Education abroad
Scholarships

Presented by the Center for Education Abroad
University of Rochester
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Why apply for scholarships?

• Scholarships can make the difference between being able to afford going abroad, or not, especially for short-term programs

• Being awarded a scholarship is something to highlight on your résumé

• You may develop better writing skills

• Students who earn scholarships are more likely to be awarded scholarships or fellowships in the future

• It will prepare you to write fellowship applications
Myths about education abroad scholarships…

• They’re unattainable
• They’ll pay for my airfare
• I’ll receive them in the form of a check
• I have to have a 4.0 GPA
• Scholarships will negatively affect my financial aid
• They’re only available if I earn academic credit
• I can’t receive more than one scholarship
• Nobody will help me with the application process
Out of pocket expenses

• Airfare
• Books
• Public transportation
• Passports and visas
• Personal travel
• Personal expenses (e.g., toiletries, events, going out)
• Meals  (some housing types, e.g. homestay, include 1-3 meals/day. Some programs offer a food stipend)

=> START SAVING your MONEY NOW
Eligibility

Eligibility can vary by type of scholarship or grant. Here are some considerations:

- Citizenship
- GPA
- Field(s) of study
- Length of study — UR aid/scholarships apply to UR semester/academic year programs only
- Language proficiency
- Study abroad location
  - *International students:* plan to spend time researching, using the resources at our website, as there are fewer scholarships for international students
Things to be aware of:

• Deadlines are not flexible

• *Do not wait* until the last minute to request official transcripts, letters of recommendation, etc.

• Writing essays or personal statements requires time and effort

• Outside scholarships/awards may affect your financial aid package

• Understand the application requirements and complete by the deadline.

• Give yourself plenty of time to prepare the application

• Scholarships are not awarded for poorly-written applications

• Talk to your financial aid counselor about how a scholarship may affect you.
Sources of Scholarships

• Program-specific
  e.g., CIEE, IES Abroad, UR exchange
  Usually available to students of any citizenship

• National or Federal
  e.g., Boren, Gilman
  Usually available to U.S. citizens only

• Clubs or private organizations
  • e.g., Golden Key Honor Society

• Offered by UR
  • e.g., Hajim International Experience Scholarship, Burton for summer foreign language study
    • Usually available to students of any citizenship

• Also consider crowdfunding –
  • e.g. GoFundMe or FundMyTravel.com
    (note that funds are considered taxable income)
What about loans, Pell Grant, …?

• **Semester study**
  UR programs: your UR aid and scholarships apply toward your charges (UR tuition, standard housing, CMC box fee)
  --UR tuition and CMC box fee if going on an exchange programs

• **Summer/short-term study**
  Regular UR aid/scholarships do not apply
  •Must be registered for 6 credit hours to be eligible for Pell or federal loans
  --The amount of Pell eligibility for the summer will be based on your EFC and it does not impact the amount of Pell they you receive in the fall.

**Outside Scholarships**
The amount of the outside scholarships received will reduce the work-study and loan awards before reducing university need-based grants. The combination of outside awards and Rochester-packaged awards may not exceed a student’s institutional need or cost of attendance.
Types of Scholarships

--Need-based

- Application asks for financial documentation, for example, copy of your FAFSA and confirmation by your Financial Aid Counselor

--Merit-based

- Application may ask for personal statement, letter(s) of recommendation, transcript

It is possible to apply for more than one type of aid/scholarship and to be awarded more than one.
THE WRITING, SPEAKING, AND ARGUMENT PROGRAM

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writing.rochester.edu
**Tutoring at the Writing Center**

**WHO WE ARE:** a diverse group of writers from across the academic disciplines who provide constructive feedback and teach writing skills and processes to enhance every author’s voice and purpose.

**OUR MISSION:** to build a strong community of writers, readers, and researchers, guided by advice from an interdisciplinary faculty committee.

**WHERE WE ARE:** Rush Rhees Library, Ground Floor (RR G-122)  
(585) 273-3584  
wsap@ur.rochester.edu  
writing.rochester.edu
Tutoring at the Writing Center

- Our motto is: All writers need readers! (Especially for high-stakes writing.)

- Types of tutors: Writing Consultants, Writing Fellows, & Speaking Fellows

- All tutors can help at any stage of the process (from the prompt to polishing).
A TYPICAL APPOINTMENT

Tutoring sessions are based on your goals & questions

Consultants can help with:

- **Discovery** (e.g., Figuring out what to include/exclude)
- **Focus** (e.g., What is your purpose? Is this central message getting through clearly?)
- **Cohesion** (e.g., Are there gaps in your narrative? Missing information/connections? Do sentences and paragraphs connect across the text?)
- **Structure** (e.g., Does the text demonstrate reader-based organization? Does it address the prompt?)
- **Polishing** (e.g., Is the text free of errors? Does the style work for this purpose/audience?)
SCHEDULING APPOINTMENTS

Appointments: Monday-Friday, 9am-6pm in RR G-122
Tip: See our website for walk-in hours if appointments are full!

Scheduling appointments (50 minutes):
- Online: http://writing.rochester.edu and click the “schedule an appointment” link
- Call 273-3577 or stop by the Writing Program’s main office, Rush Rhees G-122.
WRITING GROUPS

What is a writing group? Small groups of writers who meet & write together once a week for 2 hours. Each person:

• Shares their writing goal for that day
• Writes!
• Shares their progress/next steps

Each group is led by a Writing Fellow.

What can I work on? Any academic, professional, or creative writing.

Why should I join one? A writing group can provide:

• A regular schedule for writing
• Focused time for writing
• A sense of accountability & community
WRITING GROUPS

How do I join?

• Visit our site: writing.rochester.edu
• Click, “Undergraduates,” then “Writing Groups”
• Log in using your NetID credentials
• Pick a group that fits your schedule
• Your group leader will be in touch with you to confirm your first meeting

Questions? Problems? Suggestions? Email the Writing Groups Coordinator, Rachel Lee: rachel.lee@rochester.edu
Words and terms to avoid when writing essays for education abroad applications and scholarships

- amazing
- being that
- exotic
- random
- hopefully (unless you use it correctly)
- immerse myself
- incredible/incredibly
- first hand / first-hand / firsthand

Common errors

**INCORRECT:**
- Clustering
- Combining together
- new country
- new culture
- new language
- Plan on/Planning on
- People/students that
- School

**CORRECT:**
- completing a cluster of courses in …
- combining
- another / different country
- another / different culture
- another / different language
- Plan to / planning to
- people/students who
- college or university

DON’T JUST SPELL-CHECK; **PROOFREAD YOUR ESSAYS!**
Boren Scholarships

- **Boren Scholarships** are for U.S. citizens who wish to study abroad for a semester, academic year, or (STEM students only) summer, in non-traditional locations.
- Applicants must show dedication to study of critical languages
- Interest in areas of national security
- Longer-term study abroad is preferred
- Special opportunities for [ROTC students](#), e.g., [Project Go](#) alumni
- Special opportunities in [Africa](#), [India](#), and [Indonesia](#)
- Summer awards for [STEM students](#) only; program length of 8 weeks or longer
- Awards up to $8000 for summer study, $10000 for semester study
- **One** application deadline per year (UR internal deadline 1/25/19)
Boren Scholarships Eligibility

- U.S. citizen
- Matriculated at time of application and until Scholarship is complete
- Study abroad program must include formal study of a critical language, e.g. Arabic, Swahili, Urdu
- Study outside of North America, Western Europe, Australia, New Zealand.
- Preferred fields of study
- Commitment to government service. Recipients commit to working in the federal government for at least one year after graduation.
- Applicant webinars: https://borenawards.org/webinars
Gilman Program’s Impact

71% would not have been able to study abroad without the Gilman Scholarship

87% were the first in their family to study abroad

15% participated in career oriented experiences

25,000+ U.S. undergraduates of high financial need

1,200+ U.S. institutions represented

140+ countries
2,900+ Scholarships Available

Scholarships up to $5,000

- Summer
- Fall
- Spring
- Academic Year

Critical Need Language Awards up to $8,000, plus access to proficiency testing

- Arabic
- Azerbaijani
- Bangla
- Chinese
- Hindi
- Indonesian
- Japanese
- Korean
- Persian
- Portuguese
- Punjabi
- Russian
- Swahili
- Turkish
- Urdu

CNLA requires an additional short essay in the application to be considered for this award.
Eligibility

- U.S. citizen
- Undergraduate student
- Federal Pell Grant
- Academic Credit
- Minimum three weeks (21 days) OR two weeks (14 days) if at community college
- Studying in a country with an overall Travel Advisory Level 1 or 2
How to Apply

Online Application
(program + essays + transcript(s) + advisors)

Advisor Certifications
(Study Abroad & Financial Aid)
Timelines & Deadlines

Spring or Summer (Early Application)
- Application Opens: Mid-August
- Applicant Deadline: 1st Tues. October
- Advisor Deadline: 2nd Tues. October

Summer or Fall or Academic Year
- Application Opens: Mid-January
- Applicant Deadline: 1st Tues. March
- Advisor Deadline: 2nd Tues. March

*11:59pm Central Time

Check Gilman website for future dates and deadlines.

https://www.gilmanscholarship.org
Where to find scholarship information

- UR Education Abroad scholarships page
  - http://www.rochester.edu/college/abroad/students/scholarships.html
- UR Financial Aid office
  - https://enrollment.rochester.edu/financial-aid/
- Fund for Education Abroad
  - http://fundforeducationabroad.org/
- Hajim School Research and Scholarship Opportunities
  - http://www.hajim.rochester.edu/studyabroad/scholarships_research_opportunities.html
- **Gilman Scholarship** (US citizen + Pell Grant recipient)
  - Gilman Scholarship application videos: https://www.gilmanscholarship.org/resources/videos/
- **Boren Scholarship** (US citizen + non-traditional location + language study)
  - GoAbroad.com resources https://www.goabroad.com/scholarships-abroad
  - Scholarship application tips
  - GoAbroad.com **Guide to Funding Student Travel**
    - https://www.goabroad.com/articles/scholarships-abroad/student-travel-scholarships
Go abroad!

To begin your journey, attend an Education Abroad Info Session
The schedule is here: http://www.rochester.edu/College/abroad/