How to Apply for USAC Scholarships

1. Apply to a USAC Study Abroad Program on usac.edu
   It can take three to five business days after submitting your application to receive access to your USAC Student Gateway Account.

2. Log in to your USAC Student Gateway Account and complete the Scholarship Application: Optional Form.
   Your scholarship application will then be processed so you are considered for as many USAC Scholarships for which you are eligible.

### Deadlines
- **Summer and Fall Programs:** March 15
- **January and Spring Programs:** October 15

To be eligible for all potential USAC funding and to be considered for scholarships from UNR, you must also complete the UNR MyNevea Graduate and Undergraduate Scholarship Application by Feb. 1 each year.

Federal financial aid and most Nevada scholarships can be used for any USAC program, and the Millennium Scholarship can be used toward USAC Specialty Programs. For more information, visit unr.edu/financial-aid/special-programs/study-abroad.

### Scholarship Tips

- **Plan ahead.** Thoroughly review eligibility requirements, application components, and deadlines for each fund so you can build your timeline for applying. USAC maintains a list of external scholarships at usac.edu/scholarships.
- **Create a Plan B.** Scholarship funds are competitive, so be sure to have a backup plan.
- **Earlier is better.** Start your application and essay drafts early and ask multiple individuals to review your essays. Your academic advisor, the USAC Scholarships Team, and the UNR University Writing & Speaking Center are great resources.
- **Thoroughly answer the prompts.** Each scholarship essay prompt will be different, so read the prompt before starting your draft, and keep referring to it to ensure you’re staying on track.
- **Be engaging and concise.** Make your responses personal by reflecting on what led you to study abroad and what you hope to accomplish. Be engaging, but don’t write too much, as you will lose your audience.
- **Why do you want to study abroad?** State your reasons clearly. Scholarships are investments in the recipients, so think about why someone should invest in you. How have you prepared, what skills will you gain and how, and how do these goals tie into your future pursuits?
- **Research, research, research.** Consult the resources on usac.edu/webinars and your USAC Gateway account for additional scholarship tips and information.

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### Thank you to our generous donors

- **The Bressman family,** in honor of Kody Bressman
  Alumnus of the USAC San Sebastián, Spain program.

- **Colin Proctor and Megan Proctor,** in honor of Janice Proctor
  Mother of study abroad alumni, Megan and Colin.

- **The Frances C. and William P. Smallwood Foundation**
  To support the expansion of students’ international experiences while helping them become more cognizant of other countries and cultures.

- **Frank and Thu Triplett**
  Dr. Frank Triplett is a Professor Emeritus at the University of Mount Union who served as a USAC Visiting Professor in Pau, France on three separate occasions.

- **Jade Wright**
  Alumnus of the Summer 2013 and Fall 2013 Haifa, Israel program.

- **Dr. Marianne Cooley**
  A distinguished Professor Emeritus at the University of Houston who has served as a USAC Visiting Professor in Chengdu and Shanghai, China.

- **Massey University**
  USAC’s longtime partner in hosting students in New Zealand.

- **Sean Mullen**
  Alumnus of the 1994-95 Santiago, Chile program.

- **The Simcoe family,** in honor of R.J. Simcoe
  Alumnus of the USAC San Sebastián, Spain program.

- **University of Bristol**
  USAC’s longtime partner in hosting students in the United Kingdom.

- **Dr. Alyssa Nota,** in honor of Frank and Carol Nota
  Parents of the USAC CEO and strong proponents of Italian culture and study abroad.

- **USAC, in honor of Dr. Félix Menchacatorre**
  Director of the USAC Spain programs for 25 years, a dedicated teacher, and a beloved member of the USAC family.

- **USAC, in honor of Dr. Carmelo Urza’s service**
  USAC Founder and CEO Emeritus.

To find out how you can support scholarships for students studying abroad, contact the USAC Scholarships Team at scholarships@usac.edu.

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![USAC Scholarships](usac.edu)
USAC Study Abroad Scholarships

USAC offers more than $2 million in scholarships and discounts annually. Check out some of the opportunities below and be sure to visit usac.edu/scholarships for details and eligibility, including GPA requirements and term availability. Keep in mind that all USAC scholarships require students to be degree-seeking, and many require at least a 3.0 GPA.

ACADEMIC PURSUIT AND STUDENT BACKGROUND
• Community College (currently attending)
• First Generation (neither parent has graduated from a four-year college)
• FirstGen NV (current UNR TRIO Scholars and current/former First in the Pack participants)
• Legacy (child/sibling/spouse of a USAC alumnus or alumna)
• Military (Veteran, active status, spouse, or dependent)
• STEM (major or minor)
• UNR College-specific
• UNR Honors
• UNR Diversity Excellence

REGIONAL
• Africa and Middle East
• Asia
• Europe
• Latin America
• Oceania

PROGRAM-SPECIFIC
Term availability varies
• Frances C. and William P. Smallwood (all programs/regions)
• Mullen, Hidalgo, Sandoval (all programs/regions)
• Dr. Marianne Cooley (China)
• University of Bristol (Bristol, England)
• Frank and Thu Tripplett (France)
• Discover Middle East (Haifa, Israel)
• Frank and Carol Nota (Italy)
• Janice Proctor Memorial (fall - Turin, Italy; spring - Thailand)
• Massey University (New Zealand)
• Carmelo Urza (Bilbao or San Sebastian, Spain)
• Dr. Felix Mencachteror Memorial (Bilbao or San Sebastian, Spain)
• Kody Bressman Memorial (San Sebastian, Spain)
• R.J. Simcoe Memorial (Spain)

DISCOUNTS
• Returning Student (extending or participating on another Specialty Program)
• Consortium Faculty/Staff (current full-time permanent faculty and staff, or their spouses or dependents, employed for at least one year at USAC Consortium University, including UNR, and returning to the university after the term abroad. If eligible, email scholarships@usac.edu to ensure the discount is applied properly.)

Scholarship availability may change. Please visit usac.edu/scholarships for the most up-to-date information.

Funding Your Study Abroad

As a nonprofit, USAC’s goal is for students to gain international experience affordably. That’s why, in addition to maintaining reasonable program fees, we provide annual scholarships and discounts (and have a scholarship for every program) and offer assistance when it comes to applying financial aid to your program costs.

We recommend taking the following steps to fund your study abroad:

✓ Plan early. By starting early, you can pursue as much funding as possible and create a study abroad budget that meets your needs. Remember to be mindful of external scholarship deadlines as they can be up to a year in advance of program departure dates.

✓ Set an appointment with a University of Nevada, Reno Financial Aid Advisor. If you are enrolled in a degree-seeking program at UNR, you may apply for financial aid and be considered for all aid programs for your USAC program, with the exception of Work-Study. This includes all federal funds through the FAFSA, including the Pell Grant and Direct Loan Programs.

You can also use other financial opportunities such as university scholarships, university grants, and, for USAC Specialty Programs only, the Millennium Scholarship. Students using university funds must continue to meet all institutional, academic progress, and initial eligibility requirements. In order to utilize financial aid, you must be enrolled in degree applicable classes that either directly transfer into your degree program or are approved for substitution by your academic advisor. Non-degree applicable classes will not be considered for financial aid purposes. Be sure to set an appointment with a UNR Financial Aid Advisor to review your specific funding, and you can read more about applying for existing financial aid and scholarships to study abroad by visiting unr.edu/financial-aid/special-programs/study-abroad.

✓ Review your current domestic budget. Compile your current expenses for school, including tuition and fees, books, transportation, meals, housing, and other miscellaneous expenses. You will use this information in the next step.

✓ Find the right program. Use our interactive budget sheets on the “Fees and Deadlines” section of each program page on usac.edu to determine the total estimated cost for the programs that meet your goals. Compare your estimated total expenses against your current budget to gain a clearer understanding of any potential gap. Depending on where and when you choose to study abroad, you may find the cost comparable or even more affordable than staying at your home university. Keep in mind that there are often more financial aid and scholarship opportunities for semester- and yearlong programs as compared to summer and January programs. If you typically work, you will most likely not be able to have a paying job during your time abroad. You will want to consider how this will affect your budget before, during, and after your program.

✓ Look into additional scholarship and funding options. Consider all your scholarship opportunities, including USAC Scholarships, UNR scholarships through the Graduate and Undergraduate Scholarship Application on your MyNevada account, UNR college and departmental scholarships, national scholarships, employer scholarships, and community organization and club scholarships. USAC maintains a list of external scholarships at usac.edu/scholarships for which you may be eligible. Keep in mind that scholarships are competitive, and you should have a backup plan in the case that you are not awarded. Personal fundraising, crowdfunding, personal savings, familial support, and private loans can be ways to close your financial gap for your program.

✓ Start your program application. Once you’re ready to start your application, click ‘Apply Now’ and keep an eye on your email account for important information about upcoming scholarship deadlines, payment dates, the USAC Financial Aid Disbursement Form, and your Study Abroad Toolkit, which will include tips for managing your money while abroad. You can also contact your Accounting Specialist if you would like to set up a payment plan to spread out the payments for your program.

Average cost of a semester at University of Nevada, Reno (2019-20)
(inclusive of all estimated costs: tuition, fees, housing, food, transportation, etc.)

Nevada Resident: $12,832 | WUE: $14,580
Nevada Advantage: $16,327 | Out of State: $20,358

USAC has programs in over a dozen countries that are comparable in cost to staying at UNR for a semester.

2020-21 AVERAGE COST OF A SEMESTER ABROAD FOR SELECT USAC PROGRAMS
(includes program fees, housing, airfare, visa, food, and estimated personal expenses)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Average Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BRAZIL</td>
<td>$16,497</td>
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<tr>
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<td>CHINA</td>
<td>$10,094</td>
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<tr>
<td>COLOMBIA</td>
<td>$20,358</td>
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<tr>
<td>COSTA RICA</td>
<td>$10,602</td>
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<tr>
<td>GERMANY</td>
<td>$14,512</td>
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<tr>
<td>INDIA</td>
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<td>ITALY</td>
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</table>

We recommend consulting with your Financial Aid Advisor before starting your program to ensure you understand how your scholarships and financial aid will be applied to your program costs.