

Gilman Advisor Best Practices Hispanic-Serving Institutions

The Gilman International Scholarship Program is a program of the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and supported in its implementation by the Institute of International Education (IIE).



U.S. Department of State



BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS



Promote mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries, and they do so by facilitating opportunities of academic, professional, athletic, and other cultural exchange.

studyabroad.state.gov
exchanges.state.gov



Gilman-McCain Scholarship

- Congressionally funded initiative
- Named after late senator John McCain
- \$5,000 awards
- Child dependents of active-duty service members

Gilman-McCain Scholarship for Undergraduate Children of Active Duty Service Members **APPLY TODAY!** Awards of \$5,000 to study abroad!



Gilman-McCain Eligibility

- U.S. citizen
- Undergraduate student
- Traveling in a country or area with overall Travel Advisory Level 1 or 2
- Minimum 3 weeks (21 days) or 2 weeks (14 days) if at two-year institution
- Dependent Child of active-duty military member(s) during time of application (Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Coast Guard)
- Recipient of any type of Title IV federal financial aid



2 Steps



Student Application

- Abroad Program Info
- Essays
- Unofficial Transcript(s)
- Select Advisors

Advisor Certifications

- Study Abroad Advisor
- Financial Aid Advisor

Advisors

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley



Alan Earhart, PhD Director of International Programs & Partnerships



Lizette Galvan, MA International Programs Specialist



Gilman Advisor Best Practices Hispanic-Serving Institutions

The Gilman International Scholarship Program is a program of the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and supported in its implementation by the Institute of International Education (IIE).



The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

International Programs & Partnerships



Alan Earhart, PhD

Director of International Programs and Partnerships

- Facilitates creation of new partnerships with international HEIs
- Administers J-1 BridgeUSA Program of U.S. Department of State
- Manages & Promotes Study Abroad
 & Exchanges



Lizette Galvan, MA

International Programs Specialist

The University of Texas RioGrande Valley



- Established 2015
- A Bilingual, Bicultural, Biliterate Education
- 2nd largest HSI
- ~60% of students are Pell eligible
- ~90% of students are Latinx (Mexican American)
- 30,000+ students (5,000 graduate students)



Gilman October 2020 Deadline

- 40 Completed Applications
- 25 Awardees
- \$107,500 total awards
- 87 awards for \$317,500 since
 2015





Get To Know Your Students



- Personal Capital
- First-Generation
- Commuters
- Live With Parents
- Responsibilities At Home



Find What Works and Amplify That

- Personal Capital
- First-Generation
- Commuters
- Live With Parents
- Responsibilities At Home

- Bring Enthusiasm
- Don't Take Anything For Granted
- Make It Easy For Them
- Talk To The Parents
- Positive Peer Pressure



Gilman Promotion October 2020 Deadline

Emails to ~16,000 eligible students

Early Sept



- Prompt responses
- Email reminders



It Takes a Village

- Gilman Recipient Buddy Mentor Program
- Writing Center Partnership for Virtual Workshop on Essay Writing
- Virtual Info Sessions
- Individualized Student Advising
- Social Media Marketing
- Student Success Ninja Email System (Over-powered)
- Study Abroad Faculty Promotion



Additional Support Networks

Study Abroad Club

Ambassador Program Bilingual Parent Info Sessions

Faculty Buy-in & Promotion

- Dedicated study abroad faculty: Mijin-Oh-Villarreal
- South Korea study abroad faculty leader
- Creates group chats with students early in the semester
- Engages students in traditional
 Korean culture, dance, & language





Focus Group

- Kristen: Faced a roadblock with transcript from another school and texted Gilman directly and they found a workaround.
- Kristen: Info sessions with IPP were useful.
- Kristen: Prof. Bradley had already planted the seed and then the info session cemented it to try to get the Gilman.
- Kristen: I got 2 emails! 9/17 and 9/24. Getting the Zoom invite was really helpful.
- Presilla: I thought I had to be in a club to study abroad. Info sessions on Zoom were helpful. Gilman felt like a second chance to study abroad.

All Students: Essays are the major roadblock



Omar Nedzelsky - Gilman Scholar, 2018

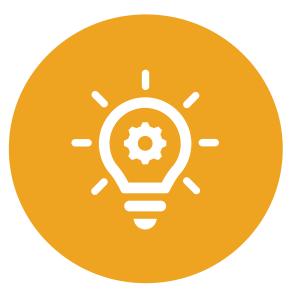


Studying abroad has made me more aware of what I want to do with my life.



Lessons Learned

- Virtual info sessions work best for our students
 - Commuters
 - Full-time and part-time jobs
 - Family obligations
- In-person info sessions and fairs did not work
- Positive Peer Pressure





iGracias! ¿Preguntas?



Contact Information





Dr. Alan Earhart alan.earhart@utrgv.edu

Lizette Galvan lizette.leal01@utrgv.edu