit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, etc.) to withdraw euros from automatic teller machines outside most banks. Most U.S. banks provide account holders with ATM cards, and these can also be used to take money directly from your account. Most cards have a limit on the amount of cash that can be drawn per day so you should not depend on this for large amounts such as your rental deposit. Contact your credit card company to request a PIN (personal identification number), which is the code you must enter in order to carry out such a transaction. We recommend usage of credit cards for emergencies only as the fees are generally higher than on ATM cards.

- **U.S. Loans**

Extra funds from loans cannot be issued to students until the loan has been approved, processed and disbursed. Therefore, you should not count on having such funds available immediately upon arrival in order to cover your living expenses. Loan refunds can only be issued after the first day of classes.

- **Bank accounts in Italy**

If you wish to open a bank account in Italy you will first need to obtain a *codice fiscale*. Charges for opening a bank account vary from bank to bank and can be high.

Further information can be obtained from the SAIS Europe Business office upon your arrival. If you have a checking account (current account) in your home country,

you may write and cash checks in Italy thanks to special agreements between SAIS Europe and a local bank.

Banking hours are from 8:20 am to 1:20 pm, Monday through Friday. Banks are closed on Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays. Questions regarding payment of deposits, tuition or other expenses should be addressed to the SAIS Europe Business Office at: sais.eu.business@jhu.edu. Please do not send inquiries to the Registrar or Admissions Office.