WSSU STUDY ABROAD SCHOLARSHIP GUIDE

Fund Your Global Experience

Winston-Salem State University | Office of International Programs and Study Abroad

Studying abroad is an investment in your education, personal growth, and future career. However, the cost should not prevent you from experiencing the world.

There are several national scholarship opportunities that can help WSSU students pay for study abroad programs, airfare, accommodations, and other approved expenses.

Explore the opportunities below and start preparing your applications!

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1. Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship

Potential Award: Up to $5,000

The Gilman Scholarship is funded by the U.S. Department of State and supports undergraduate students who receive Federal Pell Grants.

Eligibility:

- Must be a U.S. citizen or national.
- Must be an undergraduate student in good academic standing.
- Must receive a Federal Pell Grant during the application or study abroad period.
- Must participate in a credit-bearing study abroad program.
- Destination must meet the program's U.S. Department of State travel advisory requirements.

Why apply? Short-term faculty-led programs can qualify! There is no minimum program-length requirement.

Additional funding: Students studying eligible critical-need languages may qualify for an additional award of up to $3,000.

Apply: https://www.gilmanscholarship.org/

2. Fund for Education Abroad (FEA)

Potential Award: $1,000–$5,000+ depending on the scholarship

FEA provides scholarships to undergraduate students who demonstrate financial need and face barriers to participating in international education.

Eligibility:

- Must be at least 18 years old.
- Must be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or DACA recipient.
- Must be enrolled as an undergraduate.
- Must receive academic credit for the international experience.
- Must participate in a program lasting at least 14 days.
- Must demonstrate financial need.
- Must not have previously studied abroad after high school.

Special opportunity: NAFSA Tamara H. Bryant Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship supports African-American undergraduate students pursuing international experiences. Students should explore eligibility through FEA's application process.

Apply: https://fundforeducationabroad.org/apply/

Application note: The Winter/Spring 2027 application is closed. Summer/Fall 2027 applications are expected to open in Fall 2026. Check the official website for the current application window.

3. Boren Awards

Potential Award:

- Up to $8,000 for qualifying 8–11 week STEM summer programs.
- Up to $12,500 for 12–24 weeks.
- Up to $25,000 for 25–52 weeks.

Boren Awards support students interested in studying languages and cultures in regions important to U.S. national security.

Eligibility:

- Must be a U.S. citizen.
- Must be an undergraduate student.
- Must study abroad in an eligible country outside Western Europe, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.
- Must incorporate language and cultural study into the experience.

Important: Recipients agree to a federal government service requirement after graduation. This opportunity is generally better suited for longer-term international experiences than short faculty-led trips.

Apply: https://www.borenawards.org/

4. Freeman-ASIA Scholarship

Potential Award:

- Summer: Up to $3,000.
- Semester: Up to $5,000.
- Academic year: Up to $7,000.

Freeman-ASIA provides financial assistance to undergraduate students studying in East and Southeast Asia.

Eligible destinations include:

- South Korea
- Japan
- China
- Thailand
- Vietnam
- Singapore
- Indonesia
- Taiwan
- Malaysia

Eligibility:

- Must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.
- Must be an undergraduate student.
- Must demonstrate financial need.
- Must meet the program's GPA requirements.
- Must participate in an eligible program of sufficient duration.

Important: Summer programs generally require at least eight weeks. Short faculty-led trips may not qualify.

Apply: https://www.iie.org/programs/freeman-asia/

WHICH SCHOLARSHIP SHOULD YOU TRY FIRST?

Scholarship	Best opportunity
Gilman	Short-term, credit-bearing faculty-led trips
FEA	Students with financial need and limited prior study abroad experience
Boren	Longer language-focused international programs
Freeman-ASIA	Students studying in East or Southeast Asia

BEFORE YOU APPLY: STUDENT CHECKLIST

- Confirm that your WSSU study abroad program qualifies.
- Check your financial aid eligibility and FAFSA information.
- Review the scholarship's application deadlines.
- Request your unofficial transcript.
- Prepare a personal statement explaining why you want to study abroad.
- Create a budget outlining your program costs.
- Ask about how scholarship funds can be applied to your trip.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT SCHOLARSHIP PAYMENTS

Scholarship funding and payment procedures vary by organization. Some awards may be sent directly to your institution, while others may be disbursed to students or used for approved expenses.

Students should contact the scholarship organization and the WSSU Office of International Programs and Study Abroad to determine how funds can be applied to their individual study abroad balance.