

STUDY ABROAD

U.S VETERANS AFFAIRS BENEFITS



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

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

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

Program Type: Institution of Higher Learning

Description
COMMERCE, BS
ECONOMICS, BA
ELECTRONIC AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING,
FILM STUDIES, BA
French, BA
Geography, BA
MEDICINE, BACHELOR OF
NURSING, BS
PEACE OPERATIONS, HUMANITARIAN LAW AND

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 GEO

Web StudyAbroad.gmu.edu
 Email GoAbroad@gmu.edu

Contact Military Services

Web military.gmu.edu
 Email tbarne4@gmu.edu