



# STUDY AROAD SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Retain this sheet for your records.

The Office of International Programs (OIP) invites full-time Salve Regina University students planning to study abroad for the first time at a Salve Regina recognized program and holding a minimum GPA of 3.0 to apply for a Study Abroad Scholarship. The Study Abroad Scholarship aims to diversify the kinds of students who study abroad and the countries and regions where they go by supporting undergraduates who might otherwise not participate due to financial constraints. Most applicants are eligible for the Study Abroad Endowment Scholarship, but may be eligible for others as well (Donaldson Trust Scholarship and API Scholarships). Funds will be awarded on the basis of financial need, academic merit, and students' demonstrated maturity as responsible members of the Salve Regina community.

## ELIGIBILITY

1. Minimum 3.0 cumulative G.P.A.
2. First Time Studying Abroad through a Salve Regina University Recognized Program
3. Studying Abroad during the a Semester

## INSTRUCTIONS

Follow these instructions to apply for the Study Abroad Scholarship.

Return the following required application materials to the Office of International Programs by the application deadline for the semester you are attending. (October 1- Spring, February 1-Fall)

- Application for the Study Abroad Scholarship (attached)
- Copy of your Resume
- Statement of Purpose Essay – See our Essay Guidelines on the Following Page!

The Statement of Purpose Essay is your chance to personalize your application. When composing the 750-1000 word Statement of Purpose Essay it is important to address the impact that your study abroad program will have on your academic, professional, and personal goals. You should also address the impact that receiving the Study Abroad Scholarship would have on your achievement of these goals. Address point A in your essay, and at least two others. Some key points to keep in mind are:

- A. What challenges, if any, have I faced in my decision to study abroad? What impact would receiving the Study Abroad Scholarship have on these challenges? For example do I face familial obligations or financial concerns that hinder my ability to study abroad? Other examples include, but are not limited to, being a non-traditional student, having a learning or physical disability, being in a field of study for which it is difficult to incorporate study abroad, etc.
- B. What impact will this study abroad program and receiving the Study Abroad Scholarship have on my academic goals? Will I be able to take coursework abroad towards my major or minor requirements? Will I be able to take electives or pursue further language training not available to me at Salve Regina? How will this study abroad program impact any future academic goals that I may have, such as obtaining a graduate degree?
- C. What impact will my choice of country have on my experience abroad? What initially inspired me to want to study abroad in this particular country or learn this language? What factors led to my choice of country of study?
- D. What impact will my choice of program have on my experience abroad? Are there unique components, such as home-stays, that will impact my experience abroad?
- E. What impact will this study abroad program and receiving the Study Abroad Scholarship have on my professional goals? How does my study abroad program relate to my future professional goals? Will I be able to pursue internship or volunteer opportunities that support my overall career goals? Will I be able to learn skills or conduct research that will be necessary to me in my future career?
- F. What impact will this study abroad program and receiving the Study Abroad Scholarship have on me personally? On a personal level, what initially inspired me to want to study abroad in this particular country or learn this language?

- Faculty Reference (form attached)

Faculty can choose to submit the reference to you or directly to our office. Your application will not be complete and we will not consider your application until your faculty reference is received.

## THE NEXT STEPS

1. The Study Abroad Scholarship Committee will review all applications after the October 1 deadline has passed.
2. Students may be asked to participate in an interview prior to the awarding of the scholarship(s).
3. All applicants will receive notification via email by November 1st informing them if they have been chosen as an award recipient. This email will contain important information about the next steps for all award recipients.
4. Award recipients must write a blog for the Office of International Programs while abroad during the spring 2014. This blog will be posted to the Salve Regina University website.
5. Award recipients must attend the spring 2014 Pre-Departure Orientation (during fall 2013) for study abroad students.
6. Award recipients must make a formal presentation about their study abroad program during International Education Week, November, 2014.
7. Award amounts are distributed directly to the recipients' Salve Regina account and will be used toward Salve tuition.

### Salve Regina University Study Abroad Scholarship Essay Guidelines

*In many ways, the essay is the most important part of your application. This is where the Study Abroad Scholarship Committee get to know you. It gives you the opportunity to emphasize your strengths, justify any apparent weaknesses, and highlight important points. For this reason, we'd like to offer some tips and guidelines to consider when writing your essay.*

- **Answer the question.** You would think this would go without saying, but read the question carefully. Read it again. Make sure your essay answers the entire question.
- **Use an outline.** This will help you logically develop your essay as well as maintain its focus and cohesiveness.
- **Work with the Academic Development Center.** Having someone read over your essays, offer constructive criticism, and work with you through multiple drafts is critical.
- **Address important scholarship criteria and preferences.** This is especially true if you are from a diverse background, have never been abroad, are studying in an underrepresented field, have demonstrated academic improvement, etc.
- **Emphasize the location.** If you're studying in a non-traditional location (outside Western Europe, Australia, and New Zealand), point that out in the essay. Explain why this particular program or location is critical for you, especially if you're studying in a more traditional location.
- **Know your program.** Emphasize immersive qualities and unique components such as home-stays and language pledges that will impact your experience abroad. If you don't know specific details, then contact the program administrators to find out.
- **Make connections.** Make a clear connection between your program choice/location and your future goals. Will coursework abroad count towards major or minor requirements? Will you take electives or pursue language training unavailable on your home campus? What internship or volunteer opportunities will you participate in to support your professional goals? Will you learn skills or conduct research that will be necessary in your future career?
- **Make it personal.** Use the first person. Rather than saying "Students on this program can...", try "While on this program, I will..."
- **Highlight skills, goals, and achievements.** Resumes are submitted, but also highlight your skills, goals, and achievements in your essays. Show how outstanding you are!
- **Be original.** Imagine what the other scholarship applicants will say and make your essay something no one else could write.
- **BE SPECIFIC!!!** Avoid general statements. Rather than saying, "I want to experience a new culture," it will be more effective to say, "I want to live with a host family in Argentina so I can experience first-hand the family as the center of Latin American culture." Don't just write that upon your return you will "do a presentation with photos and food from the country." Indicate when you will present, where, with and to whom, using what medium, how you will advertise, what types of photos you will use, and which food items.



# OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Complete the following application and submit it to the Office of International Programs.

## PART I: STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM INFORMATION

Country: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Program: \_\_\_\_\_

University Abroad: \_\_\_\_\_

## PART II: PERSONAL INFORMATION

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial: \_\_\_\_\_ Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender:  Male  Female Salve ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnicity/Race (optional):

- American Indian or Alaskan Native  Asian/Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander  Black or African American  
 Hispanic or Latino/a  White/Caucasian  Multi-Racial (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_  Do Not Know

## PART III: ACADEMIC INFORMATION

**PLEASE NOTE:** You must have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA to be considered for this scholarship.

Anticipated Graduation (month/year): \_\_\_\_\_ Cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ Cumulative GPA over 3.0?  Yes  No

Major 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Major 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Minor 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Minor 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Which degree requirement(s) would you like to fulfill with this study abroad program?

- Major Requirement(s)  Minor Requirement(s)  Core Complement(s)  Free Elective(s)

Have you already studied abroad through Salve Regina University (through a short-term program)?  Yes  No

## PART IV: STATEMENT OF PURPOSE ESSAY

Please attach a 750 - 1000 word statement of purpose essay addressing the questions on the attached instructions page.

## PART V: FACULTY REFERENCE

Please ask one faculty member to complete the attached faculty reference form and submit the completed form to Melissa Beegle (ph. 401.341.7460) at the Office of International Programs at the Gatehouse. Indicate below whom you have asked to provide your reference in case we need to follow up with the faculty member.

Reference Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Department: \_\_\_\_\_

## PART VI: STUDENT SIGNATURE

By submitting this application, I certify that the information on this application is correct. I acknowledge that award distribution is subject to certain eligibility requirements and is at the discretion of Salve Regina University. I understand that students receiving this scholarship must comply with the stated expectations of the Office of International Programs prior to, during and after the abroad experience. I acknowledge and agree that Salve Regina may revoke my scholarship application at any time if:

- I am no longer a matriculating student at Salve Regina,
- I no longer meet eligibility requirements of the scholarship I am awarded,
- I fail to pay the required Study Abroad Program fees for both Salve Regina and the program abroad,
- I have been found to have violated the Student Code of Conduct or any other law, rule, or regulation and/or I have engaged in unprofessional and/or inappropriate behavior that would affect my ability to preserve the high standards of the University as a student studying abroad.

I also authorize Salve Regina to publish for public relations purposes my photograph or photographs in which I appear.

**Applicant Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



# FACULTY REFERENCE FORM

## STUDY ABROAD SCHOLARSHIP

### STUDENT DIRECTIONS

Complete the top portion and deliver this form to your chosen faculty member. *Please note:* this faculty reference letter for the study abroad scholarship may be used as your 2<sup>nd</sup> letter of reference for the study abroad application.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Salve ID#: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I am applying for the following semester study abroad program:

Country: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Program or University: \_\_\_\_\_

*Select only one of the below options:*

I hereby waive my right of access to the information on this reference.

I do not waive my right of access to the information on this reference.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature / date

### FACULTY DIRECTIONS

Please complete the reference form below as candidly as possible. Submit the completed form to the Office of International Programs via campus mail, fax or email. Alternatively, you can email your comments to the following questions to [studyabroad@salve.edu](mailto:studyabroad@salve.edu).

Please be aware that this student's application will not be reviewed until your faculty reference is received.

1. Do you feel this student is a good candidate for a semester or year of study abroad?  Yes  No

2. For how long and in what capacity have you known this student? Please provide a realistic assessment of the applicant's abilities in general.



# FACULTY REFERENCE FORM

## STUDY ABROAD SCHOLARSHIP

3. Have you found this student to be a mature and responsible person? Do you think this student would make the personal, social, and academic adjustment to the overseas program chosen?

4. Please comment on the student's potential to succeed in their chosen study abroad program (listed above).

5. Do you have any additional comments about this student?

Reference Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Department: \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_