

Madagascar Sustainability Initiative

Scholarship Opportunities

1.7.2020

**Starting point, please share other resources you find and/or let the CEL know updates)

Overview:

Below are some resources for scholarship opportunities. This is not meant to be a comprehensive list, but rather a starting point.

Tips for Applying to Scholarship Programs:

1. The travel component is a Lab Fee, which is expensed as part of the course fee. Making it a lab fee makes it eligible for more forms of financial aid. **The first person you should meet with is your financial advisor.** (NOTE: Undergraduate students who are part of TRiO, Deneb Stars, or any of the undergraduate Scholars Programs (Ervin, Danforth, Rodriguez) sometimes have sources of funds that would be available to their own students, but not to the general population.)
2. Depending on what the application requirements are, you may have the latitude to provide more information. Some key pieces of information that can help you “sell” yourself are:
 - a. Be a storyteller. It makes easier for the donor/decision maker to identify with you and see you as an individual. It also makes your application more memorable. For example, you might tell a short story about the time you worked from someone from a different culture and how it changed you or the impact of sharing a holiday; alternatively, you might talk about when you made an impact on some else’s life (which you will do in Madagascar as well). In other words, find something in the Madagascar initiative that lets you make this tie and make it into a short story.
 - b. It goes without saying, but just in case: NO typos, check grammar and no shortcuts (i.e. b4 instead of before). Long sentences with lots of commas? Need to separate them!
 - c. Be sure to explain both what you believe you will get out of the class and trip. Tie that in with your future plans.
 - d. Have someone else read your application: if they wouldn’t send you, a scholarship program is unlikely to send you.

Resources:

1. Talk with friends your Student Financial Services counselor and Advisor.
2. Talk with friends and family who might be willing to support you in this endeavor, especially during the holiday season.
3. Talk with WashU community members and professors, club leaders, past participants etc. about any opportunities they may know about.
4. Check out local service clubs at home, especially those that a family member might know about.
5. Often service clubs are willing to help with student travel expenses. You may be eligible for educational funding from clubs, organizations etc. that you or a family member belong to (e.g. Daughters of the American Revolution etc.)
6. You might also check with religious groups from your own background. Prior students have received monies from their church.
7. Develop a funding page through social media to support your goal.

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Possible Links:

1. Funding Opportunities for Global Study

<https://global.wustl.edu/resources/funding-opportunities-for-global-study/>

2. External Scholarship Resources

<https://olinwustl.campusgroups.com/bsbaglobal/external-scholarships/>

3. Civic Scholars Program

This program provides a rigorous, in-depth curriculum for undergraduate students who exemplify future potential for civic leadership. Sophomores are selected in a competitive merit-based process and learn together through their junior and senior years. The program includes intensive coursework, leadership training, and mentorship to prepare Scholars for a life dedicated to civic and community engagement, and a scholarship of \$5,000 to support a substantial civic project or internship.

[Civic Scholars Program](#)

4. Newman Exploration Travel Fund (NEXT)

This travel scholarship is for students, faculty, and staff, with funding up to \$10,000. If this would be of interest, please share with whoever you think would be appropriate.

<https://library.wustl.edu/newman-exploration-travel-fund/>

5. WashU Madagascar Scholarship (**due February 2, NO EXCEPTIONS**)

Sometimes there are donors, including students from previous trips, who provide funds for students specific to this course. The amount of funding available varies. If you are interested in this option, please use the link below. Note: This should NOT be the only option you explore.

[SP20 Madagascar Scholarship Application](#)

Databases for Uncovering Potential Funding Opportunities:

- [University of Minnesota Learning Abroad Database](#)
- [Institute of International Education](#)
- [International Educational Financial Aid Database](#)
- <https://www.insightintodiversity.com/study-abroad-scholarship/>

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Links to General Resources:

- [FastWeb Website](#)
- [FinAid Website](#)
- [Fund for International Service Learning](#)
- [Indiegogo \(Crowd Funding\)](#)
- [National Geographic "Explorer" grants](#) (this may not be available currently)
- [Echo Green](#)
- [MorganStanley Sustainable Investing Challenge](#)

Additional Resources: As additional sources come in, we will continue to provide you with information via this document on Campus Groups.