



FEA Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: Who is eligible for FEA scholarships?

A: US citizens, permanent residents or DACA students currently enrolled as undergraduates in US universities/colleges who plan to study abroad during one or more academic semester(s).

Q: When can students apply for FEA scholarships?

A: For the 2017-2018 academic year (summer 2017, fall 2017, and spring 2018), the FEA scholarship application cycle opens **November 16, 2016 at 12PM EST and closes January 11, 2017 at 12PM EST.**

Q: How do students apply for FEA scholarships?

A: Students complete an online application at www.fundforeducationabroad.org/apply.

Q: What are the FEA scholarship amounts?

A: FEA will award \$5,000 scholarships to students who study abroad for one semester. Students who study abroad for two semesters will receive \$10,000. Students who study abroad for other lengths of time will receive a pro-rated amount.

Q: How many FEA scholarships will be awarded?

A: FEA anticipates that approximately 50 scholarships will be awarded in the 2017-2018 cycle, a number largely dependent on FEA fundraising.

Q: What criteria will FEA use to award scholarships?

A: FEA scholarships are designed for students seeking a rigorous overseas academic program, for non-traditional study abroad students, and for students with financial need. FEA scholarships are for students going on any study abroad program that meet these criteria.

Q: Is there a minimum program length to qualify for the award? Are semester long faculty-led programs participants included for consideration?

A: The minimum program length to qualify for an FEA scholarship is four weeks. Any program four weeks or longer will be included for consideration. Students attending two consecutive semesters abroad should consider applying for the academic year scholarship.

Q: Are ship-based programs eligible for the award?

A: Semester at Sea and other ship-based study abroad programs are eligible so long as they spend a minimum of four weeks in countries outside of the US. It does not have to be four weeks in one country.

Q: If students don't know 12-20 months in advance of studying abroad what program they want to attend, can they still apply for an FEA scholarship?

A: FEA requires that students research and apply for FEA scholarships with a particular education abroad program in mind. If students subsequently changes their mind, they can submit an additional form explaining the reason for this change (e.g. the program is no longer offered, different major, a new program is a better fit goal for study abroad, etc.).



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Q: What “under-represented” or “non-traditional” factors are evaluated by the application reviewers?

A: In order to diversify and increase study abroad, FEA reviewers are asked to consider a variety of factors in all applications: students may be considered under-represented or non-traditional if they are a first-generation college student; of low socio-economic status; an ethnic minority; younger or older than the average college student; a student with a disability; a community college student. a member of the LGBTQI community; a math or science major; male; studying outside of Western Europe, Australia, or New Zealand; or studying a less-common language such as Basque or Vietnamese. This is not a comprehensive list, and there may be other under-represented qualities taken into account. Moreover, under-represented or non-traditional students is a preference – not a requirement – of FEA scholarship awards, so all students are encouraged to apply.

Q: Does a student who does not qualify for aid according to the FAFSA guidelines have a chance to be considered financially in need by the FEA scholarship committee?

A: The FEA application does not require that students submit a FAFSA, nor is it required for a student to be receiving federal financial aid. However, FEA evaluators give preference to applications with demonstrated financial need. Students are required to submit a form completed by their financial aid office indicating their financial aid status.

Q: When will students learn if they have been awarded an FEA scholarship?

A: The FEA scholarship selection committee will meet after the January 11, 2017 application deadline. Awards will be announced in mid-March, 2017 for the upcoming 2017-2018 academic year.

Q: How are FEA scholarships distributed?

A: Once a student has been accepted to a study abroad program, FEA usually sends scholarship funds to the organization or university on the student’s behalf.

Q: Who is on the FEA scholarship selection committee?

A: The FEA scholarship selection committee is comprised of FEA board members, volunteers and other members of the education abroad community.

Q: How can study abroad advisors and education abroad directors support FEA?

A: Let your students know about this scholarship. Encourage them to share why they or their plan for study abroad should be considered “non-traditional.” Donate to FEA at www.fundforeducationabroad.org/donate. Volunteer to do an FEA fundraiser in your area.