Advisor Best Practices: Supporting Community College Students
U.S. Department of State

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 Program’s 2019-2021 Impact

50% were first-generation college students
60% from areas outside major cities or capitals
70% represented racial or ethnic minority groups

Since Inception

34,000+ U.S. undergraduates of high financial need
150+ countries
1,350+ U.S. institutions represented
Scholarships up to $5,000

- Fall
- Spring
- Summer
- Winter
- Academic Year
Eligibility
Gilman Eligibility

- U.S. citizen
- Undergraduate student
- Federal Pell Grant recipient
- Credit-bearing program
- In a country or area with an overall Travel Advisory Level 1 or 2, or approved Level 3 exception location

Virtual international programs, virtual internships, & hybrid programs are eligible!
Gilman Eligibility

Submitting Applications
- Will review programs in locations that are level 3-4 only due to COVID-19

If they become a recipient...
- Location must be level 1-2, or level 3 approved exception before program start date

Travel Advisory Levels

- Exercise normal precautions
- Exercise increased caution
- Reconsider travel
- Do not travel
Virtual Program Eligibility

- Online courses based outside U.S.
- Institution, exchange, or provider
- Faculty-led programs
- International internships
- Intensive language programs outside U.S.
- Open to proposals
- Eligible through April 30, 2023 start dates
Gilman-McCain Scholarship Eligibility

$5,000 for child dependents of active-duty service members

• U.S. citizen
• Undergraduate student
• Credit-bearing program
• In a Travel Advisory level 1 or 2 country with
• No minimum length requirement!
• Recipient of any type of Title IV federal financial aid
• Dependent child of an active-duty military member (Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Coast Guard, Activated Reserves)
Tammy Gibbs
International Education Manager
Center for International Education
Supporting Community College Students in Studying Abroad
Presentation Outline

- Study Abroad at Madison College
- Challenges
- Promoting Study Abroad and Removing Obstacles
- Gilman Success Stories
- Final Thoughts
Study Abroad at Madison College
Center for International Education At Madison College

- Education Abroad & Virtual Exchange
- F-1 Visa Support & International Recruitment & Admissions
- Curriculum Internationalization
- Global Studies Certificate
- Campus Programming, including a peer friendship program
- Faculty Development
- Partners and Consortia
- International Visitors and Delegations
Study Abroad at Madison College

- One(ish) person Study Abroad Office
- Short-term, mid length, semester long
- Faculty-led, consortium, and third-party provider
- Virtual Exchange
- Degree Program specific and general
- Many experiential, hand on, imbedded in curriculum
Challenges to Study Abroad
Challenges

• What is Study Abroad?

• FUNDING

• Degree program compatibility/ direct career relevancy

• No return student help

• Program accessibility

• Lack of support from family/ friends

• And/or familial responsibilities
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).
Partners on Campus

• Trio
• Scholars of Promise
• Mentoring Programs
• Writing Center
• Financial Aid
• Social Media Specialist/ Marketing
• Faculty Champions
• Veteran Services
Removing Obstacles

- Variety of program options
- Virtual Exchange
- Application and management system-ease of completion
- Website for programs and scholarships
- Study Abroad Fair- meet the faculty leaders!
- Scholarship Information Sessions
- 1:1 scholarship coaching
- Madison College Study Abroad Scholarship
- Study Abroad Gap Advance
- Virtual Advising
Examples of best practices

• Serve on Gilman Review Panel (they didn’t tell me to say that!)
• Clarify processes
• Make scholarship list
• Work w/ Writing Center or others to assist students with essays
• Develop a variety of Study Abroad program options
• Provide as much information as time allows!
• Consider alternative financial support: Gap Advance, pay via cc, payment plans, etc
Gilman Success Stories
Student Story #1

• Native American woman, student athlete
• Gilman to study in Spain for a semester
• Semester students take online course: fully embraced experience
• Transferred to UW-Madison to study International Relations and Politics
• Planned to study abroad again
• Last heard- applying for an internship with governor’s office & 2 others in DC!
Student Story #2

- African American, female in IT program
- Studied on French Language Immersion
- Applied to second program - Gender and Women’s Studies
- Realized importance of having female role models in IT
- Joined Women in IT organization
- 2020 😞
- Helping family friend come to US on F-1 visa
Other student stories

• Formerly homeless student
• Single father, returning adult student
• Deaf, African American Student
• Returning older adult student, first gen, single mother
• Student recently followed me on the street.... Umm, excuse me... were you my study abroad advisor?
Final Thoughts
Final Thoughts

Small steps lead to big change

Join with others

Join Professional Organizations

Don’t yet know full impact of pandemic on our students.
Tammy Gibbs
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Thank You!

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