Tartans Abroad Scholarship

Individual Scholarship for Short-Term Experiences Abroad

Tartans Abroad Scholarships are for Carnegie Mellon undergraduate students to pursue study abroad experiences during academic break periods including the summer, winter break, and spring break. Tartans Abroad funds can be used for a variety of educational purposes including tuition and fees, course related expenses such as required fees, books, supplies, and equipment, and other expenses related to the overseas experience. A Tartans Abroad Scholarship may cover 1/3 of the total expenses at most, up to a maximum of $1000.

Eligibility requirements for application and funding:

- Recipients must be applying to or have been accepted into a study, work, volunteer, or research abroad program at an educational institution abroad or with a study abroad program provider during an academic break period such as the summer, winter break, or spring break.
  - Short-term faculty-led programs where students are already receiving funds from CMU (including financial aid) are typically not awarded additional scholarship money through the Tartans Abroad Fund. Students may wish to contact their college-specific Assistant Director in The HUB to find out whether or not they might be eligible to apply for additional aid.
- The quality of the proposed project/experience abroad will influence award decisions and funds will not be awarded for independent, personal travel.
- Only complete applications will be considered. A complete application includes a detailed budget proposal (a template will be provided within the application), an essay, and one recommendation letter.
- Scholarships will not be available for students to travel during the summer after their final semester of study at the university because awardees must commit to sharing their overseas experience with the Carnegie Mellon community upon their return.
  - Each recipient will be required to prepare a poster display highlighting the experience abroad, to be displayed during CMU’s annual Family Weekend, scheduled for the Fall semester. Recipients may also be asked to serve as student speakers during Study Abroad Information Sessions and to assist at other OIE events on campus.
- All students must attend a Pre-Departure Orientation Session hosted by the Office of International Education and complete ALL pre-departure registration materials before departing campus. Scholarship funds will not be released until this requirement has been met.

Preference will be given to students who:

- have not previously had a study or travel abroad experience
- have not previously received an “Individual” Tartans Abroad Scholarship
To Note:

- OIE does not typically fund travel to countries where the US State Department has a Level 3 Travel Advisory or higher in effect. In cases where the travel warning is location-specific within a country, the request will be reviewed by the University on a case by case basis.
- This cohesive Carnegie Mellon fund supports undergraduate students in pursuing short-term study abroad opportunities by streamlining the request and application process through the Office of International Education (OIE). Monetary support is provided by the Dean of Student Affairs, the Vice Provost for Education, Colleges, Academic Departments, and OIE.

Application Deadlines:

Students interested in applying for a Tartans Abroad Scholarship will need to log in with their Andrew ID and password, and apply online via the CMU Study Abroad Portal. Directions to apply for this and other OIE overseen scholarships: click here.

Each application will be live no later than one month prior to each deadline.

Scholarship applications are due no later than 11:59 PM on the following schedule:
- October 31st - Winter Break
- January 31st - Spring Break
- March 31st - Summer Break

Late applications will not be accepted for any reason. Letters of recommendation must also be submitted by 11:59 PM on the day of the deadline. Questions may be directed to the Office of International Education at 412.268.5231 or goabroad@andrew.cmu.edu.

Application Checklist:

1. Applicants will be required to answer all prompts on the electronic application page via the CMU Study Abroad Portal, including a detailed budget proposal.

2. Applicants will need to address the following prompt in at minimum, a 1-page essay, and upload it with their application:
   - Describe why you chose your intended experience abroad, what you expect to learn from your opportunity abroad, and how that learning will add to and complement your overall curricular and/or metacurricular education at Carnegie Mellon.

3. Applicants are required to provide one recommendation letter from a CMU faculty member, advisor, student affairs representative, department head or college dean. Recommenders will be prompted via email (sent after applicants add this into the Portal) to submit their letters electronically via the CMU Study Abroad Portal. It is the applicant’s responsibility to request the letter with significant advance notice. The recommender will receive instructions as to adding or uploading a letter. Letters submitted electronically will come directly to OIE and be matched with the appropriate student file.