

Education Abroad Scholarship Opportunities

Boren Awards for International Study [undergraduate, graduate]



**CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL
STUDIES AND PROGRAMS**

THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

Education Abroad Office

The Boren Awards are funded by the National Security Education Program within the Department of Defense. Boren Scholarships offer support for U.S. undergraduates to study abroad in world regions critical to U.S. interests. Boren Fellowships enable U.S. graduate students to add an important international and language component to their education through specialization in area study, language study or increased language proficiency. More information for the applicants can be found here: www.borenawards.org

Maximum scholarship awards are:

- \$8,000 for a summer program
(special initiative for STEM students only; 8 weeks minimum)
- \$10,000 for a semester
- \$20,000 for a full academic year

CONTACT:

Education Abroad Office
Michelle Ploeger
International Education Specialist
Boren Campus Representative
Location: Snyder Memorial 1000
Phone: 419.530.5268
Email: eduabroad@utoledo.edu
Web: www.utoledo.edu/cisp

Check out helpful tips on the back for crafting a competitive essay.

OTHER SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES

AllAbroad.us

Boren Awards for International Study

Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Program

Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange
for Young Professionals

DAAD - Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst

DiversityAbroad.com

Donald N. Nelson Scholarship for Study Abroad

Fulbright U.S. Student Program

Funding for U.S. Study Online

Fund for Education Abroad (FEA)

George C. Burke Scholarship
for Summer Study Abroad

Gold Key Scholarship

International Studies Abroad Scholarship

International Research and ExchangesBoard (IREX)

LivFund

National Science Foundation

Rhodes Scholarship

Russell Brown Scholarship Fund

Study Abroad in Japan - The Bridge
Scholarship

Sullivan Award

StudyAbroad.com

Shanghai Scholarship

The International Scholarship Search

University Study Abroad Consortium
(USAC)

Learn about these Education Abroad Scholarships and Resources at:
www.utoledo.edu/cisp/scholarships.html

Boren Award:

What Makes a Competitive Application

Tips for Crafting Competitive Essays

What Makes a Competitive Application:

- **Choose Your References Wisely.** Your reference letters should talk about your personality and interests. Winning letters are from those that really know you and your purpose for applying. The language proficiency form does not count as a letter of recommendation.
- **Consider the preferred countries, languages, and fields of study.** Generally, Boren Awards are made to students who will study less commonly taught languages in countries that are critical to national security, but underrepresented in study abroad.
- **Consider government service.** Make sure to connect the themes of national security, government service, and personal experiences. Focus on what drew you to the importance of national security, government career goals, and languages.
- **Identify an appropriate study abroad program.** Investigate many different study abroad programs and decide on the program that best meets your individual goals.
- **Make a compelling case for national security.** The applicant should make a specific, detailed, and focused argument in regards to national security.
- **Tie your current academic plan, your proposed study abroad program, and your future career goals into one strong narrative that makes the case for your Boren Scholarship.** Write two integrative and comprehensive essays that clearly answer all of the questions asked.
- **Find more Boren resources at www.borenawards.org for webinars.** Utilize YouTube for informational videos and alumni tips.

Tips for Crafting Competitive Essays:

- **Work with your advisor.** Talk with your study abroad advisor prior to completing your essays. Your study abroad advisor can give you ideas and suggestions. Your advisor may have participated in selection panels for scholarship programs and can give you some great insight into what makes an interesting and competitive essay.
- **Work with UT's on campus Writing Center.** Take the first draft of your essay to the writing center or to a composition professor. These individuals have invaluable expertise in writing essays for scholarships.
- **Answer the question in the prompt.** Write about past study and/or language experiences. Talk about the people and places that affected you, even if you have no prior foreign language knowledge.
- **Don't tell them what they already know.** For example: "My name is Joe and I am applying for the Boren Scholarship" or information already in the application such as what school you attend.
- **Don't start the essays with a personal statement.** For example: "When I first saw the sun rise over the Serengeti."
- **Don't include citations, footnotes, or quotes.**
- **Don't go over the character limit.**

Scholarship requires two 6,000 character essays:

Each essays ask separate questions that pertain to you and your interests. So do not add things into essay one that you will cover in essay two and vice versa.

Essay One: Explain the significance of your proposed country, region, and language to U.S. national security, how this experience will help you achieve your career goals, and how the skills you will gain will help you fulfill the federal service requirement. You will get priority if you can eloquently talk about how your experience could lead into a long-term government service, above the 1 year requirement.

Essay Two: Description of Study Abroad Program with course of study, related cultural activities and describe the language component in detail. Share your past experience in studying or speaking the language, as well as your plans for continuing to study and/or speak the language following your Boren Scholarship experience. Detail your program commitment and how it will impact your future.