



Blazers Study Abroad Stipend

Valdosta State University

Center for International Programs

ADDRESS 204 Georgia Avenue • Valdosta, GA 31698-0037 • **E-MAIL** studyabroad@valdosta.edu

PHONE 229.333.7410 • **FAX** 229.245.3849 • **WEB** www.valdosta.edu/studyabroad/

Valdosta State is committed to providing intercultural and international opportunities for its students - we want our Blazers to study abroad and get the global skills needed for their future!

This stipend fund has been created by the English Language Institute as a part of the Center for International Programs' campus Internationalization efforts. All future awards are subject to funding availability.

The Blazers Abroad Stipend is available to all eligible Valdosta State University students in all majors. Special consideration will be given to applicants studying abroad for a semester or a year, or in regions or countries typically less served by USG study abroad programs.

Blazers Abroad Stipends range between \$500 and \$2000 each.

Eligibility:

Academic:

1. Applicant must be a regular, full-time student enrolled in a degree program at Valdosta State University.
2. Applicant must demonstrate a 2.75 overall GPA at the time of application and at time of receipt of scholarship funds.
3. Applicants must be committed to spending at least one semester after their study abroad experience at VSU, so that they could fulfill service requirements.

Service:

All stipend recipients are required to do the following in exchange for the Blazers Abroad Stipend for each semester they receive the stipend:

1. Offer five hours of assistance to the VSU English Language Institute by participating in the Conversation Partners program PRIOR to the study abroad experience.
2. Offer 20 hours of assistance in promoting study abroad at VSU by doing the following AFTER their study abroad experience:
 - a. Attend at least one Visitation Day event or Parents Weekend
 - b. Attend at least three Study Abroad Table events
 - c. Speak to at least 3 student groups/ classes about their study abroad experiences
 - d. Create a Scrap book/ photo album/ digital/ video journal about their study abroad program/ experience.
 - e. Participate in the Annual Study Abroad Round Table Discussion in October.

The service requirement is coordinated through the Center for International Programs, and must be completed within two terms of returning from abroad. If a student fails to perform this requirement without valid (medical) reasons, a repayment of the scholarship will be arranged and a hold will be placed on student's account.

Instructions & Checklist:

Mail or deliver all of the following to the Center for International Programs:

- Blazers Abroad Stipend Application
- Officially sealed academic transcripts
- A copy of the study abroad program description with program contact information (if not a VSU-sponsored program or exchange).
- An essay of 400-500 words describing the student's reasons for wanting to study abroad
- If student is receiving financial aid, include a copy of student's Banner account summary showing financial aid for current semester. Financial need will be considered.

Application Deadline:

- Spring 2015: Delivered by **December 2, 2014***
- Summer 2015: Delivered by **March 3, 2015**
- Fall 2015: Delivered by **May 2, 2015**

No late or incomplete applications will be accepted.

**Funds are limited. Summer students who apply by Dec. 2 will be given first consideration for stipends. Remaining funds will be awarded to students who apply by March 3.*

