

How to Afford & Fund Study/Intern Abroad Experiences!

Funding tips and resources:

- Scour the **40+ Sources for Funding Experiences Abroad!** list for options that might work for you.
- **Research any and all scholarships** specific to your program or location or situation to see if you are eligible.
- **Apply early!** Watch for special travel or country promotions!
- **Look at cost effective locations** that have a lower cost of living. (for example, Latin America vs. Spain or Eastern Europe vs. Western Europe)
- **Consider homestay options if available.** Most meals and laundry are included so they are less expensive compared to dorms or apartments. Homestays are a great way to learn the language/culture and get home cooking!
- **Compare the costs of programs** with the specific services received or included: meals? laundry? airport pick-up? access to WI-FI? welcome and farewell meals? extra activities and excursions?

Campus related funding:

- **Complete FAFSA** and accept additional federal grants or loans you are eligible to receive.
- If you are eligible for federal financial aid, check with the Study Abroad Coordinator to see if you could be eligible for a **Concordia Study Abroad Endowment Scholarship**. Awards based on need and annual fund availability.
- If you will be studying in an Asian country, check with the Study Abroad Coordinator to see if you could be eligible for a **Fiala Asian Studies Scholarship**.
- If you are a Luke Scholar, there is a **Luke Scholar Grant** available to you, that can be used for experiences abroad.
- Any **money left in your student account** after paying for your semester at CUNE can be used toward paying for a spring or summer experience abroad. Federal funds in your account must be used by June 30th.

Outside resources:

- Check with local 4-H, Kiwanis, Rotary, or Lions Clubs if they have scholarships for international experiences.
- **Check local heritage organizations** like Sons of Italy chapters, German clubs, Czech groups, Hispanic cultural groups, Chinese-American associations, etc. if they have any scholarships available for heritage locations.
- Set up an **online crowdfunding site** to share your desire to go abroad to learn and grow! (see next page for sites to research.)



Personal resources:

- **Get a part time job or add hours to your current job** to make extra money. See if your employer offers college related scholarships.
- **Save your money** - ask for money for Christmas, birthdays, etc. - start a **“keep the change”** travel fund jar.
- **Limit daily spending.** Consider the things you want vs. the things you need (forgo daily coffee run, skip late night fast food, etc.) to save money for study abroad.
- **Send letters to family or friends asking for their support.** Share how the experience will expand your knowledge of other parts of the world and increase your understanding of other cultures. Make connections to how this experience will help you achieve your future vocational goals.
- **Use family credit card points or air miles** to “pay” for airfare to study abroad location.

Program specific scholarships for CUNE students:

The scholarships listed below are available to CUNE students because we have affiliation agreements with these study/intern abroad providers.

API	apistudyabroad.com \$300/\$500/\$1000 (varies by program type & length)
Veritas	veritasabroad.com \$200 (fall/spring/summer)
Worldstrides	worldstrides.com/study-abroad \$200 (fall/spring/summer)



Check for additional scholarships available from the program provider you choose!

- Merit, diversity, need based, Pell recipients, etc.
- Other unique scholarships may also be available for travel credit, early bird applications, academic areas, athletes, etc.)

Crowdfunding sites & social media:

Go to CrowdsUnite.com to compare crowdfunding programs. Here are a few sites to get you started!

Fundly	fundly.com	7.9% fee per donation
Fund My Travel	fundmytravel.com	5% fee per donation
GoEnnounce	goennounce.com	3.5% fee per donation
Go Fund Me	GoFundMe.com	2.9% fee + .30 per credit card transaction
Plumfund	plumfund.com	2.8% fee + .30 per credit card transaction
You Caring	YouCaring.com	2.9% fee + .30 per credit card transaction

Review crowdfunding sites to find the right one for your situation since some cater to specific project types.

- Look for one that lets you keep funds raised if you don't reach your goal.
- Most are free to set up a site - fees are collected from each donation received.
- Keep in mind, funds earned through crowdfunding can be considered taxable income.

Who do you know? Invite your friends, family, classmates, teammates, neighbors, church, etc. to help support you.

- Tell your story - why go abroad - why this trip - tie to future vocational goals - share how funds will be used and why support will make a difference.
- Change cover photo to destination country and post fun facts about that country.
- Let people know the best way to get funds to you.