

FUNDING EDUCATION ABROAD

Increasing Access to International Opportunities

There are a number of sources of funding available to help make education abroad a reality. Students are encouraged to review all of the options carefully, to plan ahead, and to apply early.

How Can I Fund Education Abroad?

All federal grants, state grants, and loans can potentially be used to finance education abroad expenses. This includes, but is not limited to: Pell Grants, Direct Subsidized or Unsubsidized loans, and Parent PLUS loans. Many campus-based scholarships and grants can also be used to help assist with these costs.

Loans tend to be the largest source of funding for education abroad, and these can be redistributed to allow a student a larger disbursement for the semester in which he or she will study abroad. In addition, there is a wide range of dedicated education abroad scholarships available at both the local and the national level.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

To apply for federal student aid, students must complete the FAFSA, which can be found at fafsa.gov. The application is free and easy to complete, and doing so grants access to federal, state, and institutional sources of financial aid. We highly recommend that you apply by Ohio State's priority filing date, in order to be considered for the most funds you are eligible to receive. It will also be helpful when applying for national scholarships, as many external funding sources request data from a student's FAFSA to determine eligibility for need-based scholarships.

Post-911 GI Bill and Education Abroad

Most programs offered by the Office of International Affairs will allow you to make use of your post-911 GI Benefits, but not all. Please be in touch with an education abroad coordinator early in your planning to see about eligibility. You can also visit benefits.va.gov/gibill for additional information.

Scholarships for Education Abroad

Proactive students will discover that there are many scholarships designated for education abroad experiences. Students are encouraged to start the application process early: allow plenty of time to research the available opportunities, to familiarize themselves with the application process, and to spend a lot of time drafting the perfect personal statement.

Please note that program application deadlines and scholarship application deadlines do not always match up nicely. Students are encouraged to apply for the scholarship before knowing if they have been admitted into the program.

Local Scholarships

Many units around campus offer scholarships for education abroad. Eligibility requirements will vary from scholarship to scholarship.

Office of International Affairs

- Wolfe Education Abroad Scholarship (*Ohio residents*)
- Francille M. Firebaugh Education Abroad Scholarship
- Jutta and Peter Neckerman Education Abroad Scholarship (*Travel to Germany*)

- International Security Study Abroad Scholarship

Office of Diversity and Inclusion
Second Year Transformational Experience Program (STEP)

Undergraduate Research Office

- Holbrook Research Abroad Fellowships
- Mayers Summer Research Scholarships
- Undergraduate Research Office Summer Research Fellowships

Know Your College

Many of Ohio State University's colleges offer financial assistance to students traveling on their education abroad programs. Students are strongly encouraged to visit their college's website to see what scholarships and grants are available.

Nationally-Competitive Scholarships

There are a number of public and private sources of funding for education abroad that students should research as well. A short list of examples would include:

US Department of State

- Critical Languages Scholarship
- Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship (*Pell Grant Recipients ONLY*)

US Department of Defense

- National Security Education Program (NSEP) David L. Boren Undergraduate Scholarship
- ProjectGO (*ROTC only*)

Fund for Education Abroad

- General Scholarships
- Rainbow Scholarship (*LGBTQ*)
- Athletes Abroad
- Hiliary Echo Douglas Memorial Scholarship (*Travel to Vietnam or within Southeast Asia*)

Phi Kappa Phi Study Abroad Grants

DAAD – Research Internships in Science and Engineering (RISE)

Want More Help?

- Review the Application Strategies page at oia.osu.edu
- Make an appointment with a Financial Aid counselor by calling 292-0300 or emailing ssc@osu.edu.
- Contact the Undergraduate Fellowship Office by calling 292-3135 or emailing fellowships@osu.edu.

