



Education Abroad Individual Award—Terms of Reference

Purpose

- Encourage continuing UAlberta undergraduate and graduate students to undertake an education abroad experience;
- Allow students to choose from a wide variety of education abroad programs, both in type (e.g., exchange/study abroad/faculty-led/internship/research) and in destination;
- Encourage students to take a leadership role in developing their own education abroad opportunities.

Program Eligibility

The Education Abroad Individual Award provides financial support to undergraduate and graduate students undertaking any academic study, research, work term, or a volunteer opportunity outside of Canada for a period of three weeks or longer.

The proposed education abroad opportunity may be individual or group based, at the undergraduate or graduate level, and may be offered either by the University of Alberta (centrally, Faculty, other) or by an external organization.

Types of eligible education abroad experiences could include:

- Formal exchanges at approved partner institutions;
- Short-term summer courses of study tours;
- Faculty-led programs (course taught by UAlberta faculty abroad);
- Group programs led by partner institutions or third-party provider;
- Internships, research, clinical rotations, coursework, or volunteer opportunities abroad.

Student Eligibility

Students must:

- be participating in education abroad programs outside of Canada for a period of at least three weeks;
- be registered full-time in a University of Alberta degree program, either at the undergraduate or graduate level, at the time of the program abroad. Open Studies and part-time students will not be considered eligible;
- undergraduate students must have completed a minimum of *12 credits of UAlberta coursework by the application deadline; have a GPA of at least 2.7 in the Fall 2020 and Fall 2019 terms (grades for the Spring/Summer terms are also counted, if applicable) on a minimum of 24 credits. If these terms do not add up to 24 credits, another term will be counted to reach the 24 credits;
- graduate students must have completed at least one term of graduate study by the application deadline; and have a minimum GPA of 2.7 on the courses taken;

Ineligible Programs

Students participating in certain University of Alberta abroad programs are not eligible to apply for the Education Abroad Individual Award because these faculty-led programs received funding through UAI's Education Abroad Group Awards. The following programs have received Group Award funding for 2021-22, and students participating on these programs would not be eligible for the Individual Award:

- Arts - School in Cortona (Winter 2022) - Italy
- Arts - Global Service-Learning and Solidarity - Nicaragua
- Education - Advanced Field Experience - Various Countries
- KSR - Play Around the World - Various Countries
- Nursing Practice in a Focused Area - Ghana
- UAI - e3 Berlin - Germany
- ALES, KSR, Nursing, Pharmacy - Intercultural Exploration of Health and Practice - Italy

Other programs receiving funding through the Education Abroad Office, such as CLIC, are not eligible for Education Abroad Individual Award funding.

COVID-19

There is still uncertainty in regards to program offerings in 2021-22 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A university-wide decision on programs taking place in Summer 2021 will likely be made in January 2021 (prior to the award deadline). If Summer 2021 programs are cancelled, your application will not be considered, but you will be able to apply at a later date if you plan to travel in Summer 2022. Further decisions on programs taking place in Fall 2021 and Winter 2022 will be made later in 2021, and if cancellation occurs, you will be able to re-apply if you plan to travel in 2022-23.

Value: \$750-\$3,750

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.

- \$750 for Month 1
- \$500 per month for Months 2 and 3 (if applicable)
- \$400 per month for Months 4 through 8 (if applicable)
- Programs falling on a half month will receive a pro-rated amount (e.g. a one and a half month program will receive an additional \$250 for a total \$1,000; a six and a half month program will receive an additional \$200 for a total \$3,150).

Examples:	Month 1	Months 2 & 3	Months 4-8	Total Award
Student going abroad for 8 months	\$750	\$1000	\$2000	\$3750
Student going abroad for 4 months	\$750	\$1000	\$400	\$2150
Student going abroad for 6.5 months	\$750	\$1000	\$1,400	\$3150

Application & Selection

- Applications for the Education Abroad Individual Awards must be initiated by individual UAlberta students;
- Applicants will complete and submit a formal application to UAI along with supporting documentation;
- Adjudication and selection will be done by an academic panel;
- Selection criteria for the Individual Education Abroad Award will be based on the following:
 - Academic merit 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;
 - Demonstrated leadership, involvement and participation in university or

community organizations, including cultural, sports, political or extracurricular activities.

- Preference will be given to low-income and indigenous students.
- Applicants will be notified if they have been nominated for an award and must confirm acceptance of the award; failure to do so with result in forfeiting the award;
- Award payments will be directly deposited into the award recipient's banking account via Bear Tracks account information once confirmation of registration/participation in the abroad experience is received;
- Recipients are ineligible to hold other University of Alberta International administered education abroad awards (e.g., endowment awards such as the Dr. Horst A. Schmid Travel Bursary, Rod and Judith Fraser International Undergraduate Learning Award, etc.);
- Recipients will be required to:
 - Complete a mandatory online pre-departure course and register with the UGo Off-Campus Travel Registry
 - Submit a written summary of at least 500 words upon completion of the experience
 - Submit a risk management plan prior to receiving the Award if participating in a non-UAlberta-approved program
 - Obtain research ethics approval prior to receiving the Award if undertaking a research project
- Recipients will also be encouraged to participate in promotion and recruitment activities for education abroad programming.
- For application details, visit: <https://www.ualberta.ca/why-ualberta/international/go-abroad/get-funding/individual-award>