

# Scholarships

## Studying abroad can be affordable!

*If you are currently receiving financial aid, it can be applied to a semester of study abroad—and in some cases to a full year abroad.*

According to the Higher Education Act of 1965, federal financial aid can be applied to study abroad if you are registered as a full-time student and if you will receive course credit for your study abroad. Both federal and state sources may be applied to up to a year of study abroad. Note that the size of your award may be adjusted if the cost of the study abroad program is greater than your school's tuition.

IWU financial aid may be applied to one international May Term course and one semester abroad through an approved study abroad program. Exceptions to the policy are granted for programs that can only be undertaken for a full year (e.g., the Pembroke College program at Oxford University); for participants in the IWU London or IWU Spain programs, or one of IWU's exchange programs; and for students who successfully petition for a second semester of study abroad. Please be aware, though, that work-study awards cannot be used for any form of off-campus study.

The cost of studying abroad will vary depending on the program and study abroad location. Students should know that financial aid packages will be proportionally reduced if comprehensive study abroad costs are significantly lower than IWU's comprehensive fee. Similarly, if program fees and/or travel costs are significantly higher than the cost of a semester at IWU, students or their parents will be required to pay the difference.

In addition, most of our affiliated programs offer scholarships, both need- and merit-based, and it is advantageous to complete the applications for any such awards for which you qualify.

There are also several external funding sources for study abroad. Explore the resources listed here and apply to those for which you qualify.

“How much money is enough?...  
Just a little more than you have.”

*JD Rockefeller*

### IWU STUDY ABROAD SCHOLARSHIPS

- Available for semester, year-long, May Term, and summer study abroad. Students on domestic Travel Courses are not eligible.
- Minimum award is \$1000

### AFFILIATED PROGRAMS OFFER SCHOLARSHIPS

- Most third-party or affiliated study abroad programs have need-based or need-aware scholarships; some have merit-based awards, as well.
- Some programs offer additional aid for Gilman applicants/recipients.

### AASAP/UK LORD ACTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

- £500/semester or £1000/year for study abroad in the UK.
- Student must attend an AASAP/UK member program.

### BENJAMIN A GILMAN SCHOLARSHIP

- Open to Pell Grant recipients.
- Awards of up to \$5000.
- Critical Language supplement of \$3000.
- Semester and summer scholarships available.

### BRIDGING SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDY IN JAPAN

- Offers a \$2500/semester or \$4000/year stipend.

### BUTEX SCHOLARSHIPS

- £500 scholarships for North American students who will be studying abroad for a semester or year at any U.K. university that is BUTEX affiliated.

### DIVERSITYABROAD.COM

- Study Abroad scholarships (\$1000)
- Economically disadvantaged and MALANA students are strongly encouraged to apply.

### FREEMAN ASIA SCHOLARSHIP

- Up to \$5000 for semester study in Asia or Southeast Asia.
- Summer scholarships are also available.

### FUND FOR EDUCATION ABROAD

- Study abroad scholarships for programs of 4+ weeks.
- Up to \$10,000/year, \$5000/semester; minimum award of \$1250 for summer programs.

### GENERATION STUDY ABROAD EXCELLENCE AND TRAVEL AWARDS

- For study abroad in New Zealand.
- Awards of \$500–\$2000.

### GO OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIPS

- A variety of award categories. Check the website for new offerings and sign up for automatic updates on scholarships.

### NSEP BOREN SCHOLARSHIP

- Awards of up to \$20,000 for a year of study abroad.
- Awarded with preference for countries, languages, and fields of study critical to U.S. national security.
- Requires 1 year of government service.

### PHI KAPPA PHI STUDY ABROAD SCHOLARSHIPS

- Available for semester and summer study abroad (\$1000).
- 3.75 GPA required.

### STA START THE ADVENTURE SCHOLARSHIP

- Two \$2500 scholarships awarded annually (one in August and one in December).
- The winner's home university also receives \$2500 to give to a student of the university's choice for study abroad

### TORTUGA BACKPACKS STUDY ABROAD SCHOLARSHIP

- Award includes \$1000 plus a Tortuga backpack.
- Open to US citizens or student visa holders.

### ONLINE DATABASES

- StudyAbroadFunding.org
- InternationalScholarships.com
- Studyabroad.com
- GoAbroad.com
- DiversityAbroad.com
- IEFA.org
- Scholarships.com



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# Money-Saving Tips

## Study Abroad: An Investment in Your Future

You've heard all the comments about "a shrinking world" and "a global economy"—you know that we live in a world in which geographical distance isn't the same barrier it once was and in which the ease of travel and speed of communication has changed the way we live. Regardless of your field of study or your career plans, a study abroad experience can help you prepare for your future.

Academically, studying abroad makes the world your classroom. It can deepen your knowledge and understanding and broaden your intellectual horizons. Pursuing your field of study in another country can afford you the opportunity to learn about different aspects of that field; gain hands-on experience; strengthen your language skills; enlarge your understanding of international events; and prepare yourself for independent research.

Personally, living and studying in another country for a semester or year will change you in ways obvious and subtle. Certainly, your time abroad will form one of your strongest memories of your time at IWU; you'll return with new friends and a wealth of experiences. But more than that, you'll come back with a newly discovered sense of yourself and your abilities. Living abroad for an extended period fosters independence and self-sufficiency, and being exposed to new ways of living and thinking will give you a new perspective on yourself—on how you live and what you believe. Whether your study abroad experience is your first time abroad or not, it won't be easy, but it will be well worthwhile—just ask a returned study abroad student.

Professionally, the academic experience and personal growth will make you more competitive in any field. Employers know that students who have successfully studied abroad are self-motivated, adaptable, resilient, and willing to take on a challenge. They know such students will likely bring to the job a broader perspective to both the work and the world and an ability to adapt to new circumstances. Moreover, students who have studied abroad in a foreign language possess second-language skills, and all study abroad students gain cross-cultural communication skills—both valuable talents on the marketplace. Finally, since many of our study abroad affiliates offer internship opportunities, many students can bring work experience in an international setting to the table when looking for a job.

**“Never spend your money before you have it.”**

*Thomas Jefferson*

*Studying abroad doesn't have to break the bank...so long as you have a budget and stick to it. Here are some tips to help you manage your money and stretch what funds you do have.*

### BEFORE YOU GO...

- Create a personal budget.
- Do your research.
  - Travel guides, websites
- Look for group or student fares
  - STA, Student Universe
- Apply for discount cards, memberships.
  - ISIC, IYH, WWOOFing
- Check your bank.
  - Make sure you understand what fees you'll be charged for using your ATM or credit card abroad; research fees with other banks



Image: FreeFoto.com

### WHILE YOU ARE THERE...

- Travel
  - Limit travel outside host country.
  - Plan trips ahead of time.
  - Take day trips rather than overnights.
  - Use hostels rather than hotels (IYH).
  - Explore your host city.
- Eating
  - Eat in.
  - Share meals.
  - Eat like a local: shop local markets, get staff suggestions for cafés.
  - Alcohol is expensive. If you drink, drink in moderation.
- Avoid tourist traps
- Communication
  - Watch your data usage; set your phone to airplane mode.
  - Use wifi and apps—Skype, Facetime, WhatsApp, WeChat....
  - Send old-fashioned letters and postcards.
- Transportation
  - Walk!
  - Use buses and metro rather than cabs; consider purchasing weekly/monthly passes.
  - For trips, remember to compare train and air prices.
  - Think about overnight travel—save the cost of a room.
- Shopping
  - Wait to buy! Especially for souvenirs, compare prices.
  - If bartering is part of the local custom, then barter.
  - Take a local friend with you to get a better deal.
- Money
  - Follow your budget! Keep track of what you spend.
  - Pay cash: it's easy to overspend with credit cards.
  - Don't carry lots of cash with you—less temptation to spend.
  - Use your discount cards (ISIC, IYH, university ID).



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