About the National Security Education Program

The National Security Education Program (NSEP) is a major federal initiative designed to build a broader and more qualified pool of U.S. citizens with foreign language and international skills. Established by Congress in 1991, NSEP consists of nine initiatives that represent broad strategic partnerships with the U.S. education community designed to serve the needs of U.S. national security and national competitiveness. These initiatives integrate the best components of language learning and international education developed in conjunction with progressively minded partners throughout the United States.

About the Institute of International Education

The Institute of International Education (IIE), a world leader in the international exchange of people and ideas, administers the Boren Scholarships, Boren Fellowships, and The Language Flagship on behalf of the National Security Education Program. IIE designs and implements programs of study and training for students, educators, and professionals from all sectors with funding from government and private sources. An independent, nonprofit organization founded in 1919, IIE has a network of 18 offices worldwide.

Maximum Award Amounts

Boren Scholarships
❖ $10,000/Semester
❖ $20,000/Academic Year

Boren Fellowships
❖ $12,000/Semester Overseas
❖ $24,000/Year Overseas
❖ $30,000/Domestic and Overseas Study

“Never in our history has it been more important for America’s future leaders to have a deep understanding of the rest of the world. As we seek to lead through partnerships, respect for and understanding of other cultures and languages is absolutely essential.”

– David L. Boren, President, University of Oklahoma and former U.S. Senator

Apply Online

www.borenawards.org
Boren Scholarships and Fellowships

Boren Scholarships and Fellowships, sponsored by the National Security Education Program (NSEP), provide funding opportunities for U.S. undergraduate and graduate students to study less commonly taught languages in world regions critical to U.S. interests, and underrepresented in study abroad, including Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin America, and the Middle East.

As students of other languages and cultures, Boren Scholars and Fellows significantly advance the international competencies needed to communicate more effectively, to understand other perspectives, and to conduct analyses in a variety of contexts (economic, political, media, religious, cultural).

Eligibility Requirements

You are eligible to apply for a Boren Award, if you are:

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

❖ A matriculated undergraduate student in an accredited U.S. institution.

❖ Able to complete the Boren-funded program before graduation.

❖ Planning to study overseas in an eligible world region.

❖ A U.S. citizen at time of application.

**FELLOWSHIPS**

❖ Matriculated in, or applying to, a graduate degree program at an accredited U.S. institution.

Program of Study

**Boren Scholarships**

Applicants should work with their study abroad offices and Boren campus representatives to identify appropriate study abroad opportunities.

**Boren Fellowships**

Applicants design their own programs in consultation with their academic advisors. Programs must include language study, but may also include additional coursework, research, or academic internships.

Language Study

Study of a foreign language appropriate to the proposed country or region must be an integral part of each application. Students should incorporate opportunities to develop or advance language proficiency through instruction and application inside and outside of the classroom. With the exception of French and Spanish, there are no minimum language requirements. However, applicants must demonstrate a commitment to the language and have a strategy for continuing to study the language beyond the scholarship or fellowship period.

Application Preferences

Preference is given to:

❖ Applicants with a desire to work in the federal government.

❖ Applicants proposing countries, languages, and fields of study critical to U.S. national security. National security includes traditional concerns of protecting American well-being, as well as challenges of global society, such as sustainable development, environmental issues, disease, migration, and economic competitiveness.

❖ Applicants proposing long-term study abroad. Most Boren recipients study overseas for six months or longer, though some recipients study abroad for a semester, and a limited number of undergraduate students in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields may be funded for summer programs of 8 weeks or longer.

NSEP Service Requirement

The goal of NSEP is to enhance the capacity of the federal sector to deal effectively with the challenging global issues of the 21st century. In exchange for financial support, Boren Scholars and Fellows commit to working in the federal government for at least one year after graduation, though securing federal employment is incumbent upon the award recipient. If the award recipient is unable to secure federal employment, Boren alumni may petition NSEP to fulfill the service requirement through work in the field of education.

See borenawards.org for the full list of preferences.