



## PRESIDENT’S GRANT FOR STUDY ABROAD APPLICATION

Former WMU President Diether Haenicke established the **WMU President’s Grant for Study Abroad** 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, given evaluation guidelines*. Students may apply for both financial need- and merit-based awards; **merit-based awards do not require a completed FAFSA, only a signed Financial Information Release as part of their application**.

**Recipients of the President’s Grant for Study Abroad are required to assist the Office of Study Abroad in promoting study abroad to WMU students upon returning to WMU.** Promotional activities may include class presentations, talking to students at the biannual Study Abroad Fair, or participating in special events. Recipients are required submit an article for the Study Abroad website upon returning to WMU.

**Minimum Qualifications:**

1. Demonstrated financial need and/or solid academic records, especially in relevant language and culture courses. First 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. Current full-time undergraduate or graduate enrollment status at WMU.
  - Undergraduates must hold at least sophomore status with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75.
  - Graduate students must possess a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5.
  - Transfer students must have completed at least one semester of full-time coursework at WMU prior to application
4. 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 whose languages are taught at WMU:**

- Must have completed foundational language coursework at WMU or have demonstrated proficiency in the language prior to studying abroad. For French, Spanish, German, Chinese and Japanese—a minimum of four semesters of language coursework should be completed prior to departure. For Russian, Italian and Arabic—a minimum of two semesters of language coursework should be completed prior to departure (with the exception of Rikkyo and Bonn applicants, who only have to take one semester of language coursework).
- 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 whose languages are 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 (with the exception of Cape Town applicants, who only have to take one region- or country-specific area study course).
- Must complete at least one course (minimum of 3 credit hours) in the relevant foreign language each semester while abroad.

DEADLINE	PERIOD OF STUDY
October 15	The Following Spring Semester
March 15	The Following Fall Semester or Academic Year

## PRESIDENT'S GRANT FOR STUDY ABROAD CHECKLIST

- Program approval given by HIGE Study Abroad (*Non-WMU programs only*)
- Budget completed with Coordinator/Director of Study Abroad (*Non-WMU programs only*)
- FAFSA completed and mailed (*Financial need-based only. If not yet completed, pick up FAFSA at Financial Aid Office*)
- Completed application sent to the HIGE Study Abroad, including:
  - ◆ Application Form
  - ◆ Financial Information Release
  - ◆ Student Essay (*Non-WMU programs only*)- 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. You do not have to use this form to do so; you may choose to print your essay on plain white paper directly from your computer.
  - ◆ Two Letters of Recommendation (*Non-WMU programs only*)
  - ◆ WMU Transcript, original (*Non-WMU programs only*)
  - ◆ Program Literature (*Non-WMU programs only*)
  - ◆ Copy of the Budget completed by HIGE Study Abroad staff (*Non-WMU programs only*)

**Your application will not be reviewed if any of the above supporting documents are missing. It is your responsibility to submit the entire application by the specified deadline.**

### SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO:

**President's Grant for Study Abroad  
Haenicke Institute for Global Education  
Office of Study Abroad  
B2425 Ellsworth Hall  
Western Michigan University  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5245**

# PRESIDENT'S GRANT FOR STUDY ABROAD APPLICATION

I am applying for (check all that apply):     Financial Need-Based Award     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? \_\_\_\_\_

Has your program been approved by the Director/Coordinator of Study Abroad?     Yes  No

*Do Not Continue Completing This Application Until Program Approval Has Been Secured!*

Local Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) \_\_\_\_\_ (City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_ (Zip) \_\_\_\_\_

Local Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Permanent Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) \_\_\_\_\_ (City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_ (Zip) \_\_\_\_\_

Email (PRINT CLEARLY) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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 that all application materials are submitted to the HIGE 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 the Office of Study Abroad for consideration of the WMU President's Grant for Study Abroad.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Local Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City, State) (Zip)

Local Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail (PRINT CLEARLY) \_\_\_\_\_

WIN # \_\_\_\_\_ FAFSA completed?  Yes  No Date FAFSA filed \_\_\_\_\_

Study Abroad Program/Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**DO NOT DETACH FROM APPLICATION! THE OFFICE OF STUDY ABROAD WILL SEND THIS FORM TO THE FINANCIAL AID OFFICE AFTER YOU SUBMIT IT.**

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**FINANCIAL INFORMATION SUMMARY—OFFICE USE ONLY**

**To Financial Aid Office:**

The WMU Study Abroad Grant Committee wishes to thank you for your assistance. The above student has applied for a WMU Study Abroad Grant. Please complete the following information and return directly to:

**President's Grant for Study Abroad  
Haenicke Institute for Global Education  
Office of Study Abroad  
B2425 Ellsworth Hall  
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49008-5245  
TEL: (269) 387-5890  
FAX: (269) 387-0630**

This financial aid package information is based on:

- Estimated information, verification pending
- Estimated information, no verification intended
- Verified information
- No FAFSA information received

This student was evaluated as:  a dependent student  an independent student

If there are circumstances that would warrant special consideration, please attach a separate sheet of explanation.



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, definitely     Yes, with some reservations     Perhaps not     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:

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

- Yes, definitely     Yes, with some reservations     Perhaps not     No

[Please explain briefly]

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**Thank you for your help in evaluating this candidate.**

Name of Faculty Member \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_