

## **Education Abroad Award**

### **Terms of Reference**

#### **Purpose**

This award aims to encourage undergraduate and graduate students to:

- undertake an education abroad experience;
- choose from a wide variety of education abroad programs, both in type (e.g., exchange/summer program/faculty-led/internship/research) and in destination;
- take a leadership role in developing opportunities for education abroad.

#### **Eligible Programs**

This Award provides financial support to undergraduate and graduate students undertaking any academic study, research, work term, or volunteer opportunity outside of Canada for at least seven days. **Programs less than three weeks in length must be for credit.**

Types of eligible education abroad experiences could include:

- Formal exchanges at approved partner institutions;
- Short-term/summer courses and/or study tours;
- Faculty-led programs (course taught by U of A faculty abroad);
- Programs led by partner institutions or third-party providers;
- Internships, research, clinical rotations, or volunteer opportunities abroad.

#### **Eligibility**

Students must:

- be participating in education abroad programs outside of Canada for **at least seven (7) days**;
- be registered full-time in a U of A undergraduate or graduate degree program at the time of the program abroad. Open Studies and part-time students will not be considered eligible;
- have a minimum 2.0 GPA;
- undergraduate students must have completed a minimum of \*12 credits of U of A coursework by the application deadline;
- graduate students must have completed at least one term of graduate study by the application deadline.

#### **Value:** \$500 - \$4,500

The total value of the award will be based on the duration of the program, for up to 8 months. The total award granted will be calculated using the following per-student formula.

- \$500 for for-credit programs less than three weeks
- \$1,000 for Month 1
- \$500 per month from Months 2 to 8 (if applicable)
- Programs falling on a half month will receive a prorated amount (e.g. a one-and-a-half month program will receive an additional \$250 for a total of \$1,250).

<b>Examples:</b>	<b>Month 1</b>	<b>The Remaining Months</b>	<b>Total Award</b>
Student going abroad for 4 months	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,500

Student going abroad for 6.5 months	\$1,000	\$2,750	\$3,750
Student going abroad for 8 months	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$4,500

### Application & Selection

- Applications for the Education Abroad Award must be initiated by individual U of A students;
- Applicants will complete and submit an application through [Horizons](#); A complete application must consist of:
  - 1) Statement of Academic Motivation, Ambassadorship & Cultural Motivation;
  - 2) Description of Extracurricular Activities;
  - 3) Unofficial transcripts; and
  - 4) Declaration form.
- Adjudication and selection may be done by an academic panel;
- Selection criteria for the Education Abroad Award will be based on the following:
  - Academic merit and GPA of the student;
  - Type and quality of learning experience and how it contributes to the student's academic success;
  - Student's motivation for seeking the abroad experience (Please note: AI tools may be used to support the writing process such as refining spelling, grammar, or sentence structure, provided the content remains the student's original work. **An application with responses generated by AI technology will be rejected**);
  - Demonstrated leadership, involvement and participation in university or community organizations, including cultural, sports, political or extracurricular activities.
- For application instructions, visit the [Education Abroad Award web page](#).

### Acceptance & Conditions

- Applicants will be notified if they have been nominated for an award and must confirm acceptance of the nomination; failure to do so will result in forfeiting the award;
- If a student is unable to use the award in the year that they received it, the award cannot be carried over to the next year, and they will need to re-apply. Preference will be given to first-time recipients within the same academic year;
- Award payments will be directly deposited into the award recipient's Canadian banking account via Bear Tracks once applicants complete all the required award acceptance steps. Award payments are subject to U of A administrative timelines;
- Recipients are ineligible to hold other centrally managed awards (e.g., endowed awards such as Edmonton Consular Corps Award, Rod and Judith Fraser Award, etc.) but are eligible for receiving faculty-level awards;
- Recipients will be required to complete the risk management steps listed [here](#) depending on their program type and level of study;
- Recipients will also be encouraged to participate in promotion and recruitment activities for education abroad programming.