

# ACADEMIC PROGRAMS INTERNATIONAL (API) SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



## **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

API scholarships are available to API program participants only. To be eligible for an API scholarship, applicants must meet the following qualifications:

- 3.0 GPA or above (2.75 GPA or above for API First Generation, API STEM, or API DACA Scholarship applicants)
- Accepted to an API program and/or have submitted a complete API program application on or before the scholarship application deadline

**Note:** Scholarship recipients will be required to submit one blog post during or immediately following their study or intern abroad program. The submission must comply with API's policies regarding language and subject matter, and API will retain the rights to edit and publish this post on its social media, website and API advising materials, as appropriate.

## **Additional requirements:**

- **API Community or Technical College Scholarship** – Applicant must be currently enrolled at a U.S. community or technical college.
- **API Diversity Scholarship** – Applicant must be one or more of the following: U.S. military veteran, a non-traditional student (30 years old or older), a student with a disability, a minority student, and/or a LGBTQ student.
- **API-JCU Diversity Scholarship** – Applicant must be accepted to API's Direct Enrollment Program at John Cabot University in Rome and identify as black/African-American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian/Asian-American, or Native American.
- **API STEM Scholarship** – Applicant must be majoring in an area classified as a STEM field (science, technology, engineering, or mathematics)
- **API Student Athlete Scholarship** – Applicant must be a student athlete participating in college athletics (both current and college-bound athletes across all divisions of the NCAA, NAIA, and NJCAA may apply).
- **API DACA Scholarship** - Applicant must be the recipient of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals.

## **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:**

- **Letter of recommendation:** Submit one letter of recommendation from a professor or assistant professor, separate from the letter of recommendation that you provided for your API program application. The individual providing the recommendation may use the attached form or submit a separate letter on university letterhead addressing similar topics and questions.
- **Essay #1:** Write a personal essay (1 page maximum) highlighting your financial circumstances. It is important that you clearly state your financial need or any special circumstances of which you would like API to be aware.
- **Essay #2:** Write an essay that corresponds to the scholarship(s) you are applying for according to the prompts below.

**Note:** Be sure to include your name and the name of the scholarship to which you are applying (e.g., STEM Scholarship) at the top of each essay. You may submit the same letter of recommendation and financial circumstances essay for each scholarship application, when applicable.

### **SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:**

Submit your scholarship application(s) via email directly to your API Program Coordinator or Program Manager. You are responsible for ensuring that you submit ALL of the required scholarship materials by the appropriate application deadline. Any incomplete applications will be automatically disqualified.

#### **Application Deadlines:**

- Fall/Academic Year Students: June 10
- Spring Semester/Winter Quarter Students: October 15
- Spring Quarter Students: December 15
- Summer Students: April 1

### **GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP CATEGORIES:**

#### **• COMMUNITY OR TECHNICAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP**

More and more community and technical college students are choosing to study abroad. Explain your goals for studying abroad, why you picked your host country, and how you have designed your academic plan to incorporate a study abroad program as part of your undergraduate experience. (2 pages maximum)

#### **• DIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP**

Students are sometimes concerned about how they will be perceived in their host country and for some, it's a matter of how their race, sexual orientation, age, ethnicity, religion, gender, etc. will impact their experience.

Describe an encounter that demonstrates the importance of diversity to you and what significance it has for your study abroad experience in your respective host country. (2 pages maximum)

#### **• FIRST GENERATION SCHOLARSHIP**

*Write a two-page essay responding to ONE of the following two prompts:*

- a) Some first generation college students may face resistance from their family as they seek out new and untried activities such as studying abroad. Imagine or recreate a discussion in which you must convince a family member of the value of a study abroad experience, and how it will help you achieve your academic and personal goals.
- b) What aspects of the study abroad experience motivated you to apply? How do you foresee the study abroad experience impacting your future plans and career decisions?

- **API REGIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS**

*Note: Any student who applies for the Community College Scholarship, Diversity Scholarship, First Generation Scholarship, STEM Scholarship, or Student-Athlete Scholarship and does not receive an award within one of these categories will automatically be considered for a Regional Scholarship. In this case, a separate essay specific to the Regional Scholarship is not required.*

- **ASIA/MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL SCHOLARSHIP**

*“If you reject the food, ignore the customs, fear the religion and avoid the people, you might better stay home.” – James Michener*

Consider and explore these aspects of Asian/Middle Eastern culture. As you consider integrating into your host country’s society, which of these areas will pose the greatest challenge to you? Which areas will be easier for you to adapt to or will be the most rewarding to discover and understand?

- **SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL SCHOLARSHIP (AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND)**

*“One’s destination is never a place, but rather a new way of seeing things.” - Henry Miller*

Why do you think traveling influences a person to see things differently? What do you anticipate seeing differently about yourself, your home and/or your culture after having an experience abroad?

- **EUROPE REGIONAL SCHOLARSHIP**

*“Travel and change of place impart new vigor to the mind.” - Seneca*

Why do you think traveling has this type of renewing effect? As you anticipate your study abroad program, what specific experiences do you think will have this invigorating influence on you?

- **LATIN AMERICA REGIONAL SCHOLARSHIP**

*“Certainly, travel is more than the seeing of sights; it is a change that goes on, deep and permanent, in the ideas of living.” – Miriam Beard*

How do you anticipate that your “ideas of living” will change by your experience in Latin America? From what you know of or can learn about Latin American customs now, how will your habits and customs be challenged by a different society?

- **STEM SCHOLARSHIP**

Students majoring in the STEM fields are increasingly more likely to study abroad than those students majoring in social sciences, humanities, or business. Explain your goals for studying abroad, why you picked your host country, and how you have designed your academic plan to incorporate a study abroad program as part of your undergraduate experience. (2 pages maximum)

- **STUDENT ATHLETE SCHOLARSHIP**

It is not an easy task to juggle the demands of college athletics with academic responsibilities while pursuing other interests on campus. How will study abroad enhance your overall college experience and benefit you from an academic and athletic viewpoint? (2 pages maximum)

- **DACA SCHOLARSHIP**

Provide an essay detailing your background and motivation for studying abroad. (2 pages maximum)

## **SITE-SPECIFIC SCHOLARSHIP CATEGORIES:**

- **API-JCU DIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP (John Cabot University, Rome)**

The United States is an ethnically and culturally diverse nation, which continues to value the role of diversity in society. Research Italy's contemporary history and discuss an example of how diversity is viewed in Italian society. Compare and contrast American and Italian perceptions of diversity in your essay, being sure to consult at least two (2) separate sources and cite them appropriately.

- **API-AUT UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP (AUT University, New Zealand)**

Now that you have chosen your study abroad destination with API, you are likely reading about the country you will soon be calling "home". Research an aspect of your host country's culture, history, society, or political structure that you find interesting and share your thoughts about it in a one-page essay. Consult at least two (2) separate sources, and be sure to cite them appropriately.

- **API-AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP (Auckland University, New Zealand)**

Now that you have chosen your study abroad destination with API, you are likely reading about the country you will soon be calling "home". Research an aspect of your host country's culture, history, society, or political structure that you find interesting and share your thoughts about it in a one-page essay. Consult at least two (2) separate sources, and be sure to cite them appropriately.

- **API-MASSEY UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP (Massey University Wellington, New Zealand)**

Now that you have chosen your study abroad destination with API, you are likely reading about the country you will soon be calling "home". Research an aspect of your host country's culture, history, society, or political structure that you find interesting and share your thoughts about it in a one-page essay. Consult at least two (2) separate sources, and be sure to cite them appropriately.

- **API-VUW UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP (Victoria University Wellington, New Zealand)**

Now that you have chosen your study abroad destination with API, you are likely reading about the country you will soon be calling "home". Research an aspect of your host country's culture, history, society, or political structure that you find interesting and share your thoughts about it in a one-page essay. Consult at least two (2) separate sources, and be sure to cite them appropriately.



PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY WITH BLACK OR BLUE INK.

To be completed by applicant:

NAME OF APPLICANT \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Area Code

LOCATION, TERM & SESSION YOU ARE APPLYING FOR (e.g., UNIVERSITY OF WESTMINSTER, FALL 2013) \_\_\_\_\_

REFERENCE REQUESTED FROM (PLEASE PRINT): \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Professor

All rights of access to information and materials of any kind received by Academic Programs International or by the host institution overseas from any source in connection with this recommendation are hereby voluntarily waived.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

To be completed by professor or assistant professor:

NAME AND TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

INSTITUTION \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_ OFFICE TELEPHONE ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Area Code

How long and in what capacity have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

Living overseas requires discipline, self-confidence and the ability to be flexible to new living and learning environments. Based on your knowledge of the applicant, please give us your opinion of the student's ability to successfully make the necessary adjustments.

Comment on the following topics regarding this applicant: 1) Interest and sensitivity to cultures other than their own; 2) Intellectual qualities and promise for the future; 3) Ability to handle challenges and adapt to new situations; 4) Suitability for chosen course of study; 5) Ability to write well; 6) Artistic, athletic, social, and other interests or achievements. You may attach an additional sheet if necessary.

We encourage you to use the following space to make additional comments concerning the applicant and/or their qualifications for the program. You may attach an additional sheet if necessary.

Please indicate one of the following statements that most accurately represents your opinion of the student's qualifications for studying abroad.

- I recommend this student to participate in a study abroad program.
- I cannot recommend this student for this program.
- I have some reservations, but am willing to recommend the student with the following qualifications:

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

