

FINANCIAL AID FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Studying in the United States can be an inspiring, exciting experience, but it can also be difficult to finance. Education is very expensive in the United States; U.S. students and their families pay a higher proportion of the cost of education compared to those in most other countries. The cost of living can also be high relative to that of other countries. International students seeking financial assistance must be persistent because the search can be long, tedious, and sometimes unrewarding. However, there are limited funds available through the following sources:

FINANCIAL AID FROM GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

Undergraduate Students

In general, Georgetown University grant and scholarship assistance for undergraduates is offered only to U.S. citizens or U.S. permanent residents. Only a small number of scholarships each year are offered to non-immigrant undergraduate students. Prospective international students who wish to be considered for one of these awards should indicate their intent on the Application for Undergraduate Admission and should submit an International Student Financial Aid Application available for download on the Office of Student Financial Services (OSFS) website. Completed Financial Aid forms must be submitted to OSFS no later than March 15. Visit Georgetown's undergraduate financial aid website for more information: <http://finaid.georgetown.edu/ugmenu.htm>

Graduate Students

The Georgetown University Graduate School offers a limited number of awards to students in various departments based on academic qualifications. Assistantship stipends are provided in return for service in teaching, research, or other matters of an academic nature. Fellowships provide a stipend without a work obligation, while scholarships are tuition grants. All awards are based on departmental recommendations and international students compete for these awards on an equal basis with U.S. citizens. For more information, graduate students should contact their department or graduate program and visit the graduate financial aid website at <http://finaid.georgetown.edu/grmenu.htm>

Bou Family Foundation Grant

The Bou Family Foundation Grant offers two \$2500 awards to assist rising second year international students with educational expenses. The selection process is based on financial need, as well as the applicant's contributions to serve others in the community and his/her professional goals following graduation. For more information on eligibility requirements or to download an application, go to <http://oip.georgetown.edu/iss> (available online annually in April)

PAYMENT PLANS

The Office of Student Accounts offers a payment plan which consists of scheduled payments over a period of ten months beginning July 1st. Students should contact the Office of Student Accounts for additional information at (202) 687-7100. <http://www9.georgetown.edu/finaff/studentaccounts/Payment/PaymentOptions/GUMPP/Index.html>

FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES IN YOUR HOME COUNTRY

There may be a number of financial aid resources available through your home country government. The Ministry of Education in your home country or your embassy in Washington, D.C. should be able to provide you with information on available scholarship programs.

IMPORTANT FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

NAFSA: Association of International Educators - www.nafsa.org/students.sec

NAFSA is an association of educators that promotes international education. The website provides resources and information for international students planning to study in the United States, including funding information.

School of International and Public Affairs - Columbia University - www.sipa.columbia.edu/resources_services/financial_aid/

This directory of graduate grants and fellowships is compiled by the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University.

The SmartStudent Guide to Studying in the USA (eduPASS) - www.edupass.org

The site is a comprehensive guide to studying in the United States and contains information on financing a college education.

State Department Educational Advising Centers - <http://www.educationusa.state.gov/centers/>

This site provides information on scholarships and fellowships available for U.S. study.

United States Department of Education; U.S. Network for Education Information - www.ed.gov/NLE/USNEI

This site includes a wealth of information for international students, including links to financial aid sites and U.S. government assistance programs.

SCHOLARSHIP SEARCH ENGINES

Fastweb - www.fastweb.com

This site has a search engine that matches your personal/academic information with available scholarships.

The Foundation Center - www.foundationcenter.org

In addition to the information on the website, the Foundation Center offers free access to publications on foundations, corporate giving, and related subjects at five professionally staffed Center-run libraries in the United States. The Washington, D.C. library is located at 1001 Connecticut Avenue NW, 9th Floor (Corner of Connecticut Avenue and K Street), 202-331-1400.

International Education Financial Aid (IEFA) - www.iefaf.org

This site includes information on grants, scholarships, and loans for international students.

InternationalScholarships.com - <http://www.internationalscholarships.com/>

This site is an online financial aid database.

InternationalStudent.com - <http://www.internationalstudent.com/>

This site includes a search engine for scholarships and information on other subjects such as travel and insurance.

Scholarships.com - www.scholarships.com

This site matches your information with applicable scholarships.

The Smart Student Guide to Financial Aid - <http://www.finaid.org>

This site not only matches your profile with available scholarships, but also provides financial calculators and ample information on loans, savings, and aid.

LOANS

Educational loans are available to international students, but all require a U.S. citizen co-signer. For more information on educational loans, please contact GU's Office of Student Financial Services or check the following websites:

Citibank - <http://www.studentloan.com> and Citifinancial - <http://www.citifinancial.com>

Citibank's website on applying for, paying for and managing student loans includes online counseling, an account manager and information in Spanish. Citifinancial's website provides a guide to financing tuition and online applications for student loans.

The Education Resource Institute - <http://www.teri.org>

The Education Resource Institute is non-profit, private organization that offers low-interest loans based on credit worthiness.

International Education Finance Corporation - www.iefc.com

The International Education Finance Corporation provides educational loans. This page includes information on the International Student Loan Program (ISLP) and CanHELP, a program to help Canadians afford to study in the United States. This site includes online applications and details about loan terms.

InternationalStudentLoan.com - <http://www.internationalstudentloan.com/>

FOUNDATIONS / SPONSORING AGENCIES

The American Association of University Women Educational Foundation - <http://www.aauw.org/fga/index.cfm>

This foundation assists women in pursuing their personal and professional goals through fellowships and grants.

Amideast - www.amideast.org

Amideast seeks to improve understanding between America and the Middle East/North Africa by providing scholarship programs and exchange opportunities.

Ford Foundation International Fellowships Program - <http://www.fordifp.net/>

Applicants must be resident nationals or residents of an eligible IFP country or territory. Fellows may study in a field related to the Foundation's three grant-making areas: Asset Building & Community Development, Knowledge, Creativity, & Freedom, and Peace & Social Justice

The Institute for International Education (IIE) - <http://www.iie.org>

IIE administers several programs to assist students from all over the world to study abroad. IIE also maintains an online search engine at www.FundingUSstudy.org.

LASPAU: Academic and Professional Programs for the Americas - www.laspau.harvard.edu

LASPAU is affiliated with Harvard University and is a resource for Latin American and Caribbean students seeking to study in the United States.

Organization of American States (OAS) - <http://www.educoas.org/Portal/?culture-en>

OAS offers fellowship and loan programs for citizens of member countries. OAS programs include The Rowe Fund scholarships (www.oas.org/rowe), offered to Latin American and Caribbean students whose countries are members of the OAS. The Rowe Fund grants interest-free student loans to help finance higher education studies in the United States. Loans are limited to Juniors, Seniors, and graduate students and are granted on the understanding that recipients return to the home country following completion of study. Guarantor is required.

Margaret McNamara Memorial Fund (MMMMF) -

http://www.gwu.edu/~fellows/Fellowship_Competitions/Fellowships_Outside/mmmf.html

MMMMF supports the education of women from developing countries through the award of multiple, non renewable grants.

PEO International - <http://www.peointernational.org/>

The PEO International Peace Scholarship Fund provides grants to female graduate students who are citizens of any country other than the United States or Canada.

Rotary International - www.rotary.org

This organization of professionals supports world understanding and peace and provides scholarships for students in any nation where Rotary clubs exist to study in other nations with Rotary clubs.

The Soros Network - <http://www.soros.org>

This network offers scholarship programs that focus on Central and Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union, but also include Guatemala, Haiti, Mongolia, Southern Africa, and the United States.

The World Bank - <http://go.worldbank.org/DEYLG799V0>

Through its management of the Joint Japan/World Bank Graduate scholarship and the Robert S. McNamara Fellowship Program, the World Bank Institute provides opportunities for graduate study and research to promising professionals from developing member countries.

U.S. GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

Fulbright - <http://fulbright.state.gov>

The Fulbright program, administered by the United States Department of State, provides scholarships to study in the United States. This program is available to students, scholars, and teachers.

BOOKS

Most books on this list may be ordered in new or used condition from www.amazon.com or www.barnesandnoble.com

The A's and B's of Academic Scholarships.

Order from Octameron Associates at www.octameron.com

Annual Register of Grant Support: A Directory of Funding Sources. Chicago: Marquis Professional Publications, 2005.

Chronicle Financial Aid Guide.

Order from www.chronicleguidance.com

Directory of Research Grants 2006. Phoenix: Orynx Press, 2005.

Edelson, Phyllis, ed. Foundation Grants to Individuals. (39th ed). New York: Foundation Center, 2003.

Subscribe online for a monthly fee at www.gtionline.fdncenter.org

Funding for U.S. Study: A Guide for International Students and Professionals.

New York: Institute of International Education, 2006.

Use the search engine located at www.FundingUSstudy.org or order the print version at <http://www.iiebooks.org/>

The Grants Register 2006. New York: St. Maarten's Press; London, MacMillan Press, 2005.

International Student Handbook 2006.

Order online and print versions from College Board Publications at <http://store.collegeboard.com/> (keyword: International).

Schlachter, Gail and R. David Weber. Directory of Financial Aid for Women, 2005-2007. San Carlos: Reference Service Press, 2005.