

Collegiate Member Application Samples

What follows are five examples of the personal statements from Collegiate scholarship applications which received funding over the course of the last few years. They include requests from both undergraduate and graduate members for study abroad programs and community outreach projects. While the statements vary in length, the intent is thoroughly described. Ultimately, those applications that have been successfully supported have had a specific and clearly-articulated plan, detailed and comprehensive budget, very well-written essays, strong academic achievement, enthusiastic faculty support, and demonstrated service to the chapter or in some way exemplified PSI ideals.

I am a Spanish and Secondary Education student and have been a member of Phi Sigma Iota for almost two years. In one year I will be graduating, but not until I have completed the study abroad program of my dreams. The COST program (Consortium of Overseas Student Teaching) will allow me to complete half of my student teaching semester abroad. I will put in four choices for destinations and the program will try to place me in my first choice. I have applied for Ecuador as my first choice, with Costa Rica, Mexico or Spain as alternatives. I want to go to Ecuador because I have experience studying an indigenous language called Quechua. The program essentially allows me to study educational practices that I will be able to employ in US schools once I return and be immersed in Spanish culture and language simultaneously. In addition, this program will diversify my teaching strategies and strengthen my speaking skills so that I will be ready to utilize them in my own Spanish classroom. Not only will I be teaching at a school, I will have free time during the evenings and weekends to travel, sightsee, and study local Quechuan culture and language. Going abroad and bringing back skill sets which will aid me in teaching Spanish at a more advanced and engaging level will help me pique student interest in the language and motivate students to continue their language study at the university level; spreading a language learning culture is one of Phi Sigma Iota's highest values. I believe that I will be participating in an extremely unique program, one that will uphold Phi Sigma Iota values and fulfill all of my study abroad needs. I have included a budget below. Since the program's destination has not yet been finalized, costs for plane tickets and visas may vary.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Budget:

\$150 application fee

\$150 acceptance fee

\$900 matriculation fee

\$150-200 visa acquisition

\$150-200 passport

\$1500-2500 airfare

\$1200-1800 local travel, classroom supplies, incidentals

\$4200-\$5800 Total

I am a graduate student in French and Francophone studies, having previously completed an undergraduate double major in French and Music as well as a Master of Music in piano

performance. I have developed an interest in the relationship between music, literature and society in France at the turn of the Twentieth Century. I wish to apply for funding to travel to Paris this summer in order to further my research in this area.

My interest has let me to discover Charles Eöcklin (1867-1950), an important figure at the crossroads of music, culture, and politics. As a composer and professor of music, he not only actively exercised his art among distinguished colleagues such as Debussy and Ravel, but also strongly advocated for musical education for the general public through numerous public lectures, newspaper articles, radio appearances and involvement in social causes, Koöchlin posed not only as an artist, but also an intellectual and humanist.

For a figure so crucial to understanding the cultural and political formation of twentieth-century France, studies devoted to him have been, to say the least, scarce. Besides one work in English by Robert Orledge, *Charles Koöchlin (1867-1950), His Life and Works*, and a collection of essays in French, *Charles Koöchlin: Compositeur et Humaniste*, there is no other substantial study devoted to him, especially to his extra-musical activities and connections, although a well-preserved collection of his letters, writings, and notes await publication at the Médiathèque Malher Fond Koöchlin in Paris. The eventual publication of his writings and talks would greatly add to our knowledge of intellectual and cultural lives spanning half a century of French and European history, for his influence reached far beyond music and offers a peek into a changing continent from the unique angle of an artist-intellectual.

A Phi Sigma Iota scholarship would allow me to travel to Paris to access the Fond Koöchlin and conduct archival research. The findings should be of interest to students and scholars of French from an array of disciplines, including but not limited to literature, history, philosophy and, of course, music. I would also enrich my own research, which deals with the relationship between music, literature, and society, and offer new angles of reflection: Koöchlin's belief in the "morale d'intellect" taps into the broader question of the reconciliation of tension between elevated and popular cultures. What is Koöchlin's solution? What further complications does it pose? In the end, is the tension resolvable? The findings at Fond Koöchlin will help me focus my own research and could eventually develop into part of my PhD dissertation.

Budget

Note: I have never sought or received funding for the same project, and will not be seeking any other source of funding for this project.

Air fare	\$ 800	Chicago-Paris, round trip
Local Transportation	\$ 237	\$79 x3/months, Paris Métro monthly pass
Accommodation	\$2400	\$800 x 3 months
Incidentals	\$ 300	\$100 x 3 months

I am a third-year student at the honors college of mu university. My majors are German Language & Literature and Applied Linguistics, and my minor is the TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) certificate. German is my primary language of study, and I began learning it in high school after becoming best friends—and later pen pals—with a German exchange student at my middle school. I received the National Seal of Biliteracy as a senior in high school and passed the Goethe B1 exam during spring term of my freshman year in college. I declared Applied Linguistics as my major after meeting with an academic advisor who realized I was taking American Sign Language, Spanish, and German my first term at university

and I had expressed an interest in world history, culture, and languages. I have finished all requirements for my Applied Linguistics degree and am the president of the Student Organization of Applied Linguistics (SOAL). In this position, I help organize and host events that bring students from the department together to make friends, network, and learn more about finding internships and jobs in their field. In the past, we have hosted game nights, guest speakers on endangered languages, résumé workshops, and a bowling night in coordination with the Intensive English Language Program. I also work part-time at both Paper Source, a gift and stationery shop, and the Disability Resource Center (DRC) of the university, where I assist blind and visually impaired students with visual aspects of their learning materials in and outside of the classroom.

After graduation, I plan to teach English abroad as an assistant language teacher through the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program. I am also interested in pursuing a graduate degree in Germanic Linguistics at UC Berkeley. This term (Winter 2021), I completed my undergraduate Thesis Prospectus which I will research, write, and ultimately defend before receiving my degree in honors. I hope to provide a brief history of the university's German summer school in the context of the decline in number of post-secondary domestic language immersion programs, making the Deutsche Sommerschule am Pazifik one of only three remaining post-secondary domestic German immersion programs in the United States. I also completed my final course of the TESOL certificate this term, which was a teaching practicum through the Beaverton Literacy Council. I found this experience to be extremely rewarding and as a result, I am considering becoming a professor of foreign languages in the future.

The Phi Sigma Iota Collegiate Member Scholarship interests me because I will be studying abroad at Heidelberg University in Baden-Württemberg, Germany for the academic year of 2021-22. I have been accepted to the IE3 Global Baden-Württemberg program, which aligns with the remaining requirements of my degree. I was elected to attend Heidelberg University specifically because they are one of the few German universities in Baden-Wuerttemberg that has social sciences (linguistics) and because my aforementioned pen-pal is attending this university. While abroad, I hope to improve my German speaking proficiency (to a Goethe B2 or C1 level) and learn more about German grammar and professional writing. I am eager to learn more about German culture and history, as well. I will complete the final requirements for my degree, which include honors seminars and upper-level German course credits. I'm also hoping this experience will help me come to a decision in regard to applying for UC Berkeley's graduate program in Germanic Linguistics.

Studying abroad in Germany has been a dream of mine for quite some time, however, my socioeconomic background makes studying abroad for an entire year extremely difficult to achieve. To combat this situation, I have worked two to three jobs each year and saved up as much as I could. Last year, I applied to over fifty scholarships; I won a handful of these, which was enough (combined with my savings) to afford studying abroad in Germany. However, during these unprecedented times, I lost my jobs and had to dip into savings and even use some of my scholarship funds to continue attending university. My program was postponed an entire year, which will delay my graduation and has forfeited my ability to take Japanese language courses my senior year in preparation for the JET program. I am now searching for alternative scholarships to help me fill this financial deficit and make my dream a reality.

Here is an estimate of my study abroad fees according to IE3 Global and Ed Abroad:

E3 Global Fees	\$22,590
Program Operating Fees -	\$11,250

Lodging and Meals - \$9,459
Incidental Fees - \$1,841
Heidelberg University Fees \$7,000
Home University Fees \$2,500
Airfare \$2,000
Estimated Personal Expenses \$4,193
 University Registration fees in Germany - \$281
 Local Transportation (Bus Pass) - \$466
 AOK German Health Insurance - \$1,223
 Refundable Dorm Deposit - \$585
 Books and School Supplies - \$351
 Clothing and Laundry - \$585
 Personal Supplies and Incidentals - \$702
Auschwitz Jewish Center Program for Students Abroad Fee \$500
Recommended Finances Upon Arrival \$500
Long-Stay Visa Fee \$90
TOTAL \$39,333

Here are the scholarships I have been awarded for studying abroad:

Farren's Endowed Scholarship for Overseas Studies \$7,500, Gilman Scholarship \$5,000, IE3
Global Study Abroad Scholarship \$1,300
TOTAL \$19,800

And my estimated financial aid funds: Financial Aid \$10,395 Subsidized Loan \$5,500
TOTAL \$15,895

This leaves me with a deficit of \$3,638.

Here is how the funds would be distributed:

\$2,000 – Round-trip Airfare

\$1,000 – AOK German Health Insurance

\$500 – Auschwitz Jewish Center (AJC) Program for Students Abroad Fee The AJC Program is an optional educational addition to my international experience. It is a five-day program that takes place in Poland once per semester. Students participating “engage intensively with the history of the Holocaust and Jewish life in Poland” while visiting Krakow and Oswiecim, touring Auschwitz-Birkenau, and working with scholars to hear testimony and have meaningful discussions. American staff from the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York and Polish staff from the AJC lead students through these discussions. This program is of interest to me because of the importance of engaging with the history of this time period when choosing to study German as a world language. The \$500 program fee does not include transportation, and I was afraid that this program would be out of my budget. With this scholarship, I will not only be able to afford my airfare abroad, but also an important historical educational experience.

As a Gilman scholar, I will be presenting on my experience abroad and sharing with students the scholarships I was awarded so that they can find hope in my success. My ultimate motivation for studying abroad is not only to improve my global citizenship through experiential learning, but to show other students coming from a socioeconomic disadvantage that if they work hard and reach out to the resources around them, they too can have access to an education abroad. Thank you for your time and consideration.

As a member of Phi Sigma Iota I have displayed academic excellence and proficiency in the foreign language of Spanish. Phi Sigma Iota's main ideals are friendship, zeal for language, and research and individuality. I believe that I possess these three qualities and have developed them through various experiences.

My academic achievements in Spanish have stemmed from my passion and zeal for the language and realization for the necessity and benefits of being bilingual. I recently completed a January term study abroad in Chile, where I had the opportunity to teach a week-long children's summer camp that focused on teaching English as a second language to children ages 7-13. I also got to explore and learn about the culture and history of Chile through museums, walking tours, and interactions with a multitude of Chilean people, including staying with a host family. The relationships built during this opportunity abroad were rich with chances to learn and reciprocate feelings of love and friendship. These friends were unique and timeless, including those made with the Chilean university students, the students at the summer camp, my host family, and the other students with me on the trip.

This opportunity as a whole helped instill in me an even greater desire to continue to learn and become fluent in the language and the culture, gaining experiences that are invaluable to my character as a student, a learner and a global citizen. I will graduate with a double major in Criminology and Spanish. I plan to pursue a career that enables me to use my proficiency in Spanish to help others.

My immediate goal following graduation is to join the Peace Corp to pursue interests in service, specifically working with juveniles. In order to achieve this goal, I want to gain more experiences outside of the classroom that will provide educational and cultural opportunities that I am not able to gain within the four walls of the traditional classroom setting. I have received an opportunity for an internship in San Jose, Costa Rica. This internship is with a program called Student Athletes Abroad, where they provide internship opportunities for collegiate athletes that exhibit passions and abilities surrounding the three pillars of internship, athletics, and adventure. One of their main missions is to use sports as a vehicle to increase cultural immersion and maximize educational opportunities. More specifically, my opportunity includes a three-week, service-based internship in the field of social services. I will work at an organization called La Casa de los Niños, where they provide services for families in the surrounding community that can be classified as underprivileged. My role would be to work closely with students, staff, and parents, learning about the services they offer to foster improvement for the children in their home life and school life. This internship encompasses everything that I want to be doing with my career, when I graduate, including my passions for traveling, serving others, and working with juveniles. If I receive this scholarship I will use the funds towards the cost associated with the internship, as I am taking this internship for credit at my university and the cost of the program is more than I am able to pay for on my own.

Budget:

\$2,995 program cost

\$600-\$650 round-trip airfare

\$765 home university costs for one three-credit-hour course