



Office of International and National Student Exchange Programs

Gilman Scholarship Application Timeline

Spring Semester

Mid-January - March 7th Deadline

This Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship application requires 3 essays (statement of purpose, building mutual understanding, and follow-up service project). Use the table below as a guide to prepare your essays. Please note that the dates next to each prompt are suggested so that you won't become overwhelmed with writing 3 essays at the last minute!

1. Statement of Purpose prompts: **Please address ALL of the questions below, in no particular order: (maximum of 7,000 characters).**
2. Building Mutual Understanding Essay (maximum of 3,000 characters including spaces)
3. Follow-up service project (maximum 3,000 characters)

Date	Essay Submission or Task Completion Deadline
Statement of Purpose Essay Prompts (Answer all 4 questions in one essay)	
Jan. 15	How will studying or interning abroad help you achieve your future academic or professional goals?
Jan. 20	Why did you select your specific program and host country?
Jan. 25	How are you academically prepared to be a successful scholar abroad? Disclose any significant academic difficulties you have faced.
Feb. 1	What examples of knowledge, skills, and experiences will you draw on to navigate a different environment abroad?
Building Mutual Understanding Prompts (Answer both questions in one essay)	
Feb. 5	Thinking ahead to your experience abroad, how will you represent the United States and share your own background and experiences as a U.S. citizen during your program?
Feb. 10	What opportunities will you seek to engage in the culture and build meaningful connections within your host community?
Follow-on Service Project (Answer All 5 questions in one essay)	
Feb. 15	In no particular order, describe your Follow-on Service Project in more detail.
Feb. 15	What is your project and how will it increase awareness of study abroad and the Gilman Program among your peers in your home or campus community?
Feb. 20	Identify and explain why you chose the specific community you will be reaching.
Feb. 20	How will you integrate the impact of your experience abroad into your project?
Feb. 20	With which campus departments, student organizations, or community organizations will you collaborate?



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Optional

If you plan to study a critical language while abroad, you can submit an optional essay that awards up to an additional **\$3,000**. STEM majors also can apply for a supplemental award of up to **\$1,000**.

Date	Essay Submission or Task Completion Deadline
Critical Language Award (Answer all 4 questions in one essay) <i>max. of 3,000 characters</i>	
Jan. 15	What are your motivations for improving your language proficiency academically, professionally, and personally?
Jan. 20	How do you intend to improve your language skills while studying abroad? How will you increase your proficiency in the language inside and outside of the classroom setting?
Jan. 25	How do you intend to use the language after you study abroad, and how will the Critical Need Language Award prepare you for this?
Feb. 1	If you would like to be considered for an exception to our policy of studying a language in a country/location where it is predominately spoken, please explain why you chose your particular location and the benefits and resources for studying the selected language there.
STEM Supplemental Award (Answer both questions in one essay) <i>maximum of 1,000 characters</i>	
	Please summarize your STEM-related research component and your overall motivation toward this STEM field.
	Please also share how this will contribute to your future academic and/or career goals.