PRESIDENT'S GRANT FOR STUDY ABROAD APPLICATION

Former WMU President Dr. Diether H. Haenicke established the WMU President’s Grant for Study Abroad (PGSA) in 1994 to enable more students to participate in language-based foreign study for at least 12 consecutive weeks and 12 credit hours. The grant attempts to cover as much of the difference between the cost of attending WMU and the cost of the study abroad program as possible.

Students may apply for both financial-need and merit-based awards; merit-based awards do not require a completed FAFSA, but do require submission of a signed Financial Information Release with this application. Applicants seeking need-based awards are required to have a completed FAFSA on file.

Upon returning to WMU after studying abroad, recipients of the PGSA are required to assist the Haenicke Institute for Global Education in promoting study abroad to WMU students. Promotional activities may include class presentations, sharing your experience with students at the fall Study Abroad Fair, or participating in special events. Recipients are also required to submit a two-page essay describing their experience, including photos, to WMU Study Abroad.

**Minimum Qualifications:**
1. Demonstrated financial need and/or solid academic records, especially in relevant language and culture courses. Preference will be given to students applying to a WMU study abroad program.

2. U.S. citizenship (for financial need-based awards) or permanent residency. International students may apply for merit-based awards only if the native language of the country in which they plan to study is not their own.

3. Full-time undergraduate or graduate enrollment status at WMU through the completion date of the study abroad program.
   - Undergraduates must have at least sophomore status at the time of study abroad and a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75.
   - Graduate students must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5.

4. Transfer students must have completed at least one semester of full-time coursework at WMU prior to semester of study abroad. GPA will be determined by averaging the GPA earned prior to attending WMU and the GPA for the first semester completed at WMU.

5. Solid academic preparation for study abroad consisting of courses in relevant foreign language and area studies directly related to the country or region of study as specified below:
Study abroad programs in countries for which the language is taught at WMU:

- Must have completed foundational language coursework at WMU by taking at least two semesters of language coursework or have demonstrated comparable proficiency in the language prior to studying abroad.

- Must complete at least half of the coursework abroad in the target language.

- Must complete at least one region- or country-specific course prior to departure, in addition to language coursework.

Study abroad programs in countries for which the language is not taught at WMU:

- Must successfully complete at least two region- or country-specific area study courses related to the study abroad site prior to the semester abroad

- Must complete at least one course (minimum of 3 credit hours) in the relevant foreign language each semester while abroad.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APPLICATION DEADLINES</th>
<th>PERIOD OF STUDY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 15</td>
<td>Following spring semester</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 15</td>
<td>Following fall semester or academic year</td>
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**President’s Grant for Study Abroad (PGSA) Checklist**

**FOR WMU PROGRAMS:**

☐ Completed PGSA application sent to Study Abroad, including:

  ♦ Financial Information Release (if applying for need-based award)

☐ Completed FAFSA (only if applying for need-based award)

**FOR NON-WMU PROGRAMS:**

*(additional documentation required only for Non-WMU programs)*

☐ Approval of selected program by WMU Study Abroad

☐ Budget completed with Study Abroad staff

☐ Completed PGSA application sent to WMU Study Abroad, including:
Student Essay: In 300-400 typewritten words, explain how your study abroad experience—specifically, the study of this particular language/culture—will contribute to your personal, academic and career goals. Attach your essay printed on plain white paper to completed PGSA application.

Two letters of recommendation

WMU transcript, original

Program literature

SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

President’s Grant for Study Abroad
WMU Study Abroad
Haenicke Institute for Global Education
2425 Ellsworth Hall
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5245
PRESIDENT’S GRANT FOR STUDY ABROAD APPLICATION

I am applying for (check all that apply):

☐ Financial Need-Based Award (FAFSA required)  ☐ Merit-Based Award

Name _________________________________ WIN _________________________________

Program & Institution _________________________________

Location _________________________________

Program dates _____ to _______  Applied:  ☐ Yes  ☐ No  Accepted:  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

What language do you intend to study in this program? _________________________________

Local Address _________________________________

(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Local Phone _________________________________  Permanent Phone _________________________________

Permanent Address _________________________________

(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

E-mail ___________________________________@wmich.edu

Major ___________________________________ Minor ___________________________________

Class (i.e., Soph, Jr, Grad): _______________________________ GPA: _______________________________

Earned Credit Hours _______________________________ Currently Enrolled Credit Hours _______________________________

List any academic honors you presently hold: _____________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________

Please list foreign language courses you have completed at WMU or at any other college or university:

_________________________________________________________________________________

List all courses you have completed that are related to your country or region of interest:

_________________________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________________________

Do you currently receive financial aid through WMU?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
WMU faculty recommendations requested (only for non-WMU programs)

NAME ________________________________ DEPARTMENT _______________________

NAME ________________________________ DEPARTMENT _______________________

I have read the President’s Grant for Study Abroad Application procedures and I understand that it is my responsibility to make sure all application materials are submitted to WMU Study Abroad by the application deadline. If my application is incomplete, I understand that I may not be considered for an award.

Signature _____________________________ Date _______________________

FINANCIAL INFORMATION RELEASE

I authorize the WMU Financial Aid Office to release the information requested below to WMU Study Abroad for consideration for the WMU President’s Grant for Study Abroad.

Name __________________________________________ (Last) (First) (Middle)

Local Address ________________________________ (Street) (City, State) (Zip)

Local Phone ___________________________ WIN _____________________________

E-mail (PRINT CLEARLY) ________________________@wmich.edu

FAFSA completed?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No  Date FAFSA filed _______________________

Study Abroad Program/Institution ____________________________________________

Location _______________________________________________________________

Student Signature __________________________ Date _____________________________

SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:
President’s Grant for Study Abroad
WMU Study Abroad
Haenicke Institute for Global Education
2425 Ellsworth Hall
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5245
Name of Applicant: 

Study Abroad Program/Sponsoring institution: 

Location: ___________________________ Semester: ___________________________

I waive my rights of access to this form which, when completed, will be used for the sole purpose of evaluating my qualifications for participation in the above-mentioned study abroad program. (Sign below only if you waive access).

Signature: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

To faculty member making recommendation: If the above waiver is not signed, the applicant will have access to this completed form upon his/her request. Please return this form in a sealed envelope to the student applicant who will submit it with the application. Thank you.

1. How long and in what circumstances have you known the applicant?

2. Please describe the applicant’s performance in your class.

3. Based on your knowledge of the applicant’s academic background, intellectual competence and performance, how would you describe the applicant?

☐ Excellent student ☐ Good student ☐ Average student ☐ Below average student

4. How would you describe the applicant with regards to seriousness of purpose and responsibility?

5. How would you describe the applicant with regards to tact, sensitivity, and ability to get along with others?

6. Do you think the applicant would be a good student to select for participation in this program?

☐ Yes ☐ Yes, with some reservations ☐ No

[Please explain briefly]

7. Please include any additional comments that would help evaluate the applicant.
If you are a foreign language instructor, please answer questions 8 and 9.

8. Compared with the skills of all other students who have studied in my class(es) at the same level as the applicant, the applicant’s foreign language skills are:
   - [ ] Above average
   - [ ] Average
   - [ ] Below average

9. Is the student’s present language competency adequate for the type of study proposed? Please explain if necessary.

Thank you for your help in evaluating this candidate.

Name of Faculty Member

Title

Signature

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Study Abroad Program/Sponsoring institution: ____________________________________________

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3. Based on your knowledge of the applicant’s academic background, intellectual competence and performance, how would you describe the applicant?
   - [ ] Excellent student   [ ] Good student   [ ] Average student   [ ] Below average student

4. How would you describe the applicant with regards to seriousness of purpose and responsibility?

5. How would you describe the applicant with regards to tact, sensitivity, and ability to get along with others?

6. Do you think the applicant would be a good student to select for participation in this program?
   - [ ] Yes   [ ] Yes, with some reservations   [ ] No
   [Please explain briefly]

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