

## Writing Recommendations for the Boren Scholarship

**Overview:** Open to freshmen through seniors for semester or year-long study in a non-western country. Only U.S. citizens are eligible, and the student must be interested in non-western language acquisition. In addition, students must indicate a desire to work for the federal government in the area of national security. Recipients are required to work in the federal government for a year after they graduate.

**Timeline:** The campus deadline for student applications is **January 16, 2018 at noon**. Please submit your letter online through the Boren website before that date. A campus committee will review applications and candidates will receive interviews. Based on these reviews, you may be asked to consider revisions to your letter before the student's application is officially submitted to the Boren Scholarship program in early February.

**Guidance:** The Selection Committee rates candidates based on their study abroad program preferences, including countries, languages, and field(s) of study; length of time abroad; and commitment to work in the federal government. The strongest candidates have a solid academic record and the potential to succeed in their proposed study abroad experience, a commitment to international education to fulfill academic and career goals, and language interest and aptitude. Moreover, the student's study abroad program should directly relate to both the applicant's career aspirations and their envisioned work in the federal government in the Departments of Defense, State, or Homeland Security or in the Intelligence Community.

1. Does the student have the educational qualifications necessary for success while abroad?
2. Please comment on the student's commitment and interest in his/her destination country.
3. Does the student demonstrate the necessary maturity, motivation, and commitment to international education?
4. If possible, please remark upon the leadership qualities of the applicant.
5. How adaptable is the student to new situations and unstructured environments?
6. Is there evidence of creativity and innovation in the candidate's approach to answering questions or solving problems?
7. Does the proposed study abroad plan align with the student's academic and career goals?
8. Most importantly, is there a strong desire in the applicant to contribute to an area of national security? A positive response here will greatly assist the applicant.

