



INTERNATIONAL SERVICES  
*Connect with the World*

## Financial Aid and Scholarships for Study Abroad

### Types of Financial Aid that can be used to study abroad

Each student's financial aid award package is different. It depends on your financial aid and the type of Study Abroad program in which you participate. Stop by the Office of Financial Aid, located on the first floor of McTarnaghan Hall, to determine what aid is available for you. To see a sample chart of the types of financial aid, scholarships and the programs to which they apply, click here:

<http://www.fgcu.edu/AS/FinancialAid/study-abroad.html>

### Frequently Asked Questions:

#### **When will my Financial Aid be disbursed when I am studying abroad/off-campus?**

Financial Aid funds are disbursed the third week of classes. All required paperwork must be completed and processed before funds will be disbursed. For example, Fall 2009 disbursements will not occur until September 13, 2009; Spring 2010 disbursements, January 24, 2010. The disbursements are paid to your FGCU account. Refund checks are then mailed to the U.S. mailing address you have provided to the office of Financial Aid.

#### **Can I use Bright Futures (and/or other Florida Scholarships)?**

YES! As long as you pay tuition to an approved Florida school, your Bright Futures/State scholarships can be used. Unfortunately, Florida Bright Futures Scholarships cannot be used for the summer programs.

#### **Can I use my Florida Prepaid College Plan savings?**

Florida prepaid tuition is measured in credit hours and can be used to offset the cost of the tuition portion of the FGCU or when attending a Florida State University System Study Abroad program. A reduction in the cost of the program will be calculated based on the number of credit hours for which a student enrolls.

#### **Will I be required to pay fees to my host institution before I receive my Financial Aid?**

Probably! You must make arrangements to make payment to the host institution. Your host institution may require payment before you have received all of your Financial Aid.

#### **I do not have loans right now; can I still apply for them?**

Yes, you will need to complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in order to become eligible for student loans. Apply online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). You should apply at least eight to twelve weeks prior to the beginning of the semester to allow enough time to process the loans. Everyone qualifies for Stafford loans regardless of income level.

## **Are there additional loans available in addition to Stafford Loans?**

Yes, Parent Loans (PLUS) and Alternative loans are available. For more information, [click here](#):

<http://www.fgcu.edu/AS/FinancialAid/loans.html>

## **I've never had financial aid before but I need it for this program. Who handles Financial Aid at FGCU? Am I qualified for financial aid? What do I do to apply?**

- Financial Aid is handled by the Financial Aid Office on the first floor of McTarnaghan Hall. They can help you start the application for Financial Aid.
- You must fill out a [FAFSA](#) form that covers the year you plan to study abroad. The FAFSA form is analyzed to see if you qualify for any Federal, Florida or USFSP funding, and may be completed [online](#).
- The FAFSA is available January 1 for academic year: Fall to summer of following year. Renew your FAFSA form every year.
- To file a FAFSA form, you must meet [the eligibility requirements](#).

<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/before013.htm>

## **How many credits do I need to take to qualify for Financial Aid?**

- To be eligible for Stafford Loans, you need to be enrolled at least half-time; that is, 6 credits for undergraduate students.
- Any other scholarship you receive may have different rules.
- If you attend an FGCU summer Study Abroad program and are not taking enough credits for your scholarship, you may be able to take more credits at FGCU during the remainder of the summer semester to make up the difference.

## **Are scholarships available?**

Following is a list of funding sources that might be applicable toward your Study Abroad experiences.

Check International Services website for a listing of possible scholarships, too. Some study abroad scholarships and information are listed in the Office of Financial Aid website. [Click here](#) to see the most current list of scholarships.

<http://www.fgcu.edu/International/StudyAbroadScholarships.asp>

Many organizations offer scholarships for Study Abroad students. To find these scholarships you will need to search for them independently. A good place to start is scholarship search engines such as FastWeb.com or Wired Scholar <http://www.collegeanswer.com/index.jsp>

## **SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS TO FUND YOUR STUDY ABROAD**

Some fellowships require nomination by the home institution. In those cases, you are required to submit your material to the foundation or organization to which you are applying. Do so well before the deadline to ensure that your application is taken into consideration.

To view other opportunities, please refer to:

**[Student Funding Sources](http://studentservices.fgcu.edu/International/StudyAbroadScholarships.asp)** <http://studentservices.fgcu.edu/International/StudyAbroadScholarships.asp>

Links to a number of study abroad scholarships and loan options.

**[Study Abroad Scholarships](http://www.studyabroad.com/forum/financial_aid.html)** [http://www.studyabroad.com/forum/financial\\_aid.html](http://www.studyabroad.com/forum/financial_aid.html)

Links to a number of financial aid opportunities and grants for study abroad.

**[American Scandinavian Foundation](http://www.amscan.org/)** <http://www.amscan.org/>

The American-Scandinavian Foundation (ASF) promotes international understanding through educational and cultural exchange between the United States and Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. Founded in 1910 by Danish-American industrialist Niels Poulsen, the ASF is a publicly supported, nonprofit organization that carries on a program of fellowships, grants, trainee placement, publishing, membership offerings, and cultural activities.

**[Australia Scholarship Sources](http://studyinaustralia.gov.au/Sia/en/CourseSearch/ScholarshipSearch)** <http://studyinaustralia.gov.au/Sia/en/CourseSearch/ScholarshipSearch>

Provides numerous scholarships and fellowships for studying abroad in Australia.

**[Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship for Study Abroad](#)**

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and administered by IIE, the program enables students with limited financial means the opportunity to participate in study abroad opportunities worldwide. The program provides awards of up to \$5,000 for U.S. citizen undergraduate students to pursue programs at least 4 weeks in duration and also semester and year-long study abroad opportunities. To be eligible, students must be receiving a Federal Pell Grant at the time of application. *It does not fund summer study.* [http://www.iie.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Programs7/Gilman\\_Awards/Home8/Home.htm](http://www.iie.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Programs7/Gilman_Awards/Home8/Home.htm)

**Deadlines:**

[http://www.iie.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Programs7/Gilman\\_Awards/Thinking\\_of\\_Applying/Deadlines\\_and\\_Timeline/Deadlines\\_and\\_Timeline.htm](http://www.iie.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Programs7/Gilman_Awards/Thinking_of_Applying/Deadlines_and_Timeline/Deadlines_and_Timeline.htm)

Contact International Services at (239) 590-7925 or [InternationalServices@Fgcu.edu](mailto:InternationalServices@Fgcu.edu) for further information.

**[Bridging Scholarship for Study in Japan](http://www.aatj.org/atj/studyabroad/scholarships.html)** <http://www.aatj.org/atj/studyabroad/scholarships.html>

The Association of Teachers of Japanese Bridging Project offers scholarships to American undergraduate students participating in study-abroad programs in Japan. The scholarship is to assist students with the travel and living expenses incurred while studying in Japan. <http://www.colorado.edu/ealld/atj/>

**[British Marshall Scholarship](http://www.marshallscholarship.org/)** <http://www.marshallscholarship.org/>

The scholarship enables candidates to study a wide range of subjects for a further degree at any British university or business school. Campus deadline is September 15. Contact International Services at (239) 590-7925 or [InternationalServices@Fgcu.edu](mailto:InternationalServices@Fgcu.edu) for further information.

**[CDS--International Career Training Programs](http://www.cdsintl.org/fellowshipsabroad/alfa.php)** <http://www.cdsintl.org/fellowshipsabroad/alfa.php>

Program provides international scholarships, internships, and many other services.

## [DAAD German Academic Exchange Services](#)

<http://www.daad.de/en/index.html>

DAAD offers a wide range of opportunities to students, scholars, and faculty from undergraduate students to post-doctoral scholars for study and research in Germany.

## [Freeman-Asia Awards for Study Abroad in Asian Nations](#)

<http://www.iie.org/programs/Freeman-ASIA/>

Contact International Services at (239) 590-7925 or [InternationalServices@Fgcu.edu](mailto:InternationalServices@Fgcu.edu) for further information.

The aim of the Freeman-Asia program, available through the Institute for International Education (IIE), is to provide freshman, sophomore and junior undergraduates with information about and financial resources to study in Asia. Applicants must receive financial aid or have verifiable need. Priority is given to students with no prior experience in the country in which they plan to study. Eligible countries are Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Laos, Macao, Malaysia, Mongolia, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam. Eligible study abroad programs must be a minimum of 8 weeks. Awards will be paid directly to students: \$3,000 for summer Study Abroad, \$5,000 for semester abroad and \$7,000 for an academic year abroad. The money may be used to cover related expenses such as airfare, living costs and books.

## [Fulbright Scholarships](#)

<http://www.iie.org/cies/>

Contact International Services at (239) 590-7925 or [InternationalServices@Fgcu.edu](mailto:InternationalServices@Fgcu.edu) for further information.

Students must be nominated by FGCU faculty. Program is administered by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars and is intended to give recent college graduates, Master's and Doctoral candidates' international experiences.

## [George J. Mitchell Scholarships](#)

<http://www.us-irelandalliance.org/wmepage.cfm?parm1=441>

Contact International Services at (239) 590-7925 or [InternationalServices@Fgcu.edu](mailto:InternationalServices@Fgcu.edu) for further information.

Students must be nominated by FGCU faculty. The scholarships pay for a year of study at a university in Ireland/Northern Ireland.

## [German Chancellor Fellowship](#)

<http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/german-chancellor-fellowship.html>

Sponsor individuals who demonstrate the potential to strengthen ties between Germany and the United States through their profession or studies.

<http://www.humboldt-foundation.de/web/home.html>

## [International Education Financial Aid](#)

<http://www.iefaf.org/search/index.html>

## [Search the scholarship database.](#)

<http://www.internationalscholarships.com/>

Listing of over 1,000 grants, scholarships, loan programs to assist students in their pursuit to study abroad.

## [Japanese Government \(Monbusho\) Scholarship Programs](#)

<http://www.miami.us.emb-japan.go.jp/scholar.html#Monbusho>

There are seven types of Japanese government-sponsored scholarships available under the program: those for graduate research students, teacher training students (JET), undergraduate university students engaging Japanese Studies, college of technology students, special training students and Young Leader Program students.

### **[Japanese Government \(Monbukagakusho\) Scholarships](#)**

<http://www.studyjapan.go.jp/en/toj/tojo302e.html>

This site gives detailed information about this Japanese government-sponsored scholarship. The Japanese Studies program is for undergraduates.

### **[National Security Education Program's Undergraduate Scholarships for Study Abroad \(Senator David Boren Scholarship\)](#)**

[www.borenawards.org](http://www.borenawards.org)

Semester-long and year-long scholarships are awarded by the Institute for International Education to undergraduate students taking courses in countries deemed critical to U.S. national security. Foreign language study is required. The 2010-11 application deadlines for the Boren Fellowship for undergraduate students are February 10, 2010 and January 28, 2010 for graduate students. For more information, contact the campus advisor for this scholarship at the FGCU International Services.

### **[Order Sons of Italy in America Scholarship](#)**

<http://www.osia.org/students/scholarships.php>

All U.S. citizens of Italian descent (at least one Italian or Italian American grandparent) who are enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program at a four-year, accredited academic institution are eligible.

### **[Rhodes Scholarship](#)**

<http://www.rhodesscholar.org/>

Rhodes Scholars are appointed for two years of study at the University of Oxford. Scholars must be nominated by FGCU faculty.

### **[Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholarship](#)**

<http://www.rotary.org/en/studentsandyouth/educationalprograms/Ambassadorialscholarships/Pages/ridefault.aspx>

There are three types of scholarships offered that provide funding for up to two years of academic study. After study has been completed, scholars share their experiences with the people of their home countries and with local Rotarians who sponsored their scholarships.

### **[Samuel Huntington Public Service Award](#)** [http://www.nationalgridus.com/masselectric/about\\_us/award.asp](http://www.nationalgridus.com/masselectric/about_us/award.asp)

The Samuel Huntington Public Service Award provides an annual stipend of \$10,000 for a graduating college senior to pursue public service anywhere in the world. This allows recipients to engage in a meaningful public service activity for one year before proceeding on to graduate school or a career. Applications must be completed and mailed in by February 15, 2010.