

IFSA-Butler First Generation Scholarship

IFSA-Butler has created a scholarship to encourage more first generation students to study abroad. The award is administered by Off-Campus Study and is offered in the fall and the spring to one student with demonstrated financial need. First Gen students are encouraged to let their study abroad advisor know they are interested in applying and to submit application materials to Madeleine La Cotera in the Office of Off-Campus Study by either dropping off documents at the office or emailing them to mlacoter@hamilton.edu.

Award Amount: \$2500 applied to an IFSA-Butler program

GPA Minimum: 2.75

Application Deadline for study abroad fall 2020: April 1

Application Requirements: 1) CV/Resume, 2) a 500-word essay responding to one of the topics below, and 3) approval to study abroad by OCS. You are required to meet with a study abroad advisor, be in good academic and social standing, and have completed your WI, PE, and QSR requirement (or have petitioned for CAS approval or have a plan to complete last requirement upon return).

Program Requirements: The recipient of the award will participate in IFSA-Butler's First Generation Scholars program, which requires that the student chronicle their experience abroad through a blog, a digital story, social media, or by serving as a moderator for the IFSA-Butler First Generation facebook group. IFSA-Butler will provide more information about the story requirement for First Generation Scholars.

Hamilton Contact: Madeleine La Cotera (mlacoter@hamilton.edu)

Each applicant should choose one essay topic from the options below. Please make sure to include your name, IFSA-Butler program to which you have been accepted, and the semester of your study abroad program.

1. As a first-generation college student, you have undoubtedly gained special skills to help you succeed in uncharted territory of the U.S. academic system. You'll now need to draw upon many of these proficiencies to help you adjust in a brand new culture and education system. Tell us what skills you'll have at your disposal to help you adjust, learn and succeed while you're abroad. What is it that drives and challenges you to continue expanding your comfort zone? How might study abroad, and this program in particular, assist you in achieving your goals?
2. Recreate a dialogue in which you discuss your motivation to study abroad with your family and/or other personal stakeholder. Why do you want to study abroad? What will it help you achieve? What are their hesitations or concerns? How did/will you address those? How will your decision to study abroad affect your family and community in the long run?

Tell your first generation college story in your own voice! Your story doesn't have to be dramatic, just engaging and reflective.