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# AFFORDING STUDY ABROAD

## 2022/23



SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS AND FUNDING FOR STUDY ABROAD





## AFFORDING STUDY ABROAD

Have you been thinking about studying abroad but are concerned that it is too expensive? It may be far more affordable than you think. No matter how tight your budget, by choosing the right program and using all of the resources available, you can afford to study abroad.

If you are overwhelmed and not sure where to start, AIFS is here to help. We are providing you with this information to help guide you. Please take a few moments to read through it; the pages that follow will simplify the process of financing your study abroad experience.



**GRANTS AND  
SCHOLARSHIPS**



**FINANCIAL AID**



**ALTERNATIVE  
FUNDING**



**LOW-COST  
PROGRAMS**



## IMPORTANT THINGS TO CONSIDER



### Academic Planning

The importance of getting an early start on planning your study abroad experience is essential. Working with your academic advisor to discuss the courses you can take while studying abroad will help ensure the credits you earn will count toward your degree.



### Semester vs. Short-Term Study Abroad

You may think a full semester abroad will automatically be more expensive than a summer option, because of the program length and corresponding fee. However, if you plan well, your semester abroad can replace a semester on your home campus. The courses you take, whether they are courses in your major, general degree requirements, or electives, should keep you on track to graduate on time. Your semester abroad does not need to be an additional cost. Keeping in mind that financial aid and loans are more readily available to you during the academic year, semester study abroad also allows you to work during the summer and save toward your travel costs.

On the other hand, short-term study abroad, whether it is a summer, January, or inter-term program, may present a better opportunity for you. Your major may make it difficult to stay on track to graduate on time if you try to study abroad for a full semester. A short-term program may also offer a specific academic focus that directly supports your major. These opportunities cost less than semester-long study abroad, simply by virtue of their shorter duration. With many calendar options available, you may also be able find an inter-term opportunity that will still allow you to work during the summer.

The most important decision is that you go! Regardless of program length your study abroad experience will set you apart from the crowd. Only a fraction of U.S. college students study abroad for academic credit. Be sure that you're one of them!



### Home School Tuition and Fees

As you look at study abroad program options and costs, consider what you are currently paying at your home institution. If you attend a private college or are an out-of-state student at a public university, you may be paying considerably more per semester than you would pay for a semester-long study abroad program.

If you are an in-state student at a public institution, the cost of a study abroad program is comparable in many cases, after you consider tuition and fees, housing, meals and other expenses. Consider commuting costs, along with the out-of-pocket personal expenses that you incur while attending your home institution, and any gap that exists shrinks further.



### Federal Financial Aid and Loans

If you are eligible for Federal Financial Aid and/or loans, these funds should be yours to use on your study abroad program. If the academic credit you will earn abroad is approved by your home institution, then your financial aid is available to you. AIFS will work together with you and your study abroad and financial aid offices to help facilitate the use of these funds.



### Home Institution or Private Source Grants and Scholarships

Scholarships or grants that you receive from your home institution may be available to you to use on a study abroad program. However, oftentimes these funds are only available if you participate on a program run by your home institution. You should discuss the availability of institutional aid with your financial aid and study abroad offices. Grants or scholarships that you receive from sources other than your home school can often be used for study abroad. Check with the source of those funds to inquire about eligibility.



## SCHOLARSHIPS

Over 50% of our study abroad participants receive financial support from AIFS in the form of scholarships or grants. Funds are available for academic year, semester, summer and inter-term programs.

### SIR CYRIL TAYLOR LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP

- ✓ **Eligibility**      **3.0 GPA**
- \$ Per student**      **\$1,000 semester/\$500 summer and January term**

This scholarship is awarded each term in honor of AIFS' founder, Sir Cyril Taylor. AIFS offers semester, summer and January term scholarships to students who demonstrate high academic achievements and articulate their objectives in a required essay.

### GENERATION STUDY ABROAD SCHOLARSHIPS

- ✓ **Eligibility**      **3.0 GPA**
- \$ Per student**      **\$1,000 semester/\$500 summer or inter-term programs**

In support of the Institute of International Education's Initiative, AIFS offers semester, summer and January term scholarships to students who demonstrate high academic achievement and articulate their academic objectives in a required essay.



### **RUSSEL R. TAYLOR FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP**

✓ **Eligibility**      **3.5 GPA and financial need**

**\$ Per student**      **50% of program fee**

The Russel R. Taylor Foundation is committed to providing study abroad scholarships for students who have demonstrated academic excellence and who have significant financial need. Scholarships covering up to half the program fee are available each semester and summer. To apply students must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.5. Students should apply by the published deadlines prior to their semester of choice, providing an essay stating their academic objectives together with supporting documentation of financial need. (Pell Grant eligible students will be given priority).

### **AIFS DIVERSITY ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP**

✓ **Eligibility**      **3.00 GPA/minority and other under-represented students**

**\$ Per student**      **\$5,000 (fall or spring semester)**

AIFS is proud to offer special scholarships for high achieving students from backgrounds historically underrepresented in education abroad. Each semester, AIFS offers up to three \$5,000 scholarships to applicants who demonstrate high academic achievement and/or participate in community service activities.



## **AIFS OVERSEAS AMBASSADOR SCHOLARSHIP**

✓ **Eligibility**      **3.00 GPA/minority and other under-represented students**

**\$ Per student**      **\$500 (semester or summer)**

AIFS is pleased to offer five \$500 scholarships each semester and two \$500 scholarships for summer programs to outstanding students from backgrounds historically underrepresented in study abroad. Students from the following backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply: Economically disadvantaged, ethnically & racially diverse, first-generation, LGBTQIA+, students with disabilities, students of faith, veterans, and adult students.

Applicants must be willing to share their experiences abroad via blogs, pictures, and video (at least once a week) on social media and provide a testimonial at the end of their program. These materials will be shared on the AIFS social media channels and blog site. AIFS Overseas Ambassadors serve in the role for the duration of their chosen study abroad program which can range from two weeks to a semester depending on the term.

Recipients who are not graduating will be encouraged to apply for our Alumni Ambassador program to continue sharing their experiences with their peers.

## **HACU-AIFS SCHOLARSHIPS**

✓ **Eligibility**      **Hispanic students who attend a HACU member institution**

**\$ Per student**      **up to 50% off program fee**

In association with the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU), AIFS offers scholarships for Hispanic students from HACU member institutions. Students will receive a scholarship of up to 50% of the AIFS semester or summer program fee. Awards will be made in conjunction with the HACU advisory board. Refer to our website for additional information or visit [www.HACU.net](http://www.HACU.net) to see if your institution qualifies.

HACU is an international association of higher education institutions and is based in San Antonio, Texas. Established in 1986, the association represents more than 450 colleges and universities.



## JOHN S. LINAKIS SCHOLARSHIP

✓ **Eligibility**      **AIFS student with limited financial resources who also demonstrates an interest in and commitment to social justice.**

**\$ Per student**      **\$5,000 for Spring semester only**

This scholarship will be awarded annually to an AIFS student with limited financial resources who also demonstrates an interest in and commitment to social justice.

## AIFS FAMILY GRANT

✓ **Eligibility**      **Students whose immediate family have attended or have used an AIFS program**

**\$ Per student**      **\$500**

AIFS Study Abroad offers a \$500 program grant to students whose immediate family members (siblings or parents) have participated in or used other AIFS programs, including ACIS, Au Pair in America and Academic Year in America.

In addition to funding listed in this catalog, there are numerous federal and state grants, awards and loans that are available for your AIFS study abroad experience. Please check with your financial aid and study abroad office for additional information.

### **Additional Funding Opportunity:**

#### **Fund for Education Abroad**

<https://fundforeducationabroad.org/apply>

AIFS is a Supporting Access Partner of FEA. This means that in each academic year, since 2017, AIFS contributes a specific amount of funds to support both scholarship applicants on AIFS programs, and the daily operations of the organization itself. Together we aim to increase the accessibility of AIFS Abroad study, internship, and customized faculty-led programs for underrepresented participants. We work together on marketing, outreach, and support for applicants and scholars.

To be eligible for an FEA scholarship, you must be:

- » 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

# GRANTS

AIFS Abroad and Global Experiences are committed to Access, Inclusion, Diversity & Equity. As part of this, we have converted several scholarships into automatically awarded grants to eligible students as part of the application process; students do not need to complete a separate scholarship application. As an applicant to one of our programs, you will know before you apply which grants you are eligible/may be eligible to receive. Grants include the following:

**Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) Grant** – \$500 grant for students attending a Minority Serving Institution

**Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Grant** – \$500 grant for students attending a Historically Black College or University

**Pell Grant Eligible** – \$500 grant for students who receive the Pell Grant

**Gilman Recipient Grant** – \$500 grant for students who receive the Gilman Award

**FEA Recipient Grant** – \$500 grant for students who receive a Fund for Education Abroad scholarship

**Boren Recipient Grant** – \$500 grant for students who receive the Boren Award

**U.S. Veterans Grant** – \$500 grant for students who receive GI Bill education benefits

**Go Abroad Again with AIFS** – \$500 grant for students who study or intern abroad again with AIFS Abroad or Global Experiences

**Affiliate Grant** – \$400 semester/\$200 summer or inter-term programs for students attending schools affiliated with AIFS Abroad. Visit [www.aifsabroad.com/affiliates](http://www.aifsabroad.com/affiliates) for more information or reach out to your university's study abroad office.

Students may receive multiple grants they are eligible for, up to a maximum of \$2,500 for a semester study abroad program or \$1,500 for a summer, J-term, or internship program. Grants connected with receipt of other awards and scholarships, like Pell Grant, Gilman Award, Boren Award, FEA Scholarship, and GI Bill funding will have a submission area to upload supporting documentation.

If you are traveling on a customized, faculty-led program or a group internship program, you will be eligible for the individual grants only (Pell, Gilman, FEA, Boren, Veteran, Go Abroad Again.)

# SCHOLARSHIP RESOURCE WEBSITES

**Studyabroad.com:** [www.studyabroad.com](http://www.studyabroad.com)

**Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program:** [www.gilmanscholarship.org](http://www.gilmanscholarship.org)

**Hispanic Scholarship Fund:** [www.hsf.net](http://www.hsf.net)

**Fund for Education Abroad:** [www.fundforeducationabroad.com](http://www.fundforeducationabroad.com)

**Scholarships.com:** [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)

**The College Board:** [www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search](http://www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org/scholarship-search)

**Collegenet:** [www.collegenet.com](http://www.collegenet.com)

**Fast Web:** [www.fastweb.com](http://www.fastweb.com)

**Boren Scholarship:** <https://borenawards>

## CREATIVE FUNDRAISING

In addition to loans and scholarships, there are several ways for students to fund their time abroad. Below is a list of some basic activities to get started.

### LETTER WRITING CAMPAIGN

- » Reach out to companies and organizations you would like to potentially work for and explain how this experience would be of benefit to them
- » Family and extended family
- » Co-workers
- » Co-workers of family members
- » Church
- » Social organizations (4-H, Kiwanis, Rotary, etc)
- » Greek organizations
- » Students on your campus
- » Friends at other universities





## LIFESTYLE

- » “Keep the change” savings accounts that round up to the nearest dollar on your purchases and put funds directly into a separate savings account
- » Review and alter your daily spending habits to find ways to cut back on your discretionary spending
- » Ask friends and family to give you money or travel-related gifts for holidays and birthdays
- » Consider a part-time job

## CROWDFUNDING

One of the most popular and creative fundraising ideas currently is crowdfunding, which is the practice of raising small money from numerous people to fund a project (in this case study abroad). Previous AIFS students have found success from this practice and have raised thousands of dollars toward their program fees. Most sites charge either a per-donation or one-time fee for using their service and students should research the crowdsourcing platforms available online to determine which site best suits their needs. Once you have a personalized crowdfunding website you should share the link on your social media platforms to spread the word and consider getting business cards made that you can pass out to everyone. Strangers are often willing to donate to your cause if you have a compelling story and are only asking for \$2. Keep in mind that every dollar counts.

With the ever-rising cost of higher education, it is no surprise that students are concerned about how to pay for study abroad. Choosing the program that is right for you academically and financially is essential. In addition to comparing program prices, it is equally important to compare what is included in the program fee.



For more than fifty years, AIFS has provided college students with study abroad programs of the highest quality that include everything you need. We will help you plan your experience every step of the way. AIFS Study Abroad programs include:

- » Academic program
- » Housing
- » Meal plan or or subsidy offered in certain locations
- » Admissions advising
- » On-site Resident Director
- » Organized activities and field excursions
- » Comprehensive Insurance and 24/7 assistance
- » Academic Transcript
- » Published program fees guaranteed not to increase
- » Optional air travel arrangements with London stopover included on many programs
- » Grants and Scholarships

# CREATIVE FUNDRAISING

AIFS is committed to providing you with program options that are of high academic quality and exceptional value. Here are some of our program options. For price information and details for all AIFS programs visit [www.aifsabroad.com](http://www.aifsabroad.com)

## SEMESTER PROGRAMS UNDER \$14,000

San Jose, Costa Rica.....	\$10,495	Buenos Aires, Argentina.....	\$13,495
Seville, Spain.....	\$11,295	Budapest, Hungary.....	\$12,995
Granada, Spain.....	\$11,495	Barcelona, Spain.....	\$13,995
Salamanca, Spain.....	\$12,495	Prague, Czech Republic.....	\$13,995
Viña Del Mar, Chile.....	\$12,995	Valencia, Spain.....	\$13,995

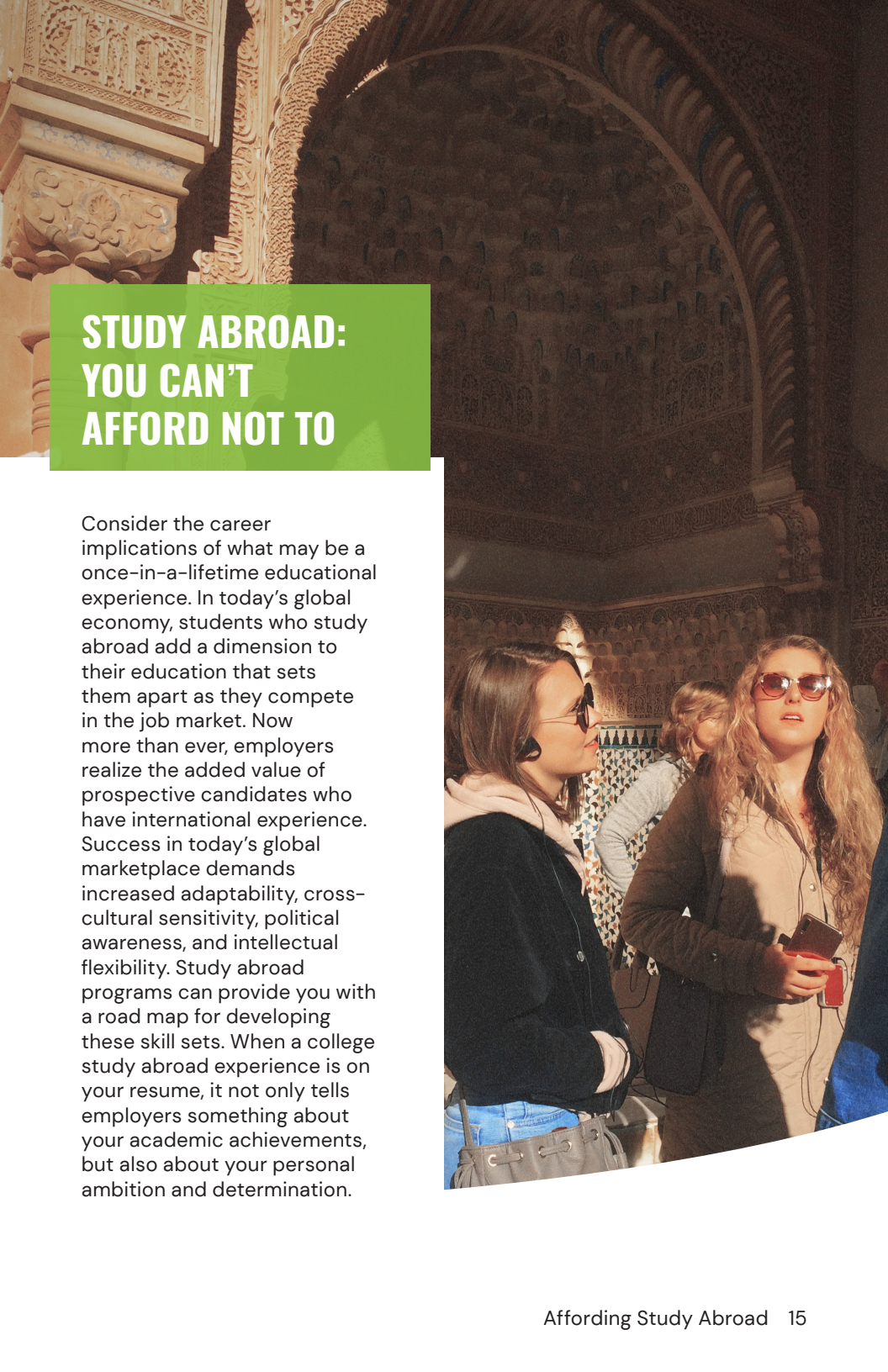
Based on 2022/2023 pricing, program prices are subject to change. Please refer to [AIFSabroad.com](http://AIFSabroad.com) for the most up to date pricing.

## SUMMER PROGRAMS UNDER \$6,000

Salamanca, Spain.....	\$4,595	San Jose, Costa Rica.....	\$5,195
Seville, Spain.....	\$4,595	Barcelona, Spain.....	\$5,795
Budapest, Hungary.....	\$4,995	Granada, Spain.....	\$5,295
Florence, Italy.....	\$4,995	Madrid, Spain.....	\$5,295
Galapagos Islands, Ecuador.....	\$4,995	Grenoble, France.....	\$5,495
Lisbon, Portugal.....	\$4,995	Limerick, Ireland.....	\$5,795
Rome, Italy.....	\$4,995	Paris, France.....	\$5,795
Buenos Aires, Argentina.....	\$5,195		

## STUDY AND TRAVEL PROGRAMS

Art and Activism.....	\$5,795	Herstory: Leading Women of the U.K. and Ireland.....	\$5,795
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## STUDY ABROAD: YOU CAN'T AFFORD NOT TO

Consider the career implications of what may be a once-in-a-lifetime educational experience. In today's global economy, students who study abroad add a dimension to their education that sets them apart as they compete in the job market. Now more than ever, employers realize the added value of prospective candidates who have international experience. Success in today's global marketplace demands increased adaptability, cross-cultural sensitivity, political awareness, and intellectual flexibility. Study abroad programs can provide you with a road map for developing these skill sets. When a college study abroad experience is on your resume, it not only tells employers something about your academic achievements, but also about your personal ambition and determination.





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