

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a narrow, traditional Korean street (hanok-gil). The street is paved with cobblestones and lined with traditional wooden buildings with tiled roofs. In the distance, a modern city skyline with tall skyscrapers is visible under a clear blue sky. A few people are walking along the street, and a person is seen from behind in the foreground, walking away from the viewer.

FUNDING YOUR EXPERIENCE *Abroad*

Scholarships, Financial Aid, and Maximizing Money



FUNDING YOUR EXPERIENCE **ABROAD**

Scholarships, Grants, & Funding for Study and Internships Abroad

Excited about the idea of studying or interning abroad? You might be surprised by how attainable it can be! With the right program choice, proper planning, and tapping into funding and support resources, studying or interning abroad is well within reach.



Maximizing
Your Money



Scholarships
& Grants



Financial
Aid



Alternative
Funding

MAXIMIZING THE VALUE OF GOING ABROAD



Academic Planning

Credits cost money, so work with your Academic Advisor to choose courses or internships that fit your degree and help you graduate on time, making your study abroad experience valuable.



Semester vs. Short-Term Study Abroad

A full semester abroad may seem costly but can be comparable to staying on campus, often with financial aid available and lower living expenses. If a full semester isn't possible, short-term programs (Summer, January Term, May Term) offer focused courses or internships that count toward your degree, usually at a lower cost.

Our experienced team is here to support you and help find the program that best fits your needs.



Do the Math: Home School Tuition and Fees

When comparing study abroad costs, consider what you currently pay at your home school. Private or out-of-state students often pay more per semester than for a semester abroad. In-state public university students usually find study abroad costs comparable after factoring in tuition, housing, meals, and other expenses like commuting, which narrows the financial gap.



Federal Financial Aid and Loans

Federal aid and loans (Pell Grants, Stafford Loans, PLUS Loans) can be used for study abroad. AIFS Abroad helps coordinate fund transfers, and some campuses may offer extra funding. Perkins Loans, state grants, 529 plans, and the Post 9/11 GI Bill may also apply but require early planning with your financial aid office. Reach out to your financial aid office and our team to explore your options!



Home Institution or Private Source Grants and Scholarships

Scholarships and grants from your home institution may apply to study abroad—check with your financial aid and study abroad offices for guidance. For outside grants or scholarships, contact the organizations directly to confirm if their funds can be used for study abroad or international internship programs.



With a bit of time and research, you can get a clear picture of the total costs involved—helping to avoid surprises and make confident, informed decisions.

Your Checklist

- ✓ **Consult your financial aid office:** Find out what financial assistance might qualify for your study or internship abroad program.

- ✓ **Understand what your program fee covers:** Look closely at program details to see what is included.

- ✓ **Apply for AIFS Abroad scholarships and grants:** Take advantage of the many funding opportunities available.

- ✓ **Plan your budget:** Calculate what you can realistically spend while abroad; if you have questions, reach out to our team—we're here to help!

AIFS ABROAD COMPETITIVE SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship Deadlines

- ▶ **January Term and Spring Semester** – October 1
- ▶ **May Term and Summer** – March 1
- ▶ **Fall Semester** – April 15

More than 50% of our program participants receive scholarships or stackable grants from AIFS Abroad. Funds are available for academic year, semester, summer, May Term and January Term programs.

How to Apply

AIFS Abroad scholarships require a short application and budget form, which are accessed via the student portal. Our team awards scholarships based on total out-of-pocket financial need, and takes into consideration total expenses including visas, cost of living, and family contributions.

CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT SCHOLARSHIP

Fall Semester	\$5,000/up to 2 awards; \$3,000/up to 2 awards
Spring Semester	\$5,000/up to 2 awards; \$3,000/up to 2 awards
Summer Semester	\$1,500/up to 2 awards

AIFS Abroad is proud to offer scholarships for academically engaged students seeking to maximize their cultural engagement while abroad.

Eligibility: Applicants must demonstrate high academic engagement and/or participate in community service activities.

Deadline:

Fall Semester: April 15 | Spring Semester: October 1 | Summer: March 1

SIR CYRIL TAYLOR LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP

Semester	\$1,000
Summer/January Term	\$500

Awarded each term in honor of AIFS Founder, Sir Cyril Taylor, AIFS offers this scholarship to students who demonstrate high academic achievements and articulate their objectives in a required essay.

Eligibility: Students must meet the minimum requirements for the program to which they are applying and have at least a 3.0 minimum cumulative GPA.

Deadline:

Summer: March 1 | Fall Semester: April 15
Spring Semester/January Term/Winter Quarter: October 1

GREEN AMBASSADOR SCHOLARSHIP

Applicable to study abroad and international internship programs.

Fall Semester: \$500/up to 2 awards

Spring Semester: \$500/up to 2 awards

Summer: \$300/up to 2 awards

AIFS Abroad is committed to sustainability, environmental responsibility, and climate action. As part of our Green Initiative, we are proud to offer the Green Ambassador Scholarship to participants who share our passion to create a greener future.

Eligibility: Applicants must demonstrate a strong commitment to environmental sustainability.

Green Ambassador scholarship recipients will be expected to collaborate with their on-site staff to plan and execute at least one “green” event during their program. This event should promote sustainability and climate education and awareness. Green Ambassadors will also highlight their experience on AIFS Abroad social media, through Instagram takeovers, blog posts, or other forms of content creation.

Deadline:

Fall Semester: April 15 | Spring Semester: October 1 | Summer: March 1

CAREER READINESS SCHOLARSHIP

Fall Semester: \$1,000/scholarship

Spring Semester: \$1,000/scholarship

Summer: \$1,000/scholarship

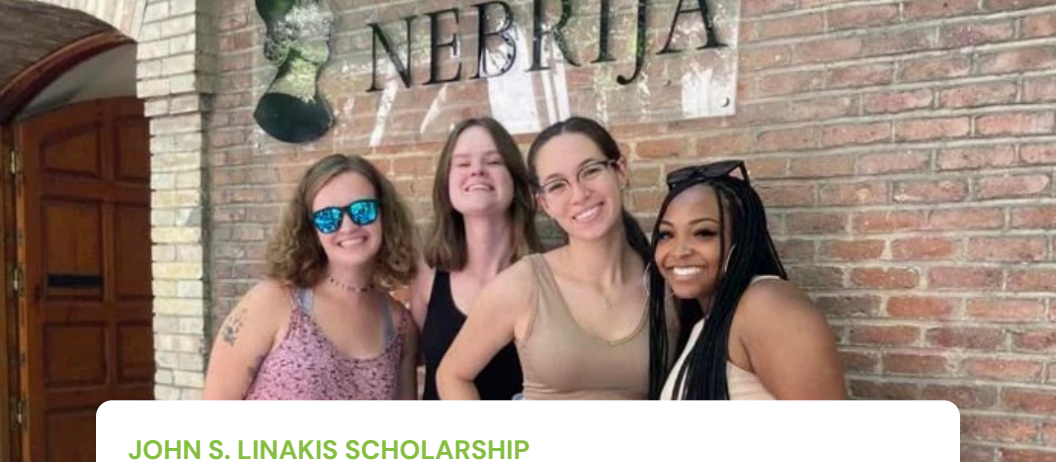
Career Readiness is a core value at AIFS Abroad, and international internships are a key experience for participant development on their career paths.

Eligibility: Applicants must submit a competitive application complete with an essay addressing their career goals and how their internship may help achieve those goals.

Deadline:

Fall Semester: April 15 | Spring Semester: October 1 | Summer: March 1





JOHN S. LINAKIS SCHOLARSHIP

Fall/Spring Semester: \$5,000

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

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

Deadline: Completed scholarship and program applications must be postmarked or sent via email by the following deadline:

Fall Semester: April 15 | Spring Semester: October 1

CYRIL TAYLOR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Applicable to AIFS Abroad study programs in the U.K.

Fall Semester: \$5,000

Summer: \$3,750

Academic Year: \$10,000

Awarded to U.S. undergraduates studying in the United Kingdom, this scholarship is offered by the Fund for Education Abroad (FEA) through a gift from the Cyril Taylor Charitable Foundation (CTCF).

The scholarship is named for the late Sir Cyril Taylor, who spent his life bringing the world together through education and policy as a part of numerous organizations. In 1964, Sir Cyril helped found AIFS, a leading educational organization providing cultural exchange and academic opportunities for more than 1.5 million young people.

How to Apply:

For this special scholarship, applications must be submitted via the Fund for Education Abroad (FEA): fundforeducationabroad.org/scholarships

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Paired Grants

AIFS Abroad offers several \$500 grants for eligible students enrolled at our partner institutions as part of the application process; students do not need to complete a separate scholarship application for this funding type. These grants are stackable to maximize funding, and as an AIFS Abroad applicant, you will know before you apply which grants you are eligible to receive.

- ✓ **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
- ✓ **U.S. Veterans and Dependents Grant:** \$500 grant for students who receive GI Bill education benefits
- ✓ **Go Abroad Again with AIFS Abroad:** \$500 grant for students who study or intern abroad again with AIFS Abroad

Students may receive multiple grants up to a maximum of \$2,500 for a semester study abroad program or \$1,500 for a summer, January 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 require submission of supporting documentation.

If you are traveling on a customized, faculty-led program or a group internship program, the grants are not stackable, but you remain eligible for one (Pell, Gilman, FEA, Veteran, Go Abroad Again). Reach out to our team if you have questions!

Limited Grants

The AIFS Abroad Limited Grants have a fixed funding amount each year, and a select number of students are awarded.

WORK STUDY GRANT

Applicable to study abroad and international internship programs.

Fall Semester:	\$1,000
Spring Semester:	\$1,000
Summer:	\$1,000

To help offset lost wages while abroad, AIFS Abroad participants receiving federal work study grants in their financial aid package are eligible for \$1,000 grant.

Eligibility: Applicants must upload proof of their financial aid package, including details of their federal work study offer.

EXPLORE MORE GRANT

Applicable to study abroad and international internship programs.

Fall Semester: \$1,000

Spring Semester: \$1,000

Summer: \$1,000

The world is full of opportunities—why not go beyond the expected? The Explore More Grant supports students who choose to study or intern in select non-European destinations.

Note: This is a limited grant with a fixed number of awards available each year.

Eligibility: Students who apply to one of the eligible program locations listed below will automatically be considered for the grant upon committing to the program. Awards are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis, so we encourage early application.

Eligible Locations: Argentina, Australia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, South Africa, South Korea

Special Funding Opportunity:

FUND FOR EDUCATION ABROAD

www.fundforeducationabroad.org/apply

AIFS is a Supporting Access Partner of the Fund for Education Abroad (FEA). Every year since 2017, AIFS has contributed funds to support both FEA scholarship applicants on AIFS Abroad programs, and the daily operations of the organization itself. Together we aim to increase the accessibility of AIFS Abroad study abroad, international internship, and 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:

- ▶ Be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or DACA recipient
- ▶ Be currently enrolled as an undergraduate at U.S. institution of higher education (graduate students are not eligible)
- ▶ Receive credit at your home institution for the study abroad program
- ▶ Have demonstrated financial need

ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIP RESOURCES

Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program: www.gilmanscholarship.org

Hispanic Scholarship Fund: www.hsf.net

Fund for Education Abroad: www.fundforeducationabroad.com

Scholarships.com: www.scholarships.com

CREATIVE FUNDRAISING

In addition to financial aid and scholarships, participants fund their time abroad in many creative ways, including:

“Keep the Change” Savings Apps

Several free apps round-up purchase amounts to the nearest dollar and put the difference directly into a savings account. These apps may also have options to invest that money and include sign up bonuses that add up quickly.

Crowdfunding

Past AIFS Abroad participants have raised thousands toward their program fees through small contributions on crowdfunding sites. Most sites charge a per-donation or one-time fee, so it's important to research crowdsourcing platforms to determine fit. These platforms can provide a link and QR code to share on social media, business cards, etc. Hone your elevator pitch—even strangers are often willing to donate a few dollars to a compelling story. Every dollar counts!

Gig Work

From delivering groceries to online work, there is a “gig” for everyone these days. Google is a great place to find freelance design and tech work; and we all know the trusty delivery and driving apps.

Community Outreach

It may seem old school, but community organizations are often looking for interesting causes to support. From local clubs like Kiwanis and Rotary, to national bodies like Greek fraternities and sororities, these groups often have standalone scholarship programs and those who don't are often open to donating in return for a presentation or article later on. It can help start with a letter of request, outlining what goals and objectives you have for an experience abroad and what you want to provide in return.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM COSTS

Not every study or intern abroad program is priced the same. Some may look cheaper but are more expensive on-the-ground in costs related to daily life. When building your budget to understand your total cost of going abroad, be sure to consider any additional costs that may not be obvious. These might include:

- ▶ Airfare – baggage fees
- ▶ Academic transcript
- ▶ Commuting daily via public transport
- ▶ Unplanned excursions/travel
- ▶ Meals not covered in fees
- ▶ Medications, assorted toiletries
- ▶ Cell phone SIM card/phone bill

Choosing the right program for you academically and financially is essential—in addition to comparing program prices, it is equally important to consider what is included in the program fee.

AIFS Abroad helps plan and support your experience every step of the way, and our programs include:

- ▶ Academic coursework (tuition)
- ▶ Housing
- ▶ Meal plan or subsidy in certain locations
- ▶ Admissions advising
- ▶ On-site Director and local support staff
- ▶ Organized cultural activities and field excursions
- ▶ World class safety and risk management
- ▶ Comprehensive insurance and 24/7 assistance
- ▶ Guaranteed program fees (will not increase once you apply)

GOING ABROAD: INVESTMENT IN YOUR FUTURE

Consider the career implications of what may be a once-in-a-lifetime educational experience. Success in today's global marketplace demands increased adaptability, cross-cultural agility, political awareness, and intellectual flexibility. Now more than ever, employers realize the value of job candidates with international experience, and studying or interning abroad adds a dimension to your education that sets you apart.



LEARN MORE ABOUT AIFS ABROAD

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