Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship

The U.S. Department of State’s Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program enables American undergraduate students with high financial need to study or intern abroad through scholarships of up to $5,000. Students studying critical need languages are eligible for scholarships up to $8,000. For over 20 years, the Gilman Program has provided access and opportunity to study abroad for more than 36,000 exceptional U.S. undergraduate students, who have gained skills critical to their personal and professional development, as well as for our national security and economic prosperity.

Eligibility Requirements

• U.S. Citizen or national
• Undergraduate student in good academic standing
• Federal Pell Grant recipient
• Participating in a credit-bearing program abroad up to an academic year in length
• In the process of applying for, or accepted to, a credit-bearing study abroad or internship program in a country with an overall Travel Advisory of 1 or 2, according to the U.S. Department of State Travel Advisory System

Application Deadlines

THURSDAY, MARCH 9
For overseas programs that start May 2023-April 2024

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3
For overseas programs that start December 2023-October 2024

Benefits of Being a Gilman Scholar

• Noncompetitive eligibility for federal employment
• Networking opportunities with thousands of Gilman Scholars and Alumni via a private platform
• Access to professional development seminars and career-development resources

Visit us at GilmanScholarship.org for more information and to apply.
Contact us at gilman@iie.org with your questions.

The Benjamin A. 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).
Gilman Scholar Highlights

Despite obstacles to global mobility, the Gilman Program awarded scholarships to 787 American students historically underrepresented in study abroad from 290 U.S. colleges and universities. In 2020-21,

- 70% represented racial or ethnic minority groups
- 58% were first-generation college students
- 48 home states were represented, as well as the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico
- 70% were from United States rural areas/small towns

Students from Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs)

- 26% of Gilman Scholars attended MSIs
- 13% of national study abroad students attended MSIs*
- 28% of the total undergrad population attends MSIs**

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*Data from the Open Doors 2021 Report on International Educational Exchange
**Data from ACE, Pulling Back the Curtain: Enrollment and Outcomes at Minority Serving Institutions, 2017

Program Impact

The Gilman Program helps participants develop skills critical to our national security and economic prosperity, preparing them for careers in a globalized world. Gilman Scholars increase their professional and academic skills and serve as citizen ambassadors representing U.S. culture in 160 countries around the world. Additionally, alumni promote the program and international experiences on their home campuses and in their home communities.

- 95% gained multicultural communication skills*
- 80% gained job-related skills*
- 75% further defined career goals*
- 97% gained greater self-confidence*

*According to participants surveyed

“I’ve developed a richer perspective of the world I live in after the completion of this community service-learning program. This experience has become an essential part of preparing me to continue to take responsibility as an open-minded and principled member of my global community.” – Gilman Scholar, South Africa