



Study Abroad Scholarship Guide as of September 19, 2019

Please note all applications are being continuously updated. Please check with the scholarship organization for the most up-to-date eligibility and application details upon applying.

CUNY Chancellor's Global Scholarship (CGS)

Award Amount: The most common award amount is \$1,000. A small number of applicants with the highest rankings may receive \$1,250, \$1,500, or \$1,750.

Winter Intersession 2020 deadline: October 23, 2019

Summer 2020 deadline: TBD

Application Requirements

Essay that answers the following questions:

- Why do you wish to study abroad and what factors led you to this decision?
- What do you hope to gain from and what do you anticipate will be the impact of your experience abroad?
- Describe your study abroad program. What factors led you to select this program and length of study?
- Why have you chosen your country of study? What factors led you to select this country?
- How will this study abroad program and the coursework you take abroad shape your academic and future professional goals?
- Are there any distinctive components to this program, beyond coursework, that will influence your overall learning experience abroad? (e.g., home-stays, internships, field research, volunteer activities, extra-curricular activities, etc.)
- What challenges, if any, did you face in your decision to study abroad? How did you meet these challenges and what impact do you foresee them having on your experience abroad? These could include, but are not limited to, being a parent, being a non-traditional student, having a learning or physical disability, being in a field of study for which it is difficult to incorporate study abroad, etc.

Eligibility Requirements

- Undergraduate student at a CUNY community or senior college at the time of enrollment in the study abroad program.
- Study abroad program must be credit bearing and fit into the student's degree plan. If selected, applicants must submit documentation showing that the course(s) fit into her or his major, minor, Pathways or elective requirements, or CGS will rescind the award.
- The study abroad application must be complete by the CGS deadline, not the program deadline.
- Applicants are encouraged to consider CUNY study abroad programs, including those offered by other CUNY campuses by EPermit. Non-CUNY study abroad programs must be approved by the study abroad office or international education liaison at the student's home college.

- A completed FAFSA application for the 2018-19 academic year (apply here). (Applicants must be either U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens according to FAFSA rules).

Note: Prior recipients of a CGS award are ineligible.

Selection Criteria

- Merit, as demonstrated by the student's academic record.
- Ability to benefit, as demonstrated by the personal statement.
- Prior study abroad experience (preference if this will be the applicant's first study abroad experience).
- Need, as demonstrated by the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) generated by your FAFSA application.

Funds for Education Abroad (FEA)

Award Amount: \$1,250 – \$10,000 for programs 28 days or longer

Summer 2020 application deadline: September 10, 2019 12:00 PM EDT

Application Requirements

- Two (2) essays with a maximum of 750 words each
- Reference from a professor, advisor, or supervisor
- Financial aid form
- Unofficial transcript

Eligibility Requirements

- U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- Currently enrolled as an undergraduate at a college or university in the U.S. (*graduate students are not eligible*)
- Study abroad program must be eligible for credit at the student's home institution
- Study abroad program must be at least 4 weeks (28 days) in country/countries

*FEA gives preference to students with demonstrated financial need, and strongly encourages students to apply who represent a group traditionally underrepresented in education abroad. These groups include, but are not limited to

- first-generation college students
- minority students
- community college students

Dedicated Scholarships

- [Foundation for Global Scholars](#) for young adults aspiring to create change in their local communities and on a global scale.
- [Hiliary Echo Douglas Scholarship](#) for students planning to study abroad in Vietnam or within Southeast Asian cultures.

- [Jane Gluckmann and Carol Rausch Global Scholarship](#) for students planning to study abroad in Mexico, Central America, France, or Germany.
- [Rainbow Scholarship](#) for LGBTQI students who aim to participate in high-quality, rigorous education abroad programs.

Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship

Award Amount: Award amounts range from \$100 to \$5,000 (with the opportunity to receive a Critical Need Language Award of up to \$8,000)

Cycle 1 (Winter 2020 and Summer 2020)

Application deadline: October 1, 2019 11:59 PM Central Daylight Time

Cycle 2 (Summer 2020 and Winter 2021)

Application window: mid-January 2020 to March 3, 2020 11:59 PM (Central Daylight Time)

Application Requirements

- Two (2) essays (statement of purpose, community impact)
- Un/official transcript
- Certifications from study abroad and financial aid advisors

Eligibility

- U.S. citizenship
- Good academic standing at an accredited institution of higher education in the United States (including both two-year and four-year institutions)
- Receipt of a Federal Pell Grant during the time of application or provide proof that they will be receiving a Pell Grant during the term of their study abroad program or internship
- Applying to, or accepted for, a study abroad or internship program of at least two weeks for community college students and three weeks for students from four-year institutions, in a single country or area and eligible for credit from the student's home institution. Proof of program acceptance is required prior to award disbursement
- Applying for credit-bearing study abroad programs in a country or area with an overall Travel Advisory Level 1 or 2, according to the U.S. Department of State's Travel Advisory System. However, certain locations within these countries or areas may be designated within the Travel Advisory as either "do not travel to" (Level 4) or "reconsider travel to" (Level 3) locations, as such; students will not be allowed to travel to these specific locations. Moreover, students are not eligible to apply for programs in a country or area with an overall Level 3 or 4 Travel Advisory.

The U.S. Department of State reserves the right to request program changes for specific countries or areas if deemed necessary during any stage of the application, selection process, or program period. Final awards are contingent upon the availability of funds and the security situation in country. Furthermore, programs in progress may be suspended at the request of the U.S. Embassy in country should security situation deteriorate during the course of the program. Gilman Scholarship recipients can only receive the scholarship once. If a student previously declined the Gilman Scholarship, they are welcome to re-apply, as long as they still meet all eligibility requirements.

Selection Criteria

Academic performance, particularly in the applicant's major is important, though there is no minimum grade point average for this scholarship. Study abroad advisors at applicants' home institutions deem students eligible to participate in a study abroad program based on their academic standing at their home institutions. Applicants must demonstrate the maturity needed to benefit from their experience abroad, and they should be able to describe the expected outcome of their program participation towards their future academic and career objectives. Students' transcripts are reviewed to certify the academic information provided in their applications. Students should disclose academic challenges and choices for consideration of their application evaluation.

Diversity of background and experience

The program seeks participation by the broadest group of American undergraduate students with financial need who will benefit from the knowledge and skills they acquire when studying abroad. By supporting students who have high financial need, the program has been successful in supporting students who have been historically under-represented in education abroad, including but not limited to

- first-generation college students
- STEM students
- racial and ethnic minority students
- students with disabilities
- students attending minority-serving institutions and community colleges
- students from U.S. states with less study abroad participation.

Gilman will consider this information in the context of the overall impact the proposed study abroad experience will have on the student and the student's ability to be a strong representative of the Gilman Program during the study abroad program. Candidates who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States will be given preference, provided their qualifications are approximately equivalent to those of other candidates.

Destination

A successful applicant will demonstrate a coherent link between their proposed program abroad activities and their future academic and/or career plans, as well as personal development goals. Students should detail the different aspects of their program and articulate how their participation and receipt of the Gilman Scholarship would support the achievement of their goals. The program encourages students to study and intern in a diverse array of countries and world regions. Candidates who are studying in underrepresented countries will be given preference, provided their qualifications are approximately equivalent to those of other candidates.

Under-represented countries are in the following regions:

- Eastern Europe
- Middle East & North Africa
- Sub-Saharan Africa
- East Asia and the Pacific (with the exception of Australia, China, Japan, and South Korea)
- South and Central Asia

Community Impact

The mission of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs' is to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries by means of educational and cultural exchange. The Gilman Program plays an essential role in achieving this mission, because study abroad IS a form of diplomacy. Gilman Scholars represent the United States as citizen diplomats in their host communities; they reflect a diversity of values, beliefs, and opinions that is fundamental to

providing a balanced representation of the United States abroad. Gilman Scholars are expected to contribute to the goal of building mutual understanding by sharing what it means to be an American, learning about the host culture, and building meaningful relationships.

Upon return to the United States, Gilman Scholars have the opportunity to inspire the next wave of students to study or intern abroad through the required Follow-on Service Project. The goal of the Follow-on Service Project is for Gilman Scholars to increase awareness of study abroad and the Gilman Scholarship among their peers in their home communities and campuses. A successful Follow-on Service Project proposal will be feasible, utilize one's experience abroad, and connect to diverse groups of Americans.

Critical Need Language Award (separate essay for countries deemed important to national security)

Essay Instructions

- Compose your essays in a word document outside of the online application. Once you complete your essays, copy and paste them into the text boxes provided in the online application. Your session will timeout after 45 minutes of inactivity, so please save your work accordingly.
- Your essay should be in paragraph format, not as numbered responses to the questions in the application.
- There is a 7,000-character limit (including spaces) for the Statement of Purpose and 6,000-character limit for the Community Impact Essay. This is approximately 1.5 pages, single-spaced in a word document. The optional Critical Need Language Award essay has a 2,000-character limit (including spaces).
- Do not format (i.e. bold, underline, italics) your essays in the word document because your formatting will not transfer to the online application.
- Ensure that your essays address the prompt/theme.

Statement of Purpose

The Statement of Purpose essay is an important factor in the selection process. You should carefully review your essay and ask an advisor to proofread your essay for spelling, grammar, and content prior to submission. In your essay, be specific in describing your individual reasons for studying abroad, keeping in mind that this is a scholarship for academic study abroad and credit-bearing international internships. Please address all of the following questions, in no particular order (7,000 character maximum)

- Why did you select your specific program and host country?
- What knowledge, skills, and experiences will you draw on to meet these challenges?
- What aspects of studying or interning abroad do you expect to be the most challenging for you?
- How will studying or interning abroad help you achieve your future academic or professional goals?

Community Impact

The community impact essay is an equally important factor in the selection process. You should carefully review your essay and ask an advisor to proofread your essay for spelling, grammar, and content prior to submission (6,000 character maximum). Gilman Scholars represent the United States as citizen diplomats in their host communities; they reflect a diversity of values, beliefs, and opinions that is fundamental to providing a balanced representation of the United States abroad. Gilman Scholars are expected to contribute to the goal of building mutual understanding by sharing what it means to be an American, learning about the host culture, and building meaningful relationships. Make a case for how you will serve as an effective citizen diplomat abroad.

- When you are overseas, how will you contribute to the mission of building mutual understanding between the people of your home community and the people of your host community?

The goal of the Follow-on Service Project is for Gilman Scholars to increase awareness of study abroad and the Gilman Scholarship among their peers in their home communities and campuses. Summarize your Follow-on Service Project Proposal in paragraph format by addressing all of the following questions, in no particular order.

- What are your project goals?
- Who is your target population/audience and why did you select them?
- How will you integrate the impact of your experience abroad into your project?
- What, if any, campus departments, student organizations, or community organizations will you collaborate with in bringing awareness to study abroad and the Gilman Scholarship?

Critical Language Scholarship

Program Benefits

- Fully-funded intensive overseas group-based language courses (20+ hours/week) at host community language partners
- U.S. academic credit
- Costs for airfare, tuition, room and board, often with host family
- Cultural program
- Small stipend for incidentals and meals
- Related costs for a mandatory pre-departure orientation in Washington, D.C.
- Applicable visa fees (and possible visa assistance)
- Program-sponsored travel within the host country
- All entrance fees for program activities

Not covered: U.S. Passport fees, medical exam fees for finalists

Summer 2020 application window: September 12, 2019 – November 19, 2019

Language Levels Offered

All levels

- Azerbaijani
- Bangla
- Hindi
- Indonesian
- Persian
- Punjabi
- Swahili
- Turkish
- Urdu

Advanced Beginning, Intermediate, Advanced

- Arabic
- Korean
- Portuguese
- Russian

Intermediate, Advanced

- Chinese
- Japanese

Application Requirements

- Short answer essays (4)
- Statement of purpose
- Recommendation letters (2)
- Unofficial transcript

Tips for a successful application

Eligibility

- U.S. citizenship
- Enrollment for the Fall 2019 term in an accredited U.S. degree-granting program at the undergraduate (associate, bachelor) or graduate (master, doctoral, professional) level. If you are not taking classes at your home institution in the fall term, please confirm that you enrolled in classes. Institutions have different requirements to maintain enrollment status and you will be required to provide a signed letter from your registrar confirming your enrollment during the fall term.
- If you are taking a leave of absence to participate in an organized term- or year-long study abroad program, or to participate in a substantive internship program, you may request an exception to the enrollments requirement. Exceptions may be granted in these two cases only, and decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis.
- In either case, you must submit a signed letter from your home college or university in the U.S. explaining your situation and your intention to re-enroll following the completion of your study abroad or internship program. You must also submit documentation from the program provider explaining the opportunity and confirming your participation. This documentation may be submitted to American Councils by email at cls@americancouncils.org.
- Successful completion of academic requirements for the fall term. Students who withdraw or fail to maintain a passing grade average are not eligible to participate in the program.
- Born on or before May 15, 2002
- If an undergraduate (i.e., bachelor or associate), complete at least one full-time equivalent year of study (i.e., two semesters or three quarters) by the beginning of the CLS program.

Applicants may apply only once for one language program each summer. Applicants who submit multiple applications are ineligible.

Note: Individuals may receive CLS awards no more than twice.

Selection Criteria

Commitment to Language Learning

Successful applicants

- articulate a motivation for learning the language for which they are applying.
- demonstrate that they have leveraged available resources to develop appropriate foreign language skills for the CLS Program.
- commit to further developing their language skills and cultural knowledge after participating in the CLS Program.

Connection between Language and Goals

Successful applicants

- Show that the language and cultural knowledge they gain on the CLS Program will have an impact on their academic, personal and professional development.
- Show that the language and cultural knowledge they gain is integral to their future plans.

Preparation for the CLS Program

Successful applicants

- Show that they understand the challenges of the CLS Program as a group-based, intensive, study abroad program, and that they are prepared to meet these challenges.
- Articulate how their academic, professional and personal experiences have prepared them to succeed on the CLS Program.

Background Knowledge, Adaptability and Sensitivity

Successful applicants

- Exhibit knowledge of the host culture and/or language appropriate to their linguistic and academic level.
- Show the ability to interact with people and situations that require adaptation.

Contribution to the CLS Program and Program Goals

Successful applicants

- Have considered what their unique experiences, perspectives and/or background might contribute to the program.
- Make a good case for how they will contribute to the mission of building mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of their host communities.

Additional Considerations

Successful applicants

- All other factors being equal, the CLS Program gives preference to veterans of the United States armed forces.
- All other factors being equal, applicants are selected with the goal of representing geographic diversity and a diversity of institutions and fields of study.
- Preference may be given to candidates with limited or no previous study abroad experience.

Gilman-McCain Scholarship

Amount Awarded: The Gilman-McCain Scholarship recipients receive \$5,000 to use toward the cost of study abroad or international internship programs.

Programs that start December 2019-October 2020

Application deadline: October 1, 2019 11:59 PM Central Daylight Time

For overseas programs that start May 2020-April 2021

Application deadline: March 3, 2020 11:59 PM Central Daylight Time

Eligibility

Applicants must be:

- a citizen of the United States.
- an undergraduate student in good standing at an accredited institution of higher education in the United States (including both two-year and four-year institutions).
- a dependent child of an active duty military member(s) during the time of application in one of the following branches: Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Coast Guard.
- a recipient of any type of Title IV federal financial aid during the time of application or provide proof that they will be receiving Title IV federal financial aid during their study abroad program or internship.
- in the process of applying to, or accepted for, a study abroad or internship program of at least two weeks for community college students and three weeks for students from four-year institutions, eligible for credit from the student's home institution. Multi-country/area programs are eligible and have no minimum requirement on length of time spent in one country and no maximum number of countries in a program. Proof of program acceptance is required prior to award disbursement.
- applying for credit-bearing study abroad programs in a country or area with an overall Travel Advisory Level 1 or 2, according to the U.S. Department of State's Travel Advisory System. However, certain locations within these countries or areas may be designated within the Travel Advisory as either "Do not travel to" (Level 4) or "Reconsider travel to" (Level 3) locations, as such; students will not be allowed to travel to these specific locations. Moreover, students are not eligible to apply for programs in a country or area with an overall Level 3 or 4 Travel Advisory.

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Additional Resources

[National and local scholarships](#)

[Financing your trip](#)