



Gilman Scholarships Interest Session

Syracuse Abroad & Center for
Fellowship and Scholarship Advising



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”
- Up to an additional \$1,000 to support STEM research while abroad

Funded by the U.S. State Department



Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarships

Am I eligible to apply?

- U.S. Citizens
- Pell Grant Recipients
- Undergraduate students in good standing
- No GPA requirement, but GPA is considered as part of determining academic preparation for study abroad.

Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarships

Does my intended program fit the requirements?

- No minimum length. Must be no longer than one academic year
- For March deadline, program must start between May 1, 2025 and April 30, 2026 (i.e. Maymester 2025, summer 2025, fall 2025, and academic year 2025-26, and spring 2026)
- Multi-destination programs are 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:

- Countries with languages of critical interest to the U.S. State Department, if you are applying for the critical language award.
- Programs that connect well with your goals

Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarships

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
- Three essay questions
- Additional essays for critical language applicants and STEM award
- **NO** letters of recommendation



Gilman Selection Criteria

- Impact of the study abroad program and location on student's academic and career trajectory
- Community impact while abroad and after student's return to U.S.
- Academic preparedness to succeed while studying abroad
- Commitment to proficiency in a critical need language (if applying for Critical Need Language Award)
- Commitment to a STEM field (if applying for a STEM Supplemental Award)

Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarships

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 or total cost of attendance.

Part #1: “Statement
of Purpose”
Essay A



Application Components

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE ESSAY (PART 1)

- How will studying or interning abroad help you achieve your future academic or professional goals?
- Why did you select your specific program and host country?
- How are you academically prepared to be a successful scholar abroad? If you have faced significant academic difficulties, tell us about those and how you are overcoming them.
- What examples of knowledge, skills, and experiences will you draw on to meet the challenges of going abroad?

Application Components

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.
- 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.

Part #2: “Community Impact” Essays



Application Components

COMMUNITY IMPACT ESSAYS (PART 2)

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

- *Building Mutual Understanding:*
 - Thinking ahead to your experience abroad, how will you represent the United States and share your own background and experiences as a U.S. citizen during your program?
 - What opportunities will you seek to engage in the culture and build meaningful connections within your host community?
- *Follow-On Service Project Proposal:*
 - 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 and the Gilman Scholarship?
 - Be creative! Think about unique audiences and formats for your project.

Application Components

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.
- Each essay should be close to (and not over) the 3,000 character limit, including spaces.

Application Timeline

EVENTS	DATES
Writing Workshop #1	Friday, February 14 1:00-2:30 PM 208 Bowne Hall
Writing Workshop #2	Thursday, February 20 10:00-11:30 AM 208 Bowne Hall
Writing Workshop #3	Wednesday, February 26 3:00-4:30 PM 208 Bowne Hall
Writing Workshop #4	Monday, March 3 11:30-1:00 208 Bowne Hall
Writing Workshop #5	Wednesday, March 5 2:00-3:30 PM 208 Bowne Hall
Gilman Application Deadline	Thursday, March 6 Online Submission
Syracuse Abroad Summer 2025 Deadline	February 15, 2025 Online Submission
Syracuse Abroad Fall 2025 Deadline	March 15, 2025 Online Submission
Syracuse Abroad Spring 2026 Deadline	October 1, 2025 Online Submission

Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarships

What is the certification process?

- Advisors must certify the relevant study abroad & financial aid related information
- Study Abroad Advisor
- Financial Aid Advisor
- 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!



Gilman-McCain Scholarship



The Gilman-McCain Scholarship

Am I eligible for the Gilman-McCain?

- Same requirements as Gilman, with greater scope in eligibility
- 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, SEOG, etc.)
- Must provide valid military identity documentation in application



Hear from a Gilman Recipient!

Linda Baguma

- Spring 2024 Gilman Scholarship Recipient
- Studied abroad in South Africa



Gilman Scholarship

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



Gilman Scholarship

What advice do you have for us?

- Sign up to attend the writing workshops
- 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!

- Janna Balek, Spain
- Christopher Adanech, England
- William Harrington, Italy
- Parris Kelly, France
- Molly Gibbs, Uganda
- Ashley Hudson, South Korea
- Andrew Le, New Zealand
- Aaquilah Wright, England
- Can Chen, Australia
- 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
- Ghufraan Salih, Jordan
- Dylan Bryant, Chile
- Samuel Hoffman, England
- Kayin Bankole, Ghana
- Aliya El Sawi, 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



Benjamin A. Gilman
International Scholarship

Questions?

www.gilmanscholarship.org/

