

# National Security Education Program David Boren Undergraduate Scholarships

## Award Details

NSEP Boren recipients are awarded sums ranging up to \$20,000 for an academic year, in order to defray the costs associated with studying abroad. The Boren Program is available to U.S. undergraduates to study in eligible world regions—**Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin America, and the Middle East**. The countries of Western Europe, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand are excluded. **The campus deadline is: January 25, 2019.** Please contact Campus Advisor, Linda Olson Levy for assistance in preparing your application (including the two essays), as well as to arrange for a campus committee interview.

## Program Purpose

Program Purpose: The Boren Scholarship Program aims to support applicants pursuing fields of study related to national security interests, and it requires applicants to study in non-traditional countries and to study languages critical to national security.

## Eligibility Criteria

Boren Scholarships are awarded with preference for [countries](#), [click here](#) [http://www.borenawards.org/boren\\_scholarship/where\\_study.html](http://www.borenawards.org/boren_scholarship/where_study.html), [languages](#), and [fields of study](#) [https://www.borenawards.org/boren\\_fellowship/preferences.html](https://www.borenawards.org/boren_fellowship/preferences.html) critical to U.S. national security. Preference is also given to students who will study abroad for longer periods of time, and who are highly motivated to work in the federal government.

## Selection Criteria

**International Focus:** Boren scholarships are intended to provide support to U.S. undergraduates who will pursue the study of languages and cultures currently underrepresented in study abroad and critical to U.S. national security.

**Language Study:** Boren Scholars represent a variety of academic backgrounds, but all are interested in studying less commonly taught languages, including but not limited to Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, and Swahili. Language study is a major component of your study abroad program, and it must be an integral part of each proposal.

Take into consideration any prior knowledge and experience in the proposed language when selecting and designing your study abroad program. If you already have studied the language, take into account what opportunities the program will provide to advancing your proficiency. If you have not studied the language, consider what the program offers towards making substantial progress.

**Note:** Study of a common language (Spanish or French) is permissible only when it is at an advanced level of competency. In such cases, the study abroad experience should not focus on language acquisition, but rather on academic course work. Prior study of another language will serve as an indication of interest and aptitude.

**Special Exception:** Boren will consider applications from students at the intermediate level of Spanish or French if their field of study is in applied sciences or engineering. At the time of application, determination of intermediate/advanced language level will be self-assessed. Boren will verify the self-assessed competency level of grant recipients. For a complete list of the languages, [click here](#). [http://www.borenawards.org/boren\\_scholarship/languages.html](http://www.borenawards.org/boren_scholarship/languages.html).

## National Security

The program focuses on geographic areas, languages, and fields of study deemed critical to U.S. national security. It draws on a broad definition of national security, recognizing that the scope of national security has expanded to include not only the traditional concerns of protecting and promoting American well-being, but also the challenges of global society, including: *sustainable development, environmental degradation, global disease and hunger, population growth and migration, and economic competitiveness*. All applicants must demonstrate how their study programs and future goals are connected to this broad understanding of national security. For more information about this broad definition of national security, see: [click here www.BorenAwards.org](http://www.BorenAwards.org).

## Service Requirement

The Boren service requirement stipulates that an award recipient work in the Departments of Defense, Homeland Security, State, or the Intelligence Community. If no appropriate position is available in one of these agencies, he or she may work in any U.S. federal department or agency.. [click here: http://www.borenawards.org/boren\\_scholars\\_service.html](http://www.borenawards.org/boren_scholars_service.html)

## Application Procedures

- Boren Scholarship Application (Complete with Study Abroad Program Section, budget, and two statements of purpose)
- Letters of Reference
- Official Transcripts

## Award Benefits

Maximum scholarship awards are:

- \$8,000 for a summer program (special initiative for STEM students only; 8 weeks minimum)
- \$10,000 for a semester
- \$20,000 for a full academic year

## On Campus Contact Information

Linda Olson Levy, International Scholarship Advisor  
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Education Abroad Office  
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## Scholarship Contact Information

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