



Study Away Exploratory Travel Fund Guidelines

General Purpose and Scope

The Vice President for Research and Economic Development and International Programs will provide funding for exploratory travel to be awarded in the spring of 2015. The aim of the exploratory travel is to increase the number of faculty-led short-term programs towards an end of increasing students' cultural competence. Additionally, funded travel will help to ensure faculty preparedness in safety measures for future short-term programs.

Funding Priority

Preference will be given to faculty members who have college and/or department financial support. Applicants are encouraged to secure funding from their departments and/or colleges.

Eligibility

Any faculty member is eligible to apply for an exploratory travel grant. Per course instructors and adjunct faculty may submit an application as long as they can collaborate on future short-term programs with a full-time faculty member. Evidence of future collaboration should be indicated in the submitted proposal. Faculty members will not be funded for more than one project per funding cycle.

Deadline

The deadline is **5 p.m. Thursday, March 19, 2015**. Awards will be announced by March 30, 2015. Completed applications, **including all necessary signatures**, need to be submitted electronically to Study Away Programs at the following address: studyaway@missouristate.edu. Additionally, one copy of the signed application must be delivered to Study Away Programs Director Elizabeth Strong at either PSU 209 or Morris Center 413. Application documents are posted at this site: <http://international.missouristate.edu/studyaway/>.

Selection

Review of all applications will be conducted by the Study Away Advisory Committee (SAAC). The Committee roster is available on the Study Away website. Applications will be reviewed based on the quality and merit of the proposal. Faculty members will not be awarded in consecutive years.

Expenditures of Funds

Study Away Program's Accounting Specialist will work with the awardees to pre-pay expenses. Funds needed for on-site payments will be distributed by a travel advance. Awardees must comply with Financial Services policy regarding travel. See <http://www.missouristate.edu/financialservices/travelregulations.htm>.

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Format

Applicants are asked to submit a proposal that includes:

- A completed cover sheet (use form provided)
- A 100-word abstract
- Travel narrative (2-3 pages, 12 point type, double spaced)
 - The course that will be the expected outcome of the travel
 - Implementation and timetable of course
 - Roles of collaborators (if partnering with an international organization)
 - Expected impact on students
 - A completed budget and budget abstract (use forms provided)
 - Applicant's response to concerns related to the designated country's safety, health, or travel issues

Requirements

- Faculty members must agree to develop a short-term program to the travel location within two years of the funded travel.
- No more than one faculty member per program proposal can be funded.
- Proposals should account for foreseeable changes in the budget, e.g., increases in airfare. Award amounts are final.
- Exploratory funds are only granted to faculty who have accounts in good standing, i.e., balances of \$200 or less, with the University.
- Awardees will complete a travel expense report within two weeks of return to the States.
- Awardees will complete a one-page travel report on their travel within two weeks of return to the States.

Submission

Applicants should submit one hard copy of their application packets to: Elizabeth Strong
Director, Study Away Programs
JDMC 413 or PSU 209

One digital copy (with signatures) as a PDF file also should be sent to: studyaway@missouristate.edu.

Awards

Acceptable budget items include:

- Airfare
- Ground transportation
- Lodging
- Meals
- Material, supplies, and services
- Visa tourist card (note: passport fees are not acceptable budget items)

Exploratory Travel Fund Proposal Cover Sheet

Applicant must submit one hard copy of his/her application packet to:

Elizabeth Strong
Director, Study Away Programs
JDMC 413 or PSU 209

And one digital copy (*with signatures*) as a PDF file to: **studyaway@missouristate.edu**

Name: _____ Date: _____

Department: _____ Rank: _____

Office Phone: _____ Email: _____

Location of Travel: _____

Approx. Departure Date: _____ Approx. Return Date: _____

Total Budget Request: \$ _____

(NOTE: Applicants should account for the amount of departmental, college, and/or school support in this figure).

I have read the Standards of Good Practice for Education Abroad from the Forum on Education Abroad <<http://www.forumea.org/standards-standards.cfm>> and will abide by these principles in planning my forthcoming short-term program.

Applicant's Signature

Exploratory Travel Fund Endorsements

Department Head and College Dean Comments on Travel

Specific comments by the department head and dean/school director are expected and will be reviewed as part of the selection criteria. If the department head, school director, or dean plans to financially support this travel, s/he should indicate the level of support below.

Department Head's Statement:

Department Head's Signature

Amount of Financial Support: \$ _____

Dean's Statement:

College Dean's Signature

Amount of Financial Support: \$ _____

Exploratory Travel Fund Budget

Airfare \$ _____
 \$ _____
 SUBTOTAL \$ _____

Ground Transportation \$ _____
 \$ _____
 SUBTOTAL \$ _____

Lodging \$ _____
 \$ _____
 SUBTOTAL \$ _____

Meals \$ _____
 \$ _____
 SUBTOTAL \$ _____

Services¹ \$ _____
 \$ _____
 SUBTOTAL \$ _____

TOTAL OF ABOVE ITEMS: \$ _____

(LESS) AMOUNT OF PLEDGED SUPPORT² \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$ _____

Airfare \$ _____
 \$ _____
 SUBTOTAL \$ _____

Ground Transportation \$ _____
 \$ _____
 SUBTOTAL \$ _____

Lodging \$ _____
 \$ _____
 SUBTOTAL \$ _____

Meals \$ _____
 \$ _____
 SUBTOTAL \$ _____

Services¹ \$ _____
 \$ _____
 SUBTOTAL \$ _____

TOTAL OF ABOVE ITEMS: \$ _____

(LESS) AMOUNT OF PLEDGED SUPPORT² \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED: \$ _____

¹Please describe in detail what will be included in this category in the Budget Abstract.

²Applicant should subtract all amounts of department, school, and college support from the initial budget request total.

Exploratory Travel Fund Budget Abstract

A budget abstract, which explains the funding requested, must be included.