

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)

Budget Item	Undergraduate	Graduate
Application Fee	\$200.00	\$200.00
Program Fee	\$2,084.00	\$1,415.00
Study Abroad Tuition (6 credits)	\$3,116.00	\$3,785.00
Billable subtotal (paid to Mason):	\$5,400.00	\$5,400.00
Airfare	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Meals	\$250.00	\$250.00
In-Country Ground Transportation	\$150.00	\$150.00
Books and Supplies	\$100.00	\$100.00
Personal Spending	\$500.00	\$500.00
Non-billable subtotal (estimated costs not paid to Mason):	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Total:	\$7,900.00	\$7,900.00

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/weampub/buildSearchCountryCriteria.do

Institution Name: NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND-GALWAY
Program Type: Institution of Higher Learning

Description
COMMERCE, BS
ECONOMICS, BA
ELECTRONIC AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING,
FILM STUDIES, BA
French, BA

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

Military Services Contact

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Global Education Office (GEO)

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