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U.S. Department of State Announces 1,700 Gilman Scholars, Expanding Access to Study Abroad for American Undergraduate Students

December 6, 2023 – The U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) announced that it has awarded the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship to approximately 1,700 American undergraduate students from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico who applied in the October 2023 cycle. On average 70 percent of Gilman recipients self-identify as racial or ethnic minorities, 60 percent are from rural areas and small towns across America, and half are first generation college or university students. All are Pell Grant recipients. The Gilman Scholarship contributes to the Department’s diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility efforts to engage the American people in foreign policy.

This cohort of Gilman scholars will study or intern in over 90 countries and represents more than 500 U.S. colleges and universities. It includes recipients of the John McCain International Scholarship for the Children of Military Families (Gilman-McCain Scholarship), which are awarded to the children and spousal dependents of U.S. military personnel who are active or activated during the application period. Additionally, there are 90 recipients of the Critical Need Language Award and 50 of the new STEM Supplemental Award which supports selected Gilman scholars to conduct STEM-related research abroad as part of their overseas program. Gilman scholars receive support from the governments of Germany, through the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), France, New Zealand, Israel and Wales, as well as the Luso-American Development Foundation (FLAD) in Portugal and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO).

Since the program’s inception in 2001, more than 41,000 Gilman Scholars from all U.S. states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and other U.S. territories have studied or interned in more than 160 countries around the globe. The Department of State awarded more than 3,600 Gilman scholarships during the 2022-2023 academic year.

Supported by the U.S. Congress, the Gilman Scholarship is an initiative of the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) and is aided in its implementation by the Institute of International Education (IIE). To learn more about the Gilman scholarship, and its recipients, including this newest cohort, visit gilmanscholarship.org.