

Syracuse University

Syracuse Abroad & the Center for Fellowship and Scholarship Advising

Gilman Scholarships Interest Session

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International Program Advisor: Madrid & Santiago Programs

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Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarships

How much funding might I receive?

Award Amounts:

- Up to \$5,000 for a semester or summer program
- Up to an additional \$3,000 for study of a “critical language”

Funded by the U.S. State Department



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Am I eligible to apply?

- U.S. Citizens
- Pell Grant Recipients
- Undergraduate students in good standing
- No GPA requirement

Target populations

- First generation (college students/Americans)
- Racial & ethnic minorities
- LGBTQ students
- Veterans
- Students with disabilities (learning, physical)
- STEM students
- Adult learners
- Underrepresented backgrounds (rural, inner cities, states with lower representation in study abroad)

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Does my intended program fit the requirements?

- Minimum of 21 days
- Multi-destination programs might be eligible
- Intended study abroad program is in a country with Level 1 or 2 on U.S. State Department's Travel Advisory System

Ideal Destinations

- Destinations less common for study abroad (Asia, Africa, South America)
- Countries with languages of critical interest to the U.S. State Department
- Programs that connect well with your goals

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How do I apply for Gilman?

- Start your application on the Gilman Scholarship Website
- Program details (dates, cost, estimated SU financial aid package)
- Copy of transcript
- Two essay questions
- Additional essay for critical language applicants
- NO letters of recommendation



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How might receiving the Gilman Scholarship affect my financial aid?

- Gilman applications must be certified by the Office of Financial Aid
- Adjustments might be made to your aid package only if your total funds exceed your need-level
- Receiving Gilman will not reduce your on-campus grants & scholarships

Essay #1 - “Statement of Purpose”

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSE ESSAY (Essay #1)

- How will studying or interning abroad help you achieve your future academic and professional goals?
- Why did you select your specific program or host country?
- What aspects of studying abroad do you expect to be the most challenging for you?
- What knowledge, skills, and experiences will you draw on to meet those challenges?

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ESSAY TIPS

- Answer all questions. The readers will rate you on your answers to each question. If you don't answer a question you can't get any points for it.
- Be sure to mention all the ways in which you meet the broad Gilman definition of diversity at some point in this essay.
- Find a way to connect all the required answers into a cohesive essay rather than just listing the answers to the questions - find a common thread or theme.
- Be sure you specify the country and program to which you plan to go in your introductory paragraph. Reviewers should have this information by the time they finish the first paragraph of your essay.
- Compose coherent paragraphs, each with a clear topic sentence followed by evidence supporting that topic. Rather than mentioning the same point in multiple places throughout the essay, focus on the point once in the essay, say everything you need to say about it, and then move on to the next point.
- Your essay should be close to (and not over) the 7,000 character limit, including spaces.

Essay #2 - “Community Impact”

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COMMUNITY IMPACT ESSAY (Essay #2)

Make a case for how you will serve as an effective citizen diplomat

- How will you contribute to the mission of building mutual understanding when you are overseas?
- Describe the follow-on service you plan when you return
 - What are your project goals? Who is your target population/audience?
 - How will you integrate the impact of your experience abroad into your project?
 - What organizations will you collaborate with to build awareness of study abroad the Gilman Scholarship?

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ESSAY TIPS

- Answer all questions. The readers will rate you on your answers to each question. If you don't answer a question you can't get any points for it.
- Consider how you will engage with your host community while you are overseas. Be clear if there are points of connection between your home community and your host country that you intend to engage or build.
- Propose a well-developed follow-on service project. Strong proposals often involve working or connecting with a campus or community organization through which you're already involved.
- Propose multiple modes of connection to engage your target population.
- Make sure your proposed project is feasible.
- Be clear that you will promote not just the study abroad experience, but also the Gilman Scholarship specifically.
- Your essay should be close to (and not over) the 6,000 character limit, including spaces.

Application Timeline

EVENTS	DATES
Syracuse Abroad Summer 2020 Deadline	Monday, February 10, 2020 Online Submission
Writing Workshop #1	Thursday, February 20 12:30-2:00 PM Hinds 120
Writing Workshop #2	Wednesday, February 26 3:00-4:30 PM Tolley 304
Writing Workshop #3	Friday, February 28 12:30-2:00 PM Bowne 306D
Walk-in Hours	February 27 & March 2 1:00-4:00 PM SyracuseAbroad@Bird
Gilman Application Deadline	Tuesday, March 3, 2020 Online Submission
Syracuse Abroad Fall 2020 Deadline	Sunday, March 15, 2020 Online Submission
Syracuse Abroad Spring 2021 Deadline	Thursday, October 1, 2020 Online Submission

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What is the certification process?

- Advisors must certify the relevant study abroad & financial aid related information
- Study Abroad Advisor - Rick or Marie
- Financial Aid Advisor - Kristen
- Please ***do not*** email your advisors to inform us of your submitted application. Rest assured, we will certify your application within 1 week of the deadline!



The Gilman Experience - Alumni Perspectives

Dylan Bryant & Ghufuran Salih

Gilman-McCain Scholarship



The Gilman-McCain Scholarship

Am I eligible for the Gilman-McCain?

- Same requirements as Gilman, with greater scope
- Dependent child of an active duty military member(s) during the time of application in one of the following branches: Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Coast Guard
- Recipient of any type of Title IV federal financial aid (Pell, Perkins, SEOG, etc.)
- Must provide valid military identity documentation in application



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What resources do I have available to me?

Study Abroad Questions:

- Syracuse Abroad Website
- Meet with an International Program Advisor
- Chat with a Global Ambassador

Scholarship Essay Assistance:

- Make an appointment with the Center for Fellowship & Scholarship Advising

Financial Aid Concerns:

- Book an appointment with your Financial Aid advisor



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What advice do you have for us?

- Attend the writing workshops & drop-in hours
- Start drafting your essays as soon as possible
- Visit the Gilman website for essay tips, examples of follow-on projects, and more!

<https://www.gilmanscholarship.org/>



Congratulations to our past recipients!

Maria Victoria Polanco, England
Shamar Niang, Spain
Kailey Smith, France
Jessie Carbajal, Germany
Brienna Flewelling, Italy
Derek Gutierrez, Hong Kong
Santiago Hernandez, Hong Kong
Erick Lojano-Quispe, Italy
Kiara Molina, England
Aislyn Murray, Czech Republic
Eronmwon Osagie, Spain
Diana Quesada, Italy
Christopher Ozomgi, Chile
Eden Tafesse, Hong Kong
Nicole Cruz, Chile
Ghufran Salih, Jordan
Dylan Bryant, Chile
Samuel Hoffman, England

Kayin Bankole, Ghana
Aliya Elswawi, France
Natalia Rice, Spain
Zachary Wilson, England
Lluvia Lopez Garcia, Italy
Ezekiel Wilson, Australia
Lania Roberts, South Africa
Karissa Horsford, England
Adiba Alam, Hong Kong
Shantel Bailey, Spain
Danielle Dacres, Spain
Charlotte Howard, Italy
Mazaher Kaila, France
Bijal Patel, South Africa
Adiba Alam, Hong Kong
Karissa Horsford, England
Lania Roberts, South Africa
Khemiah Burke, Australia

Amy Chasse, Italy
Abigail Covington, Italy
Whitney Ize-Iyamu, Hong Kong
Jasmine Kim, Hong Kong
Minjung Kim, England
Kristine Klein, Chile
Sidne Norman, China
Phebeana Ojomoses, China
Daniel Salomon, Denmark
Aja Selbach-Broad, Czech Republic
Sammy Cayo, Hong Kong
Alexandra Goodnough, Hong Kong
Calvin Guo, Hong Kong
Jessica Vinciguerra, India
Yeshi Wangmo, England
Thandar Zone, Hong Kong
Deema Alsalih, Czech Republic
Ashia Aubourg, Italy



Questions?