U.S. Veterans Affairs Benefits for Study Abroad

How may these benefits (funding) be used for the various types of programs:

01 Internships and Faculty-led Programs | 02 External Programs

01 Internships and Faculty-led Programs

What is it? Taught by a faculty member of the student’s home institution and training or teaching occurs abroad.

Home Institution
- VA money must be used toward the home institution’s tuition and academic fees
- The School Certifying Official (SCO) at the home institution certifies the student for his/her VA benefits
- The SCO must use the home institution’s zip code when certifying for the monthly stipend
- An eligible student may be certified as a ‘transient’ student at the institution running the faculty-led program if their degree is housed at another institution

VA may pay the following
- Study Abroad Tuition: In-state tuition for 6 credits paid directly to school $3,116.00 or $3,785.00
- Book Stipend: $250 (if the $1,000 cap has not been exceeded for the academic year)
- Monthly Housing Allowance: 21 days of MHA paid to you $1611.40 (based off of 2016 rates)
- School Certifying Official: Home Institution

Example

Summer 2019 Program (July 1-21)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Item</th>
<th>Undergraduate</th>
<th>Graduate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application Fee</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Fee</td>
<td>$2,084.00</td>
<td>$1,415.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Abroad Tuition (6 credits)</td>
<td>$3,116.00</td>
<td>$3,785.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billable subtotal (paid to Mason)</td>
<td>$5,400.00</td>
<td>$5,400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airfare</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meals</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Country Ground Transportation</td>
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<td>$150.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Books and Supplies</td>
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<td>$100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal Spending</td>
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<td>$500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-billable subtotal (estimated costs not paid to Mason)</td>
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<td>$2,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,900.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,900.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

02 External Programs

What is it? Full degree-seeking student from one university applies directly to a university abroad.

Home Institution
- Not apart of the application or certification process

Foreign Institution
- Must be a VA approved program (otherwise, VA funds cannot be used)
- VA money must go toward the foreign institution’s tuition and academic fees
- The School Certifying Official (SCO) at the foreign institution certifies the student for his/her VA benefits
- The SCO must submit as a ‘guest student’ with course applied to the home institution
- The VA will use the foreign institution’s location when certifying for the monthly stipend

VA may pay the following
- Tuition: Up to $18,077.50 paid directly to foreign school
- Book Stipend: $500 (if the $1,000 cap has not been exceeded for the academic year)
- Monthly Housing Allowance: $1,368 (prorated per day for months less than 30 days)
- School Certifying Official: Foreign Institution School Certifying Official

Approved Programs

A list of currently approved degree programs can be found on the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs website at: inquiry.vba.va.gov/weamspub/buildSearchCountryCriteria.do

Global Education Office (GEO)

- Students must complete an External Study Abroad Program application through GEO in addition to the application requirements of the Foreign Institution.
- There is a $375 administrative fee per application.
- Visit the website for more details: masonabroad.gmu.edu/?go=External

Contact Information

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