

Boren Undergraduate Study Abroad Scholarship Student Rating Form

A. Educational qualifications as a demonstration of potential for success in proposed study abroad

1. The applicant's academic preparation is sufficient to allow him/her to benefit from the proposed study abroad experience. (Consider a proven or steadily improving academic record, curriculum choices appropriate to the course of study proposed for study abroad, and any special circumstances that warrant comment.)

Language Interest and aptitude

2. The applicant has made use of opportunities for prior language training (either in the target language or another), and/or has demonstrated a serious commitment to learning the target language abroad. Consider evidence of interest in foreign language study and realistic expectations of proficiency levels that can be achieved during the study abroad period. (Note – Previous language instruction in the target language is not required for study under Boren. However, students proposing study of Spanish or French MUST be at an advanced level of proficiency in order to be eligible for an Boren Scholarship.)

B. Motivation, maturity, and personal commitment to international education (as a means to fulfilling academic and career goals)

3. The applicant's motivation for undertaking this program of study is strong, particularly with regard to integrating the study abroad component into his/her academic and career plans. Consider both the applicant's short- and long-term goals for integration.
4. The applicant demonstrates sufficient maturity, flexibility and common sense to cope with the challenges of living and studying in an unfamiliar environment. Consider that the student's previous experiences and activities need not be related to international pursuits.
5. The applicant demonstrates a clear, well-developed link between the study abroad experience and his/her future career goals in areas related to U.S. national security interests. (It is understood that such links from freshmen and sophomores will be less sharply focused, but still should be articulated.)

C. Quality and appropriateness of the proposed program and its relevance to the goals of Boren

6. The applicant's proposal includes a feasible plan for applying new knowledge (including language) after returning to his/her home institution. (Consider the student's discussion of plans to integrate further language and cultural studies-formal and informal- into his/her academic or professional program.)
7. The applicant is sufficiently knowledgeable about the study abroad program he/she intends to pursue. (Consider formal classroom study, non-classroom learning and support structures available to the student, i.e., in-country program director or sponsor, housing arrangements and other facilities.)
8. The applicant's proposed study abroad meets Boren guidelines for preferred countries, languages, fields of study, length of study and commitment to federal service. (Consider the quality of the application with respect to these guidelines. Applicants proposing study abroad that does not address Boren preferences should still be rated by campus committees. Compelling proposals from such applicants will be considered.)