

STATEMENT FROM THE CATALOG AND STUDENT HANDBOOK ABOUT EDUCATION-ABROAD FUNDING (2009-10)

To encourage Berea College students to include international study in their degree program, the College makes available grants and loans to support international travel that earns academic credit. Because funding is limited and the goal is to enable as many students as possible to enrich their education, **the number of times a student can receive financial support from the College is restricted.**

New and transfer students in their first two regular terms of study are ineligible for financial support.

- Students who are **U.S. citizens** can apply for funding to participate in an education-abroad program (excluding internships, independent studies, or team-initiated studies).
- **International students**, already having an intercultural experience through study at Berea, can apply for institutional funding for one faculty-led Berea International Short Term course.
- **International students** will generally not receive funding to spend a term outside the United States. However, those majoring in a foreign language may be eligible for a scholarship from the Department of Foreign Languages.

GRANTS FOR FOREIGN LANGUAGE MINORS

Students with a minor in a foreign language who wish to apply for grants to study abroad in summer or Short Term programs approved by the Department must follow the guidelines and procedures set forth by the College's Administrative Committee (current Catalog and Student Handbook) and by the Department of Foreign Languages. Please consider the following:

- Acceptance as a major does not guarantee a term abroad.
- The financial support of the Department is a privilege, and a reward for hard work; it is not a right. Your eligibility for financial support (from the Department, or from the Center for International Education) depends on your academic performance.
- Applicants may not be on academic, labor, or social probation at the time of application, and are subject to withdrawal of approval if such probation occurs prior to the beginning of the experience. The college-wide policy is that: "Students on labor, academic, and/or social probation are not permitted to register for and/or participate in such opportunities ... Any student placed on probation during, or at the end of the term preceding international study, will not be allowed to participate in an education-abroad opportunity, even if already registered. Such a case would be accompanied by loss of scholarship and financial aid eligibility as well." For more information see: <http://www.berea.edu/cataloghandbook/sturegs/srr/educationabroad.asp>.
- Other extreme circumstances, such as unsatisfactory academic performance (not necessarily resulting in academic probation) may also result in the withdrawal of financial support.
- It is understood that any students who do not return to Berea or do not complete their approved course of study are to reimburse the college for its share of cost of the program.
- Students who participate in the term abroad program will be responsible for a written evaluation of the program and for correspondence to donors and potential donors to the International Travel Fund.

A. Academic

- Must have applied and been accepted by the Department of Foreign Languages for a minor.
- Must have completed a minimum of two language courses at Berea College.
- Must also have taken at least one language course per semester for the two semesters prior to traveling abroad.
- Must also be enrolled in a language course at the time of application. Any exceptions to this rule must be approved by the Department prior to application.
- Must have a GPA of 2.8 or better in language courses taken on campus in the language to be studied abroad, and a minimum GPA of 2.8 **overall**.
- If applicable, must also meet minimum GPA standards indicated by sponsor program.
- Must have a record of academic maturity as demonstrated by serious attitude towards studies and class attendance.

B. Personal

- Evidence of social maturity, open mindedness, ability to adapt to new situations, and other characteristics of a good ambassador.
- Genuine desire to live another language and culture, enthusiastic participation in language-related extracurricular activities, use of foreign language materials, and a willingness to share experiences upon return.
- Evidence of psychological stability by effective academic performance and good social relationships.

C. Other

- Participation in orientation at Berea or as provided by the program abroad.
- Completion of departmental application form.
- Completion of one more course in the language studied abroad (other than 490 or 495) immediately upon return to Berea. Any exceptions to this rule must be approved by the Department prior to application.

Students who meet all these requirements are eligible for full support grants for up to 75% of the total cost of their programs. Students who do not meet the required GPA of 2.8 in the language, but that have a minimum of 2.8 overall are eligible to apply to ***Berea Term Abroad*** for grants up to 75% of the cost of the program. Acceptance to ***Berea Term Abroad*** is determined by a different committee, and it is not automatic.

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CHECKLIST:

Have you?

- declared the minor
- completed two courses in the language you will be studying abroad
- requested two letters of recommendation
- completed the departmental application form
- discussed your application with a faculty member in the appropriate language area
- submitted a copy of your transcript

Do you?

- meet the GPA requirement (in courses in the target language, and overall)
- meet the personal requirements (attitude, maturity, open-mindedness, etc., as mentioned in section B)

How to determine your GPA: Each full credit = 4 semester hours. Multiply the number of credit hours by the number of points (see below). For example, if you received an A in Esperanto 101, (a 1 credit course) multiply the number of semester hours (4) by the number of points earned for each class (A=4 points), thus $4 \times 4 = 16$ points for Esperanto 101. Continue until you have computed the number of points earned for all your classes. Add the points for all your classes and divide by the total of credit hours taken (i.e., if you have taken 5 classes, divide by 20; 4 classes, divide by 16; 3 classes, divide by 12; 2 classes, divide by 8).

A+: 4 x 4	B+: 4 x 3.3	C+: 4 x 2.3	D+: 4 x 1.3
A: 4 x 4	B: 4 x 3	C: 4 x 2	D: 4 x 1
A-: 4 x 3.7	B-: 4 x 2.7	C-: 4 x 1.7	D-: 4 x 0.7

Deadlines*

- For fall semester February 10
- For summer February 10
- For spring semester October 1
- For Short Term October 1 (In the case of Faculty-led trips abroad, this deadline may be extended according to the specific situation of the course in question.)

*If these dates fall on a weekend, applications are due the following Monday.

Revised November 2009