

## **Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD)**

120 Bessey Hall Michigan State University East Lansing, MI 48824-1033

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<http://www.rcpd.msu.edu/>

### **Study Abroad Scholarship for Students with Disabilities**

This scholarship recognizes recipients of the Study Abroad Quality Funds Scholarships for participation in an MSU study abroad program. The scholarship is funded by a grant from the MSU Quality Funds. The grant recognizes that few students with disabilities participate in study abroad programs or international travel, activities that lead to acquisition of important personal skills and knowledge resulting in a more competitive résumé for a future job market. Students participating in the program who are selected to receive this scholarship will be awarded \$3,000. While applicants to any MSU study abroad program are eligible to apply, priority is given to applicants who have been approved to participate in the Disability in a Diverse Society program.

To be eligible for consideration you must:

1. Be a student with a documented disability
2. Have applied to an MSU study abroad program
3. Meet the eligibility criteria for the program
4. Have your application with all supporting documentation received no later than 5:00 pm on February 15th (or the Monday after should February 15<sup>th</sup> fall on a weekend).

Priority will be given to students who have applied for participation in the Disability in a Diverse Society program and who have a demonstrated financial need. For detailed information on this program go to: <http://studyabroad.msu.edu/programs/iredisability.html>.

- [Study Abroad Scholarship for Students with Disabilities Application Form \(PDF\)](#)

If you are a student with a disability who is interested in participating in an international research opportunity, please discuss with your RCPD specialist.

## Study Abroad Scholarship for Students with Disabilities Application

*Please print legibly or type your responses to each item below. To be eligible for consideration you must: 1.) be a Michigan State University student with a documented disability, 2.) have applied to an MSU study abroad program, 3.) meet eligibility criteria for the program, and 4.) have your application with all supporting documentation received by RCPD no later than 5:00 PM on February 15<sup>th</sup> (or on the following Monday should February 15<sup>th</sup> fall on a weekend). Submit all documentation by mail or directly to the RCPD office (Attention Study Abroad Scholarship for Students with Disabilities).*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Campus Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Campus Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Major or field of study: \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated class level at the time of participation:

(check one)  Freshman     Sophomore     Junior     Senior

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Expected completion date of degree: \_\_\_\_\_ (semester/year).

My signature below certifies that my responses to all information submitted are complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that my application may be rendered invalid if information provided contains inaccuracy or omission. If selected as a recipient of the Study Abroad Scholarship for Students with Disabilities, I agree to: (1) submit a letter of appreciation and acceptance of the scholarship to MSU and a copy to the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities within three weeks of the announcement of the recipients, and (2) attend the RCPD Awards Reception in April. (Call RCPD for date and time.) If extenuating circumstances (such as geographic distance) will prevent my attendance, I agree to contact the RCPD in advance.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Study Abroad Scholarship for Students with Disabilities Application**  
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The following attachments must be submitted with the completed application form.

1. **Essays** Write a brief essay on the two following topics. Limit your essays to one page each.
  - Describe your disability and how it has affected you (i.e., professional goals, self image, etc.).
  - Your personal and academic background and interests, why you are interested in participating in this particular study abroad program, and how your studies will prepare you for your career and personal goals.
  
2. **Extra Curricular Activities** On a separate sheet, describe your involvement in any organizations or activities, school related or otherwise. Indicate the name and description of the organizations and your dates of involvement. Include any leadership position(s) you have held in the organization or group.
  
3. **Awards** On another separate sheet, list any awards, scholarships, or other special recognition you have received. Indicate the date(s) of receipt, names(s) and description(s) of these types of recognition.
  
4. **Reference Letters** Please include two letters of reference from instructors, academic advisor or counselor, or others familiar with your abilities and goals in your field of interest. At least one of these letters must be from an instructor. Ask your references to include their email address and phone on their letters.
  
5. **Transcript** A copy of your grade report (MSU grades available from STU INFO) for the past two years of academic study. If you have attended post-secondary institutions for fewer than 2 years, please provide your high school transcript.
  
6. **Medical or Psychological Documentation of your Disability (if not already on file with RCPD)** If a non RCPD student, refer to the RCPD web site for further information on documentation guidelines ([www.rcpd.msu.edu](http://www.rcpd.msu.edu)). This information is considered confidential and will be reviewed only by Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities staff. It will not be used in considering your acceptance into the Study Abroad program.
  
7. **Financial Documentation** Please describe how you are paying for your current educational costs by listing each categorical item, the cost, the source of funding, and a description. Include tuition, books, housing, food, personal, any disability related expenses, etc. If you are a federal financial aid recipient, include a copy of your Spring Semester financial aid award letter.