

Study Abroad Scholarship Application Instructions

Step I – The Student must meet all the eligibility criteria required for study abroad scholarship program and be accepted to participate in a program.

Step II – Check the deadline for scholarship application submission on the GSU website, program information handout or by contacting the Study Abroad Coordinator.

Step III – Complete and submit all of the following supporting documentation to the Office of International Services – GMT168 with the attention to the Study Abroad Coordinator:

1. Study Abroad Scholarship Application Form
2. Statement of Purpose Essay with Follow-on Project
3. Two letters of recommendation or recommendation forms filled out by academic or professional references.
4. A current copy of your resume

Statement of Purpose Essay with Follow-on Project Specifics:

- 500-1000 words
- Typed, one-inch margins, double-spaced, 12 pt. font
- Include one-line header in the top-right corner with your Name and Student ID
- Pay attention to detail in terms of grammar and style

The essay is comprised of three parts. Please read below for details.

1. **Reasons for Studying Abroad** – Address the impact that your study abroad program will have on your academic, professional, and personal goals. You should also address the impact that receiving the Study Abroad Scholarship would have on your achievement of these goals.
2. **Challenges** – What challenges, if any, did you face in your decision to study or intern 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.
3. **Follow-on Project Proposal** – The Follow-on Project Proposal is your chance to explain how you will give back by inspiring others to pursue their own experiences abroad. To help expand the impact of the GSU Study Abroad Scholarship Program, all scholarship recipients are required to carry out a Follow-on Project that helps to promote international education and study abroad. This project can be done virtually while you are abroad, on your home campus or in your local community and must be completed within six months of your return to the United States. All applicants must describe their project proposal within the essay as part of and this proposal is closely reviewed during the selection process.

Step IV – Scholarships are awarded based on basic eligibility criteria, cumulative GPA, essay with follow-up project, letters of recommendation and overall impression. Students who are awarded will be notified as to the decision on their application within one month after the application deadline and provided additional information and details on the award.

**Note: Students can receive one GSU Study Abroad Scholarship per academic year.*

Study Abroad Scholarship Application

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ M.I.: _____

GSU ID: _____ Gender: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy): _____ Phone: _____

Major(s): _____ Minor(s): _____ Cumulative GPA: _____

Expected Graduation Date: _____

Program Destination: _____ Program Semester: _____

Program Title Abroad: _____

Program Dates: _____ Course Number: _____

I plan to take the course for credit: Yes No, I plan to audit*

**Note: Auditing is an option for some programs, it is a way for students to participate who do not need course credit. Students pay \$75 instead of tuition.*

Current Student Status

Undergraduate – (circle one) Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior

Graduate

Doctoral

Honors

Non-degree

Certificate

Previous scholarship awards received by GSU* _____

**Note: Students can receive one GSU Study Abroad Scholarship per academic year.*

Application Checklist

Completed scholarship application

Statement of Purpose Essay with Follow-on Project

Two letters of recommendation

A current copy of your resume

I understand it is my responsibility to make sure all of the application materials are submitted to the Office of International Services by the deadline. If my application is incomplete, I understand that I may not be considered for an award.

Student signature

Date

Submit the Study Abroad Scholarship application and required documents to:

Attn: **Study Abroad Scholarship Committee**

Governors State University

1 University Parkway, GMT 168

University Park, IL 60484

Study Abroad Scholarship Recommendation Form and Instructions

Instructions for Student: Complete information below, print and sign two forms and give to an academic or professional reference. At least one reference must be from a GSU faculty member or academic advisor. We WILL NOT accept recommendation forms that are not in a sealed envelope.

Instructions for Recommender: The below named student is applying for a study abroad scholarship through Governors State University and has listed you as a reference. The GSU Study Abroad Scholarship Committee appreciates a frank appraisal on your part of the applicant, particularly with regards to the applicant's ability to successfully carry out studies in a foreign environment. Please comment specifically on the applicant in terms of the following: a) academic suitability; b) personal suitability; c) weaknesses; d) strengths e) linguistic preparation, if applicable; and any other factors relevant to the applicant's ability to participate successfully in a study abroad program.

Please write clearly or attach your typed comments on a separate sheet. Thank you for assisting us in the evaluation of this student.

Note: The student's study abroad scholarship application cannot be processed until references are returned. We would therefore appreciate receiving your response as soon as possible. Please provide the form in a sealed envelope to the Office of International Services in GMT 168 or email directly as an attachment to ois@govst.edu.

Study Abroad Scholarship Recommendation Form

(to be completed by student)

Name of Applicant: _____

GSU ID: _____

Email: _____

Program Destination: _____ Program Semester: _____

Program Title: _____

Program Dates: _____

Names and Titles of References(s): _____

Student Signature

Date

Study Abroad Scholarship Recommendation Form

Study Abroad Scholarship Recommendation Form

(to be completed by recommender)

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Institution/Business Name: _____

Title: _____

Telephone: () _____ Email: _____

Please answer all of the following questions.

1. How long and in what capacity have you known the applicant?

2. If selected, this student will be required to make an adjustment to a challenging visiting abroad situation. The student's success in the program will be affected by this adjustment of staying in a foreign environment. Based on your knowledge of the applicant, will you give us your opinion of student's ability to make such adjustments?

3. How would you describe the candidate in terms of maturity, sense of responsibility, reliability, honesty, and character?

4. Please use this space to make any additional comments you want to make concerning the applicant's qualifications for the program. Attach an additional sheet if necessary.

Study Abroad Scholarship Recommendation Form

Please check the statement that you feel most accurately reflects your opinion of this student's suitability for the program.

- The student has my strong recommendation
- I have minor reservations, but I am willing to recommend the student
- I cannot recommend this student for the scholarship

Signature

Date

Please return this form either in sealed envelope to:

Attn: **Study Abroad Scholarship Committee**
Governors State University
1 University Parkway, GMT 168
University Park, IL 60484

or submit electronically to ois@govst.edu with "GSU Study Abroad Recommendation" in subject line.

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(to be completed by student)

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GSU ID: _____

Email: _____

Program Destination: _____ Program Semester: _____

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Student Signature

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