



# Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship

Over the past 16 years, the U.S. Department of State's Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program has expanded the American student population that studies and interns abroad by supporting undergraduate students with high financial need (Pell Grant recipients) from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and other U.S. territories. The Gilman Program has enabled more than 25,000 outstanding Americans of diverse backgrounds to engage in a meaningful educational experience abroad, providing them with skills critical to our national security and economic competitiveness.

The Gilman Program not only broadens U.S. participation in study abroad, but emphasizes countries and regions where fewer Americans traditionally study. Since the program's inception in 2001, Gilman Scholars representing more than 1,300 U.S. colleges and universities have studied in over 140 countries.



*“ Study abroad provides our students with the opportunity to return home with a deeper understanding of their place in the world, encouraging them to be a contributor, rather than a spectator in the international community. ”*  
– **Congressman Benjamin A. Gilman**

## GILMAN SCHOLAR HIGHLIGHTS

The Gilman Program has been successful in providing scholarships to students historically underrepresented in education abroad. During academic year 2016-2017:



**68%**

of Gilman Scholars represented racial and ethnic minority groups



**65%**

studied or interned in countries where fewer Americans go abroad, including in the developing world



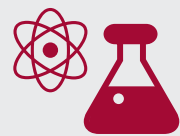
**46%**

were first-generation college students



**40%**

studied a language deemed critical to our national security while abroad



**30%**

were in fields not traditionally associated with study abroad including STEM fields

In addition, Gilman Scholars are more diverse than the national study abroad population – nearly four times more likely to be African-American/Black, and more than twice as likely to be Asian/Pacific Islander-Americans or Hispanic.

Call: (202) 632-6339 | Visit: [GilmanScholarship.org](http://GilmanScholarship.org) | Email: [StudyAbroad@state.gov](mailto:StudyAbroad@state.gov)

The Gilman Program is a program of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. It is supported in its implementation by the Institute of International Education (IIE).

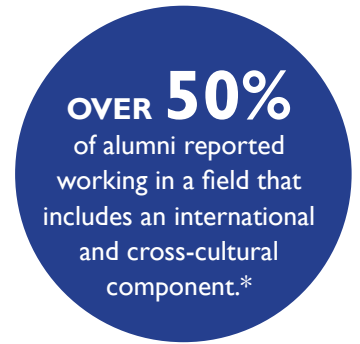
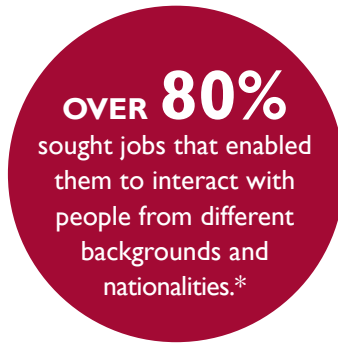




## PROGRAM IMPACT

The Gilman Program helps participants develop skills required to compete in a global economy and opens the door to new career possibilities.

Research has also shown that the Gilman Program helps colleges and universities internationalize their campuses by attracting new sources of study abroad funding, expanding study abroad to more diverse locations, and supporting the professional development of study abroad staff.



\*According to an independent evaluation

“ Having personal contact with people from other cultures is the best way to break down cultural barriers... Oftentimes, high level policy seems like the most important thing, but the way people perceive each other is really what shapes reality. Perceptions and relationships have a real, concrete effect on the world. ”

– Josh Trinidad, Gilman Scholar, current Foreign Service Officer (U.S. Department of State)



## WAYS TO PROMOTE AND CELEBRATE GILMAN SCHOLARS

Below are several suggestions for ways to publicly recognize constituents who have received Gilman awards:

- Send a congratulatory letter or email
- Distribute a press release to local media
- Post an announcement on your website or via social media with #GilmanScholarship
- Host a meeting or reception with returning Gilman Scholars and Gilman alumni in your district or state office
- Recognize Gilman Scholars in a House or Senate floor speech



Gilman Scholarship Program



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