# Global Experience Bursary 2020/21

**Background**

This funding is in place to support students who wish to undertake short-term global opportunities that are related to their degree programme or will provide further breadth to their studies. Funding will be considered for students wishing to partake in the following activities:

- International summer schools
- International language programmes
- International research projects
- International volunteering opportunities
- Certain self-led fieldwork activities - subject to approval from home department

*Please note that bursaries will not be awarded to students undertaking work-place internships.*

Due to the continuing global situation, we will also consider 2021 bursary applications from students wishing to undertake virtual mobility opportunities, i.e. those that are completed online. These might include virtual summer schools or online research projects offered by international institutions. They must also include live learning or interaction (i.e. with other students, colleagues, course leaders or lecturers). Full eligibility requirements for virtual opportunities are listed below.

The opportunity must also be in a country that is deemed safe to travel and does not include an 'all but essential travel' warning according to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO). UCL Study Abroad also reserves the right to make decisions based on safety concerns. If COVID-related travel restrictions are currently in place, your bursary offer will be conditional on the travel restrictions changing in advance of the start of your placement.

**Award**

Subject to available funds, the maximum scholarship will be £600. The exact amount awarded will be determined by Study Abroad and will be allocated on the relevance, duration, location and cost of the opportunity and the impact of the learning outcomes as well as the strength of the application. Students who have not previously studied abroad will be given priority over those who have been supported by the UCL Study Abroad team.

Awards will be made at the discretion of Study Abroad whose decision is final. A bursary application will not necessarily guarantee a bursary offer. Students are therefore

encouraged to provide as much detail as possible and think about the long response question on the online application.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. The call for applications will close at **4pm on Friday 2nd July 2021** or at a time when the bursary funding has been exhausted. With that in mind, students are encouraged to apply early as possible.

**Eligibility**

Students must meet the following criteria to apply:

- You must be a UCL undergraduate student, fully enrolled during the duration of the overseas programme. Final year undergraduates may also apply for funding, but must have completed the international opportunity by the 11th June 2021. Non finalist applicants must complete the opportunity by the first day of term of the 2021/22 academic year (i.e. Monday 27th September 2021).

- Be applying for an opportunity in a country/region that is deemed safe to travel and does not include an 'all but essential travel' warning according to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO). If COVID-related travel restrictions are currently in place, your bursary offer will be conditional on the travel restrictions changing in advance of the start of your placement.

- Be planning on undertaking an international programme that fits into one of the categories above, with a minimum duration of five days.

- Understand that the support provided by the Global Experience Bursary is contingent on the global situation and there is a chance that in-person global opportunities may be cancelled by UCL or your host institution/organisation or as a result of any new travel restrictions.

- Understand that if UCL can longer support in-person global opportunities, you will return the allocated bursary funding or work with the Study Abroad team to find an appropriate alternative virtual mobility opportunity. Please note that a change to virtual mobility may result in a change to the bursary award.

- Students who have been awarded Santander or Cities partnerships Programme Bursaries or other funding via UCL Study Abroad will not be eligible to apply.

- Agree to complete the paperwork and tasks as described below (once a bursary offer has been made):

    - ✓ **Bursary Acceptance Agreement** - to ensure that you will complete the programme as described within your application. Failure to complete the programme you have been awarded for will result in the funding being forfeited and the money will have to be returned to UCL. For those who have independently sourced their own global opportunities, the agreement will also acknowledge this, with the individual taking responsibility for all aspects of his/her placement.

    - ✓ **Confirmation from the host institution** - the host organisation/institution will be required to sign a confirmation of

completion form at the end of the placement to confirm that the student has completed the placement in a satisfactory manner. Students who fail to return this document will be expected to return the bursary in full.

✓ **Feedback** - students will be expected to complete a feedback form about their experiences and provide a short written testimonial upon request.

Bursaries will only be distributed once details of the international opportunity has been confirmed by the host institution or organisation in writing.

## Virtual Mobility Requirements

If you wish to apply for funding for a virtual opportunity, the opportunity must also meet the following additional essential criteria:

- Be relevant to your UCL programme of study, future studies or career.

- Include live learning or interaction with students, colleagues, course leaders or lecturers around the world.

- Allow you to develop an understanding of different approaches and attitudes from around the world.

- Allow you develop employability skills, particularly those of an international nature such as intercultural communication.

- Have a fee attached - Study Abroad will not provide funding for virtual programmes that are free to join.

Students are encouraged to source virtual opportunities that also meet the following desirable criteria:

- Delivered by an organisation from outside of the UK.

- An opportunity to work on a shared project or towards a shared goal in a virtual team, using technology to facilitate joint studying or working.

## Contact

If you have any further questions, please contact the Study Abroad team via askUCL.