

THOMAS W. RIVERS FOREIGN EXCHANGE ENDOWMENT FUND

STUDY ABROAD AWARDS APPLICATION FOR SEMESTER AND YEAR-LONG PROGRAMS

The Thomas W. Rivers Study Abroad Award is intended to provide supplementary support for eligible students who wish to advance their research/study in their individual fields through participation in research and/or coursework abroad. It is the belief of the contributors to the fund established by Thomas W. and Izabel Rivers that “exposure to and understanding of other cultures is education in its truest sense, and the recognition that the world is our campus will foster friendship and enlightenment among students, university communities, and nations of the world.”

Award amounts may vary depending on the performance of the endowment account and the quality and quantity of applications received.

The Rivers Award Committee made up of University faculty and administrators will review applications for the awards. All applicants will receive notification in writing regarding the status of their applications as soon as possible after the review.

To be considered for an award, an individual must:

- Be a full-time degree or certificate seeking student at ECU.
- Have completed a minimum of 24 credits at ECU by time of application for undergraduates (minimum 12 credit hours for transfer students);
- Have a good record of academic achievement: minimum GPA 2.5 (If GPA is lower than 2.5, significant compensatory factors must be indicated in the statement of purpose);
- Meet admission requirements of the school or program to be attended;
- Know or plan to study the language of instruction of the institution where s/he will study;
- Demonstrate good citizenship and character through community and/or university activities; possess the qualities of inquisitive, ambitious and unbiased minds;
- Intend to participate in the credit-bearing study program for at least one academic term (semester or year)
- Provide details of any extraordinary circumstances that might outweigh any of the above factors;
- Submit a signed complete application

Note: Priority will be given to applicants who have not previously received Rivers funding.

A complete application includes:

- A statement of funding sources
 - What other sources of funding and amounts, including financial aid, scholarships do you have, if any?
 - How much money are you requesting?
- A statement that describes your proposed study, research or internship including answers to the following questions:
 - What is your area of study at ECU?
 - What do you plan to study abroad?
 - How does your proposed program abroad relate to your course of study at ECU? (Describe how studying or conducting research abroad will fulfill and enhance your research/study at ECU.)
 - How will your proposed program abroad contribute to your professional goals?
- Program acceptance letter (If your exchange program or study abroad program is sponsored by ECU's Office of International Affairs, you do not need to submit this item.)

Additional criteria for distribution of funds:

In addition to the criteria mentioned above, the Rivers Awards Committee has established specific criteria to determine how to distribute funds to students going overseas. The Committee has created a five points scale, with each point equivalent to an amount of funds that may vary from year to year, corresponding to the following criteria:

- Program: the student will earn one point if the program is affiliated with ECU (ECU Bilateral Exchanges, International Student Exchange Program [ISEP] or UNC Exchange Program [UNCEP]);
- Language of study: the student will receive one point if studying in a language other than English;
- Length of stay: one point if the student is studying abroad for at least one semester; and
- Country of study: one point if the student is going to a non-traditional and/or non-English speaking country.

The deadlines for applications are:

September 15	for Spring study
February 25	for Summer study
May 1	for Fall study

Return all application materials to:

Rivers Endowment Fund Awards Committee
Office of International Affairs
306 East Ninth Street
Greenville, NC 37858-4353

THOMAS W. RIVERS FOREIGN EXCHANGE ENDOWMENT FUND

STUDY ABROAD AWARDS APPLICATION FORM
FOR SEMESTER AND YEAR-LONG PROGRAMS

Please read the attached information sheet for complete instructions. Please type your application or print neatly, using BLACK ink.

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Name: _____

Student ID number: _____

Local Address: _____

Local Telephone number: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Telephone number: _____

STUDENT STATUS:

Undergraduate Graduate Transfer (Check all that apply)

Cumulative GPA = _____ GPA in Major = _____

Number of credits completed at ECU _____

ECU College and Department: _____

Major (or Degree Program): _____

Anticipated Graduation Date: _____ Advisor: _____

Have you previously received a study abroad/exchange program award from the Thomas W. Rivers Endowment Fund? YES _____ NO _____

If so, when did you receive them? _____

How much did you receive? _____

Describe the community and/or University activities in which you have been involved:

PERMISSION TO VERIFY ELIGIBILITY: For the purpose of verifying my eligibility to participate in the study abroad or exchange program and receive an award, I grant permission to the River Endowment Fund Awards Committee and study abroad/exchange programs administrators to review my records at East Carolina University. By signing this release, I understand that these records may include my academic and any disciplinary actions by the University.

Name (Print) _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Information Regarding Study Abroad or Exchange Program:

Title: _____

Country: _____ Language of Instruction: _____

Program Dates: _____ Number of Credits Expected: _____

Graduate Student Thesis Topic (if applicable): _____

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

Write and print out a 1 to 3-page essay (200 to 1000 words) describing concisely your proposed study, research or internship, including responses to the following questions:

- 1) What is your area of study at ECU?
- 2) Where and what do you plan to study abroad?
- 3) How does your proposed program abroad relate to your course of study at ECU?
(This part of the essay should explain how studying or conducting research abroad will fulfill and enhance your research/study at ECU).
- 4) How will your proposed program abroad contribute to your professional goals?
- 5) How will your proposed program abroad contribute to your general life goals?

If necessary, please account in addition for any extraordinary circumstances that might outweigh one or more of the requirements for the award (e.g., 2.5 GPA, no prior receipt of Rivers funding).

Funding Sources

Are you receiving any financial aid/scholarships that can be applied to study abroad?

YES _____ NO _____

If so, please specify types of aid and amounts.

_____ \$ _____
_____ \$ _____
_____ \$ _____

Where will you get your funds while you study abroad? Please specify sources and amounts.

_____ \$ _____
_____ \$ _____
_____ \$ _____

Amount requested from Thomas W. Rivers Endowment Fund: \$ _____

