



## How to Apply for USAC Scholarships

1. Apply to a USAC Study Abroad Program on [usac.edu](https://usac.edu)

*It can take three to five business days after submitting your application to receive access to your USAC Student Gateway Account.*

2. Log in to your USAC Student Gateway Account and complete the Scholarship Application: Optional Form.

*Your scholarship application will then be processed so you are considered for as many USAC Scholarships for which you are eligible.*

## Deadlines

- Summer and Fall Programs: **March 15**
- January and Spring Programs: **October 15**

*Be sure to check with your home university financial aid office and study abroad office about other potential funding options, which will have varying deadlines.*

## Scholarship Tips

- Plan ahead.** Thoroughly review eligibility requirements, application components, and deadlines for each fund so you can build your timeline for applying. USAC maintains a list of external scholarships at [usac.edu/scholarships](https://usac.edu/scholarships).
- Create a Plan B.** Scholarship funds are competitive, so be sure to have a backup plan.
- Earlier is better.** Start your application and essay drafts well in advance of each application deadline and ask multiple individuals to review your essays. Your campus writing center is a great place to start.
- Thoroughly answer the prompts.** Each scholarship essay prompt will be different, so read the prompt before starting your draft, and keep referring to it to ensure you're staying on track.
- Be engaging and concise.** Make your responses personal by reflecting on what led you to study abroad and what you hope to accomplish. Be engaging, but don't write too much, as you will lose your audience.
- Why do you want to study abroad?** State your reasons clearly. Scholarships are investments in the recipients, so think about why someone should invest in you. How have you prepared, what skills will you gain and how, and how do these goals tie into your future pursuits?
- Research, research, research.** Consult the resources on [usac.edu/webinars](https://usac.edu/webinars) and your USAC Gateway account for additional scholarship tips and information.



## Thank you to our generous donors

### The Bressman family, in honor of Kody Bressman

Alumnus of the USAC San Sebastián, Spain program.

### Colin Proctor and Megan Proctor, in honor of Janice Proctor

Mother of study abroad alumni, Megan and Colin.

### Frank and Thu Triplett

Dr. Frank Triplett is a Professor Emeritus at the University of Mount Union who served as a USAC Visiting Professor in Pau, France on three separate occasions.

### Jade Wright

Alumnus of the Summer 2013 and Fall 2013 Haifa, Israel program.

### Dr. Marianne Cooley

A distinguished Professor Emeritus at the University of Houston who has served as a USAC Visiting Professor in Chengdu and Shanghai, China.

### Massey University

USAC's longtime partner in hosting students in New Zealand.

### University of Bristol

USAC's longtime partner in hosting students in the United Kingdom.

### Dr. Alyssa Nota, in honor of Frank and Carol Nota

Parents of the USAC CEO and strong proponents of Italian culture and study abroad.

### USAC, in honor of Dr. Félix Menchacatorre

Director of the USAC Spain programs for 25 years, a dedicated teacher, and a beloved member of the USAC family.

### USAC, in honor of Dr. Carmelo Urza's service

USAC Founder and CEO Emeritus.

*To find out how you can support scholarships for students studying abroad, contact the USAC Scholarships Team at [scholarships@usac.edu](mailto:scholarships@usac.edu)*

[usac.edu](https://usac.edu)



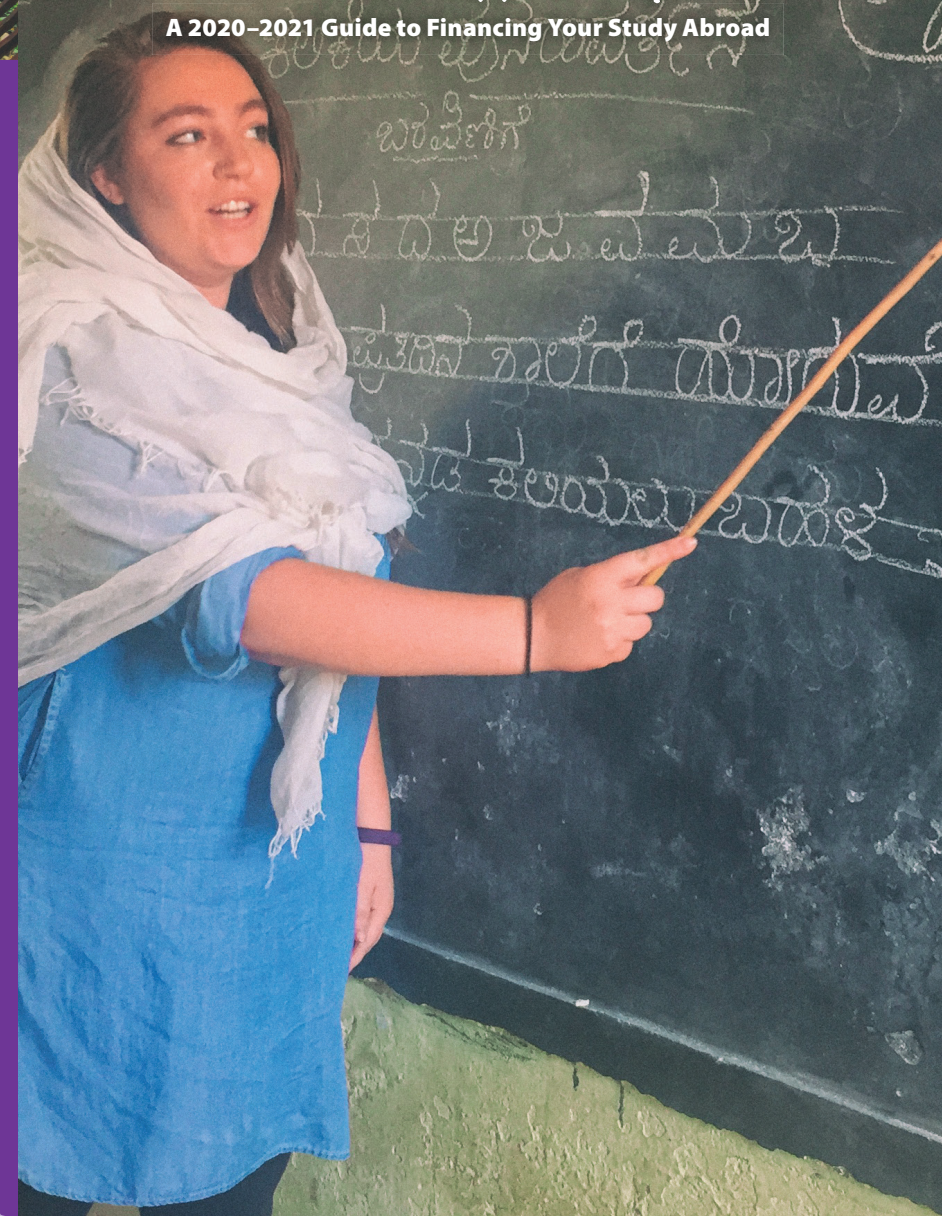
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2021 Scholar



## You Can Study Abroad Affordably

A 2020-2021 Guide to Financing Your Study Abroad



[usac.edu/money-matters](https://usac.edu/money-matters)



## USAC Study Abroad Scholarships

USAC offers more than \$2 million in scholarships and discounts annually. Check out some of the opportunities below and be sure to visit [usac.edu/scholarships](https://usac.edu/scholarships) for details and eligibility, including GPA requirements and term availability. Keep in mind that all USAC scholarships require students to be degree-seeking, and many require at least a 3.0 GPA.

### ACADEMIC PURSUIT AND STUDENT BACKGROUND

- Community College (currently attending)
- First Generation (neither parent has graduated from a four-year college)
- Legacy (child/sibling/spouse of a USAC alumnus or alumna)
- Military (veteran, active status, spouse, or dependent)
- STEM (major or minor)

### REGIONAL

- Africa and Middle East
- Asia
- Europe
- Latin America
- Oceania

### PROGRAM-SPECIFIC

Term availability varies

- Dr. Marianne Cooley (China)
- University of Bristol (Bristol, England)
- Frank and Thu Triplett (France)
- Discover Middle East (Haifa, Israel)
- Frank and Carol Nota (Italy)
- Janice Proctor Memorial (fall - Torino, Italy; spring - Thailand)
- Massey University (New Zealand)
- Carmelo Urza (Bilbao or San Sebastián, Spain)
- Dr. Felix Menchacatorre Memorial (Bilbao or San Sebastián, Spain)
- Kody Bressman Memorial (San Sebastián, Spain)

### DISCOUNTS

- Returning Student (extending or participating on another Specialty Program)

## Additional USAC Scholarship Opportunities

Depending on your home university, you will have access to various additional USAC funding opportunities. Check out the USAC Consortium University list to see which of the below opportunities are available to you.

### USAC Consortium Universities

Boise State University	Loyola University Chicago	University of Mount Union
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo	Michigan Technological University	University of Nevada, Reno
California State University, Chico	Northern Arizona University	University of Nevada, Las Vegas
California State University, Dominguez Hills	Portland State University	University of South Carolina
California State University, Fresno	University of Arkansas	University of the Pacific
California State University, Stanislaus	University of Cincinnati	University of Toledo
Clemson University	University of Florida	University of Tulsa
Fort Lewis College	University of Houston	University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
Humboldt State University	University of Idaho	Wright State University
Hunter College	University of Iowa	Xavier University
	University of Maine	
	University of Maryland	
	University of Massachusetts, Amherst	

## Students from a USAC Consortium University

### Affiliate University Scholarship

Your home university can nominate students for USAC Affiliate funding. Ask your home university study abroad office for eligibility requirements, application details, and deadlines.

### Consortium Faculty/Staff Discount

Current full-time permanent faculty and staff (or their spouses or dependents), employed for at least one year at a USAC Consortium University and returning to the university after the term abroad, are eligible for a discount on USAC Specialty Programs: \$300 for a summer or January program or \$500 for a semester or yearlong program. Before applying to a program, individuals who are eligible for this discount should inform their Study Abroad office of their plans to study abroad with USAC at this discount and ask the Study Abroad office to notify their USAC University Relations Coordinator to ensure the discount is applied properly.

## Students From all Other Universities

### Explorer Scholarship

Available to degree-seeking students with a minimum 3.0 GPA. Multiple awards of \$500-\$1000 are granted each semester.

**Be sure to check with your home university study abroad office about potential additional funding.**

## Funding Your Study Abroad

As a nonprofit, USAC's goal is for students to gain international experience affordably. That's why, in addition to maintaining reasonable [program fees](#), we provide annual [scholarships and discounts](#) (and have a scholarship for every program) and offer assistance when it comes to applying [financial aid](#) to your program costs.

We recommend taking the following steps to fund your study abroad:

- ✓ **Plan early.** By starting early, you can pursue as much funding as possible and create a study abroad budget that meets your needs. Remember to be mindful of external scholarship deadlines as they can be up to a year in advance of program departure dates.
- ✓ **Research what financial aid and scholarships you can use.** USAC accepts and can postpone payment for any confirmed financial aid and scholarships you will be receiving for your study abroad program. Talk to your financial aid office and/or study abroad office to find out if you can use your aid and scholarships for study abroad, what the application process entails, and any additional steps needed to ensure the aid is applied to your program.
- ✓ **Review your current domestic budget.** Compile your current expenses for school, including tuition and fees, books, transportation, meals, housing, and other miscellaneous expenses. You will use this information in the next step.
- ✓ **Find the right program.** Use our interactive budget sheets on the "Fees and Deadlines" section of each program page on [usac.edu](https://usac.edu) to determine the total estimated cost for the programs that meet your goals. Compare your estimated total expenses against your current budget to gain a clearer understanding of any potential gap. Depending on where and when you choose to study abroad, you may find the cost comparable or even more affordable than staying at your home university. Keep in mind that there are often more financial aid and scholarship opportunities for semester and yearlong programs as compared to summer and January programs. If you typically work, you will most likely not be able to have a paying job during your time abroad. You will want to consider how this will affect your budget before, during, and after your program.
- ✓ **Look into additional scholarship and funding options.** Consider all scholarship opportunities, including USAC Scholarships, scholarships through your home university financial aid and/or study abroad office, campus departmental scholarships, national scholarships, employer scholarships, and community organization and club scholarships. USAC maintains a list of external scholarships at [usac.edu/scholarships](https://usac.edu/scholarships) for which you may be eligible. Keep in mind that scholarships are competitive, and you should have a backup plan in the case that you are not awarded. Personal fundraising, crowdfunding, personal savings, familial support, and private loans can be ways to close your financial gap for your program.
- ✓ **Start your program application.** Once you're ready to start your application, click "[Apply Now](#)" and keep an eye on your email account for important information about upcoming scholarship deadlines, payment dates, the USAC Financial Aid Disbursement Form, and your Study Abroad Toolkit, which will include tips for managing your money while abroad. You can also contact your Accounting Specialist if you would like to set up a payment plan to spread out the payments for your program.

Scholarship availability may change. Please visit [usac.edu/scholarships](https://usac.edu/scholarships) for the most up-to-date information.