

# *Funding Study Abroad*

*Hosted by the Office of Global Education  
Financial Aid & Scholarships Office*

**CU Denver | Anschutz**



# *AGENDA*

Scholarship Resources

Tips for Scholarship Essays

Financial Aid

Q & A

# *Scholarship Resources*

# Where to Find Scholarships



## CU Denver | Anschutz Office of Global Education Website

- [OGE Scholarship Page](#)
- [Program Brochures](#) Click on individual program brochures and navigate to the Financial Aid and Scholarship tab
- [Veteran's Affairs Benefits](#)

## Financial Aid and Scholarship Office

- [Scholarship Universe](#) University Portal for Scholarships

## 3rd Party Provider Scholarships

- USAC, CIEE, ISA/TEAN, and AIFS are some 3rd Party Providers that award our students a lot of scholarships, but all 3<sup>rd</sup> party programs have their own scholarships
- Must be participating on a 3<sup>rd</sup>-party program (open to undergraduates) to be eligible for their scholarship in most cases (we will notify you if you can apply to 3<sup>rd</sup> party scholarships for your faculty-led program)

**Other Resources:** [GoAbroad](#), [GoOverseas](#), [StudyAbroad](#), [International Scholarships](#), [Tortuga Backpacks](#) (for semester programs), [Fund for Education Abroad](#), [DIWC](#), [BeGlobalii](#)

# Office of Global Education Scholarship

The Office of Global Education (OGE) offers \$500 scholarships to CU Denver | Anschutz students pursuing one of our many short-term Global Study programs. OGE strongly believes in the long-lasting, positive value of education abroad in broadening personal and academic perspectives. [Start an application here.](#)

## Eligibility

- Must be a currently enrolled, degree-seeking student at CU Denver | Anschutz
- Must have an **active application** for a CU Denver global education program taking place during the same term as the scholarship application. *Note: CON Guatemala Blocks 1 and 2 must apply for the Winter term scholarship.*
- Students are only eligible to receive the Global Education Scholarship once per academic year.

*Note: Students participating on the RMI Program to England, CHA/PA Guatemala program, any D2 Business Program, and the CUPT Costa Rica program are not eligible to receive this scholarship. Additionally, students traveling abroad independently for credit or with an approved third-party program are not eligible to receive this scholarship.*

**Summer Program Deadline: March 3<sup>rd</sup>**



# *Gilman Scholarship*

The U.S. Department of State's Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program (Gilman Program) awards students receiving Pell Grants up to \$5,000 to study or intern abroad, with the goal of providing them with skills critical to our national security and economic prosperity. [Start an Application here.](#)

## Eligibility

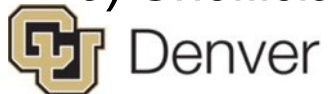
- A citizen or national of the United States;
- An undergraduate student in good standing
- Federal Pell Grant Recipient
- Applying for credit-bearing study abroad programs in a country or location with an overall Travel Advisory Level 1 or 2, according to the [U.S. Department of State's Travel Advisory System](#).

**Deadline: March 6<sup>th</sup> for students whose abroad programs or internships start between May 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026.**



# Gilman Application Components

- 1) Study Abroad Program Info
- 2) Essay #1: Statement of Purpose, max 7000 characters
  - Personal Interview
  - Academic, Professional, Personal Goals
  - Meeting Challenges
- 3) Essay # 2: Community Impact/Building Mutual Understanding, max 3000 characters
  - What it means to be a US Citizen while abroad
  - How you will seek opportunities to be culturally engaged
  - Seeking Opportunities to have meaningful interactions
- 4) Essay #3: Community Impact: Follow-on Service Project Proposal, max 3000 characters\*
  - Being an effective citizen diplomat while abroad
  - How will you give back by inspiring others?
  - On Campus or in-home community
  - Design Plan of Action (audience, tools, and timeline)
- 5) Unofficial Transcripts and Select Advisors



Denver

\*There are 2 optional essays: Critical Need Language Award & STEM Supplemental Award



# *Gilman Essays: Tips, Tricks, and Resources*

- 1 FOCUS ON ESSAY QUALITY**  
HIGH QUALITY ESSAYS ARE CRITICAL. EVERY PROMPT QUESTION MUST BE ADDRESSED.
- 2 UTILIZE THE MAXIMUM WORD COUNT**  
WRITE AS CLOSE TO THE MAXIMUM WORD COUNT AS POSSIBLE WITHOUT BEING REPETITIVE.
- 3 DETAIL, DETAIL, DETAIL**  
BE AS DETAILED AS POSSIBLE IN YOUR RESPONSE AND PROVIDE MULTIPLE EXAMPLES.
- 4 CLEARLY OUTLINE GOALS**  
CONNECT PERSONAL, PROFESSIONAL, AND ACADEMIC GOALS TO YOUR CHOSEN STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCE.
- 5 START STRONG & BE MEMORABLE**  
TELL YOUR PERSONAL STORY IN A CREATIVE AND ATTENTION GRABBING WAY, IDEALLY IN THE FIRST PARAGRAPH.
- 6 HAVE ESSAYS REVIEWED**  
WORK WITH THE WRITING CENTER OR OGE TO HAVE ESSAYS REVIEWED AND PROOFREAD.

**We will send these  
Gilman resources to  
all registrants!**





## *Other Scholarships: International Languages/Teaching/Research*

- BOREN
  - \$25-30,000 Scholarships for U.S. undergrads and grads planning on studying a foreign language in an eligible world region
  - Make a commitment to working in the U.S. federal government for a minimum of one year
  - **Next application deadline: Around January 2026**
- CRITICAL LANGUAGE
  - Summer Program for U.S. undergrads and grads wishing to learn a critical language abroad
  - 8-10 weeks, open to students of variety of language levels
  - Funds language instruction, materials, room, board, and program-travel, visas
  - **Next app deadline: TBA, but around November 2025**
- FULBRIGHT
  - One-year grants abroad for graduating college seniors, graduate students, young professionals, scientists, and artists
  - Options for graduate or professional study, advanced research, or English teaching
  - For U.S. Citizens
  - **2026-2027 cycle opens in Spring 2025**

# *Tips for Scholarship Essays*

## *How to Write a Good Scholarship Essay*

- Read the whole prompt and restate in your own words what you are being asked. Create a checklist to make sure you are addressing all parts of the prompt.
- Write in your own voice! We discourage the use of AI when writing scholarship essays. They often sound bland, repetitive, and canned.
- Schedule an appointment with the [Writing Center](#) to review your drafts! The more people you can get to review your essay the better.
- Spellchecking, proofreading, and formatting. Get these basics correct!
- See if there are resources available (selection criteria, webinars, etc.) with essay guidance on the scholarship website (if applicable).

# *Maximizing Financial Aid for Study Abroad*

*Financial Aid & Scholarships Office*



# *AGENDA*

Explore types of financial aid available

Best steps for financial aid eligibility

Things to consider

Tips for maximizing financial aid

Q & A

# *Types of Financial Aid*

## *Types of Aid*

### Scholarships

Free  
money.

Private | State | Institutional  
**Scholarships** usually require applications. Many exist for study abroad specifically!

### Grants

Free  
money.

Private | State | Institutional  
**Grants** are usually based on financial need and don't have to be repaid

### Loans

Borrowed  
money.

Federal | Private  
**Loans** are an investment in your future. But remember, they must be repaid with interest.

# *Types of Financial Aid*

## **Grants**

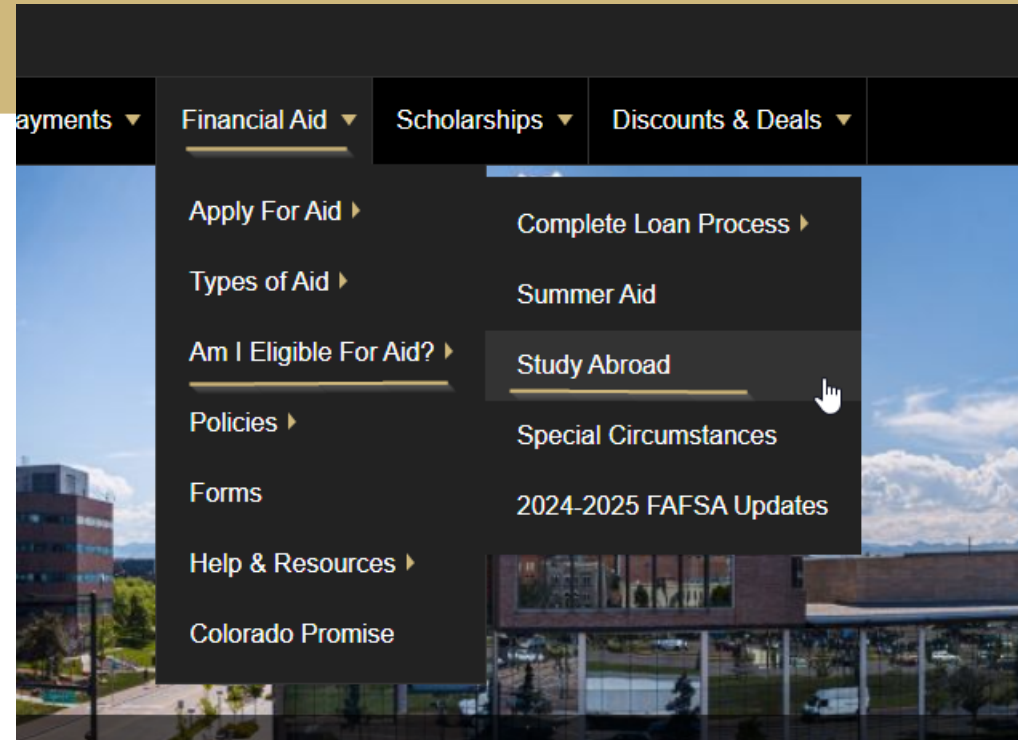
- Federal options
  - Pell Grant
    - Need based eligibility
    - Amounts are dependent on enrollment
  - Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant
    - Need based eligibility
    - Amounts are limited from year to year
- University options
  - University Need Grant
    - Need based eligibility
    - Amounts are dependent on enrollment
  - Lynx Success Grant
    - Need based eligibility
    - Amounts are dependent on enrollment
- State options
  - Colorado State Grant
    - Need based eligibility
    - Amounts are dependent on enrollment



# Types of Financial Aid

## Scholarships

- Private
- Merit based
- Need based
- Study abroad specific
- Language and country specific
- Education level specific



# *Types of Financial Aid*

## **Scholarships**

- **Daniels Fund**
  - Graduating high school senior in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah or Wyoming
  - Must work with Scholarships office directly
  - Requires some coordination with Daniels Fund office
- **Boettcher Scholarship**
  - Merit based, for high school seniors
  - Must work with Scholarships office directly
  - Requires some coordination with Boettcher office
- **Reisher Scholarship**
  - For Freshman and transfer students, Colorado resident
  - Need based
  - Can cover tuition and fees and potentially room and board
  - Does not cover flights, transportation, or other abroad expenses
  - Students **MUST** work with Scholarship office and coordinator to be eligible and awarded
- **Displaced Aurarian Scholarship**
  - Descendants of Auraria neighborhood residents displaced by AHEC (1955-1973)



# *Types of Financial Aid*

## **Loans**

- Federal options
  - Subsidized & Unsubsidized
    - Eligibility may be impacted based on time of year
  - Graduate PLUS
  - Parent PLUS
- All federal loan options require enrollment minimums
- Federal aid can only pay for courses that apply to your program

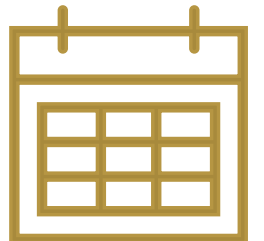
- Private options
  - We have tools to help you shop and compare!



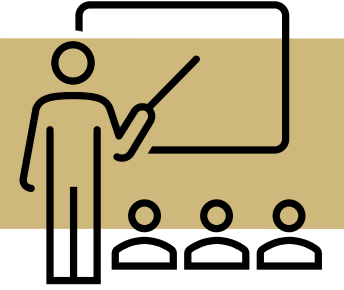
# Things to consider with Federal Financial Aid

## ***Time of year can matter for federal aid!***

- Winterim
  - Generally tied to your Spring aid package
  - Spring awards can be used to cover your costs
  
- Summer
  - Any summer federal aid is tied to the previous academic year's financial aid package
    - Ex. Summer 2025 is part of the 2024-2025 academic year package
  - If you have used your entire annual loan funding for Fall & Spring, you may not receive anything for a Summer study abroad program



# Things to consider with Federal Financial Aid



## ***Courses you take matter!***

- Federal law requires all federal aid paid can only be used to cover courses that apply towards your program of study
  - Course approval forms are really important!
  - CU Denver faculty-lead programs: Generally, your courses apply towards your degree.
    - Note: all faculty-lead programs could also count towards the International Perspectives Requirement
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Party programs: Get courses approved in advance with Course Approval Forms & check in with your academic advisor
- Courses should enrich your experience but also apply to your program of study
- Work with your department advisors and the Global Education Office regarding your course selection and process

# Things to consider with Financial Aid

## ***Courses you take matter!***

- Most federal financial aid requires enrollment minimums
  - Loans: half time enrollment or more for disbursement
- State and institutional grants are impacted based on enrollment
  - Best practice: half time or more
- Enrollment does include courses you take abroad

### Enrollment

Undergraduate  
Half time: 6+  
credits  
Full time: 12+  
credits

Graduate  
Half time: 3+  
credits  
Full time: 6+  
credits

# *Things to consider with Financial Aid*

## **When does Financial Aid pay?**

- Financial aid cannot pay more than 10 days before the official start of a study abroad program
  - Often scheduled to disburse on during the business week
- If your program begins before this periods:
  - Funds may not be available to you until the regular first disbursement date of a term
  - It is your responsibility to understand and plan for this situation, if applicable
- Highly recommend setting up direct deposit with Bursars office
  - Paper checks are otherwise slow



# *Tips to Max Your Financial Aid*



# *Maximize your Financial Aid*

## **Start with a FAFSA**

- Complete a FAFSA even if you don't want to use loans
  - You could be eligible for institutional and state grants without realizing!
- Many scholarships require FAFSA complete for a Student Aid Index (SAI) number

## **Check early and often for Scholarship Opportunities**

- Application deadlines come and go
- Time manage the application material
- Writing Center is your friend!



# *Maximize your Financial Aid*

## **Stay engaged with the Global Education & Financial Aid Offices**

- Changes to your plan can change your eligibility
- Both offices can coordinate a best fit opportunity for you
  - Financial Aid advisors can help determine what financial aid is applied to your study abroad program
- Help you navigate resources locally and abroad

## **Budget!**

- Consider what aid you have received and may be eligible for
- Plan and coordinate all charges to avoid unexpected costs
- Take into consideration exchange rates



# Questions?

*Financial  
Aid  
Contact*



*Scholarships  
Contact*



*OGE  
Contact*

