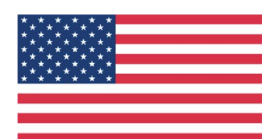


# Gilman Scholarship Info Session

Program Overview, Eligibility, Application



The Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program is a program of the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and supported in its implementation by the Institute of International Education (IIE).

# Abigail Segura

Study Abroad Advisor  
Gilman Advisor

[absegura@fullerton.edu](mailto:absegura@fullerton.edu)

## Drop-in Advising

- Tuesdays & Fridays
- 10AM-12PM
- PLN-120

## Virtual Advising Appointments

- Email [sabroad@fullerton.edu](mailto:sabroad@fullerton.edu)

*Must attend Info Session before booking an appointment*



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# U.S. Department of State

Promote mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries, and they do so by facilitating opportunities of academic, professional, athletic, and other cultural exchange.

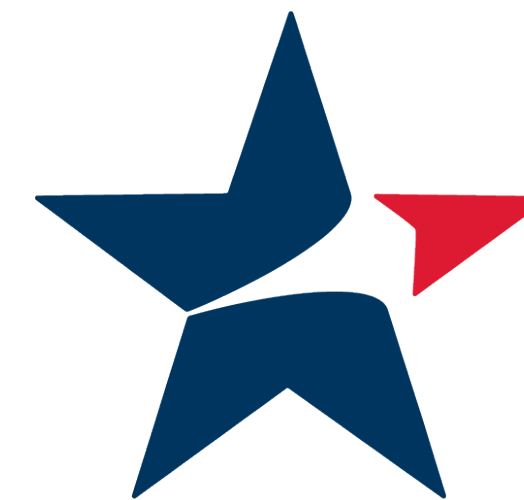
[exchanges.state.gov](https://exchanges.state.gov)

[careers.state.gov](https://careers.state.gov)

[travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov)



**BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL  
AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**



**USA Study Abroad**



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# Gilman Program's Impact

**100%** of Gilmans have financial need

**Nearly 70%** identify as racial or ethnic minority students

**Nearly 60%** come from small towns or rural communities within the United States

**Nearly 50%** are first-generation college students

(Citation: The Gilman Program 20-year Impact Report)

## Since Inception

**41,000+** U.S. undergraduates of high financial need

**160+** countries

**1,300+** U.S. institutions represented



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“What are the chances  
of me receiving a scholarship?”

1 in 4 Students are awarded!

✈️ <sup>s</sup> Congratulations!

 <b>Amalia</b> Summer Study Abroad in Portugal	 <b>Elena</b> Summer Study Abroad in Italy	 <b>Esperanza</b> Summer Study Abroad in Denmark	 <b>Johanna</b> Fall Study Abroad in Spain
 <b>Maddy</b> Fall Study Abroad in South Korea	<b>CSUF Gilman Scholarship Awardees!</b> 		 <b>Reymundo</b> Summer Study Abroad in Germany
 <b>Royina</b> Summer Study Abroad in Costa Rica	 <b>Sophia</b> Summer Study Abroad in Italy	 <b>Stephanie</b> Fall Study Abroad in South Korea	 <b>Yen Nhi</b> Summer Study Abroad in Italy

CSUF | Abroad  
EXTENSION AND INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS



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# Scholarships up to \$5,000

- Fall 2024
- Spring 2025
- Summer 2024
- Winter
- Academic Year 2024-2025



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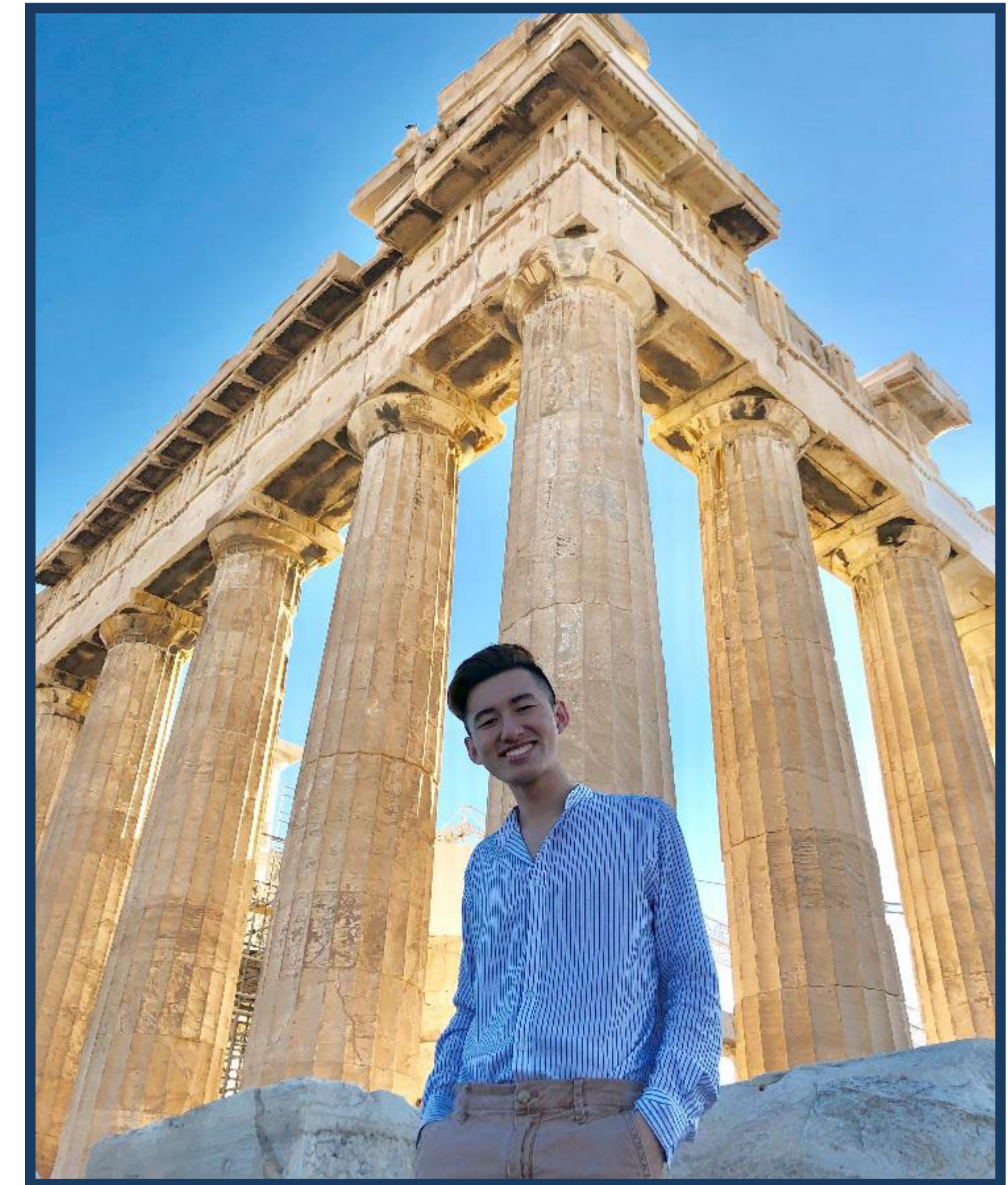


# Critical Need Language Award

Up to an additional \$3,000 + access to proficiency testing

- Arabic
- Azerbaijani
- Bahasa Indonesian
- Bangla
- Chinese (Mandarin)
- Hebrew\*
- Hindi
- Japanese
- Korean
- Persian
- Portuguese
- Punjabi
- Russian
- Swahili
- Turkish
- Urdu

Studying any of these languages in sign language is also eligible for CNLA



Requires an additional essay to be considered



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# STEM Supplemental Award

- Up to an additional \$1,000
- Requires an additional essay to be considered (maximum of 1,000 characters)

## Eligibility:

- Conduct STEM-related research abroad as part of a study abroad or international internship program



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# Gilman Alumni Benefits

- Non-Competitive Eligibility (NCE)
- Gilman Scholar Network
- Alumni Ambassador Program
- Seminars & Career Workshops
- Networking Opportunities
- Skill Development



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# Eligibility



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# Gilman Eligibility

- U.S. citizen or national
- Undergraduate student
- Federal Pell Grant recipient
- Credit-bearing program
- In a country or area with an overall Travel Advisory Level 1 or 2
- No minimum length requirement!
- Don't need to be accepted to a study abroad program upon application submission



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# Gilman Eligibility

**Recipients may be permitted to travel abroad as a Gilman Scholar if their program's country/area(s) are in a location with a Travel Advisory Level 1 or 2, according to the [U.S. Department of State's Travel Advisory System](#).**



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# Gilman-McCain Scholarship Eligibility

\$5,000 for child or spousal dependents of active-duty service members

- U.S. citizen or national
- Undergraduate student
- Credit-bearing program
- In a Travel Advisory level 1 or 2 country
- No minimum length requirement!
- **Recipient of any type of Title IV federal financial aid**
- Dependent (child or spouse) of active or activated United States military personnel during the time of application (including Air Force, Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard, Army, Army National Guard, Army Reserve, Coast Guard, Coast Guard Reserve, Marine Corps, Marine Corps Reserve, Navy, Navy Reserve, Space Force, NOAA Commissioned Corps, and USPHS Commissioned Corps)





# Application



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## 2 Steps

1

### Student Application

- Abroad Program Info
- Essays
- Unofficial Transcript(s)
- Select Advisors

2

### Advisor Certifications

- Study Abroad Advisor
- Financial Aid Advisor



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# 2

## Advisor Certifications NOTE

### Study Abroad Advisor

- Select “Abigail Segura”
- You don’t need to send me an email to remind me about certifying. I will receive an automated notice in addition to regular reminders from the Gilman Portal.
- Application in CSUF SAGE Portal must be started in order for me to certify

### Financial Aid Advisor

- You can select any of the advisors on the drop-down menu. All of them will certify apps!
- You don’t need to contact the Financial Aid Office to ask who to select.



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***Essay #1***  
***Required***  
***Max. 7000 characters***

# Statement of Purpose

**Personal Interview**

**You + Program + Goals**  
(academic, professional, personal)

**Meeting Challenges**



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# Essay #1

Required

Max. 7000 characters

## Statement of Purpose

- Roughly about a page and a half.
- This is their **only way of getting to know who you are and reasons for studying abroad.**
- This essay is essentially a personal interview on paper
  - Talk about the impact of study abroad on your academic goals, professional goals and personal growth, as well as how the Gilman Scholarship can help you accomplish these goals.
  - What inspired you to study abroad and what challenges you have faced in studying abroad, so you can describe the knowledge, skills, and experiences that can be drawn on to meet challenges experienced abroad.

\*All students applying to the Gilman Program have financial need, so you may speak of this, but elaborate on other challenges you may face in addition to that.



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# Read the Website

## WHY GILMAN?

A Gilman Scholarship enables American students to gain proficiency in diverse languages and cultures, skills that are critically important to their academic and career development.

The Gilman Program broadens the student population that studies and interns abroad by supporting undergraduates who might not otherwise participate due to financial constraints. The program aims to encourage students to study and intern in a diverse array of countries or areas and world regions. The program encourages students to conduct STEM-related research abroad as part of their study abroad or international internship program. The program also encourages students to study languages (those deemed important to national security). Veterans of military service are encouraged to apply, and preference is given to veterans when other factors are equivalent. By supporting undergraduate students who have high financial need, the program has been successful in supporting students who have been historically underrepresented in education abroad, including but not limited to first-generation college students, ethnic minority students, students with disabilities, students attending HBCUs (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) or other minority-serving institutions, students attending community colleges, rural students, and students coming from U.S. states with less study abroad participation.

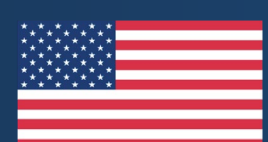
→ PARTNERS



**gilmanscholarship**



 Follow Gilman on Instagram



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# 5 Questions to Ask Yourself

## Statement of Purpose Essay

1. Do you make a connection between your **program** and goals?
2. Do you make a connection between your **country** and goals?
3. Do you share how you will be **academically successful** on your program?
4. Do you give **examples** of your experiences, skills, and knowledge that you will use to meet program challenges?
5. Do you address how this abroad experience will **impact** your future?



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**Essay #2**  
**Required**  
**Max. 3000 characters**

# Community Impact: Building Mutual Understanding Essay

What it means to be a U.S. citizen while abroad	How you will seek opportunities to be culturally engaged	Seeking opportunities to have meaningful interactions
---	--	---

**\*Tip: Read [Selection Criterion Community Impact Abroad & Student’s Return Home](#)**



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# 3 Questions to Ask Yourself

## Building Mutual Understanding Essay

1. Do you articulate how you will **represent** the U.S. as a citizen diplomat while abroad?
2. Do you explain how you will **contribute** to the goal of building mutual understanding?
3. Do you discuss how you will look for opportunities to build meaningful relationships and become more **culturally engaged**?



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*Essay #3*  
*Required*  
*Max. 3000 characters*

# Community Impact: Follow-on Service Project Proposal

Being an effective  
citizen diplomat  
while abroad

How will you give  
back by inspiring  
others to study  
abroad?

On campus or in  
home community

Design plan of action  
(audience, tools, timeline)



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# 5 Questions to Ask Yourself

## Follow-On Service Project Proposal

1. Does your FOSP **increase awareness** of the Gilman Scholarship and study abroad?
2. Is your project **feasible**?
3. Do you give a **detailed plan** for your project?
4. Do you incorporate your **study abroad experience** into your project?
5. Do you have an **intended audience**? Who will you collaborate with to reach this **community**?



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**Essay #4**  
**Optional**  
**Max. 2000 characters**

# Critical Need Language Award Essay

Is it a critical need language?	Is it predominantly spoken in the country you're going to?	How does it relate to your academic or career goals?	Motivations for improving language proficiency (academic, professional, personal)
---------------------------------	--	--	--



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# Critical Need Language Award Essay

## Some key points to keep in mind are:

- Be sure that the language you are studying while abroad is considered a Critical Need Language by the U.S. Department of State. You can see the list of Critical Need Languages at [gilmanscholarship.org](https://gilmanscholarship.org).
- Be sure that you are studying the Critical Need Language in a country where it is predominately spoken.
- Explain the level of intensity of your critical need language study while abroad, how studying this language will further your academic and career goals, what your motivations are for learning or improving your language proficiency, and how you intend to improve your language skills while studying abroad.



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## ***Essay #5***

***Optional***

***Max. 1000 characters***

# **STEM Supplemental Award Essay**

**How is your STEM research associated with your study abroad program?**

**Describe its contribution to your future academic and/or career goals.**

**Demonstrate motivations to your STEM Field**



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# Selection Criteria



**Impact of Program & Destination on Student's Academic & Career Trajectory**

**Community Impact Abroad & Upon Student's Return Home**

**Academic Preparedness**

**Diversity of Background & Experience**

**Commitment to Proficiency in a Critical Need Language**

**Commitment to a STEM Field**



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# Deadlines and Timelines



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# Deadlines & Timelines

Application Opens

Applicant Deadline

Advisor Deadline

**March 2024  
Deadline**

Abroad Program Starts  
May 2024 – April 2025

**Mid-January**

**March 7, 2024  
11:59pm PT**

**March 14, 2024**



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# Application Tips



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# Gilman Scholars' Tips for Applicants

Create a compelling story that ties your past, present, and future to highlight the impact the scholarship will have on you.

Start the application early, be your truest self, and have confidence that you are worthy.



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# Gilman Scholars' Tips for Applicants

For your Follow-on Service Project, think about your community and local schools. Think of how you heard about Gilman and how you could tell others about it!

If you don't apply, you'll never get it!

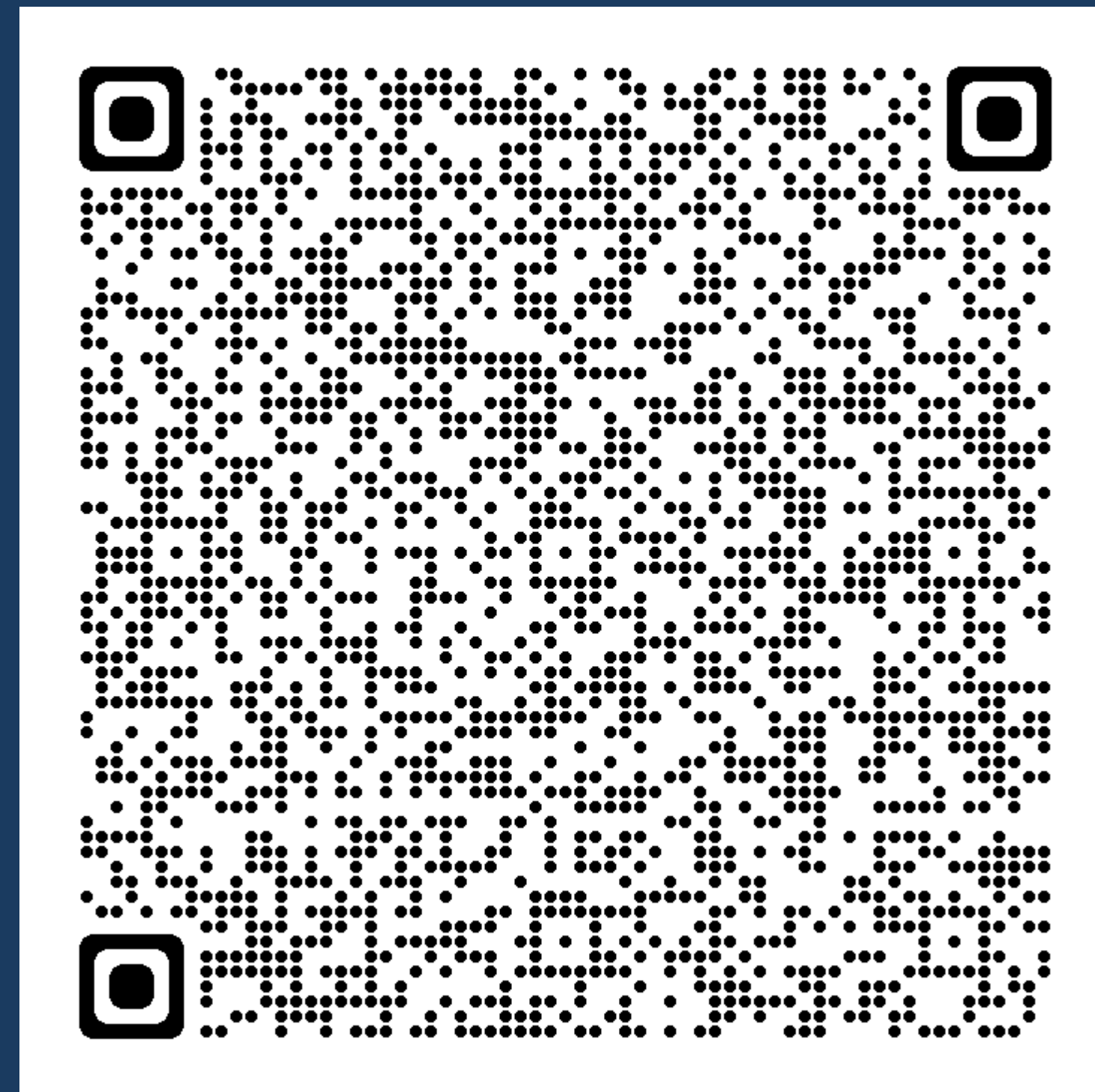


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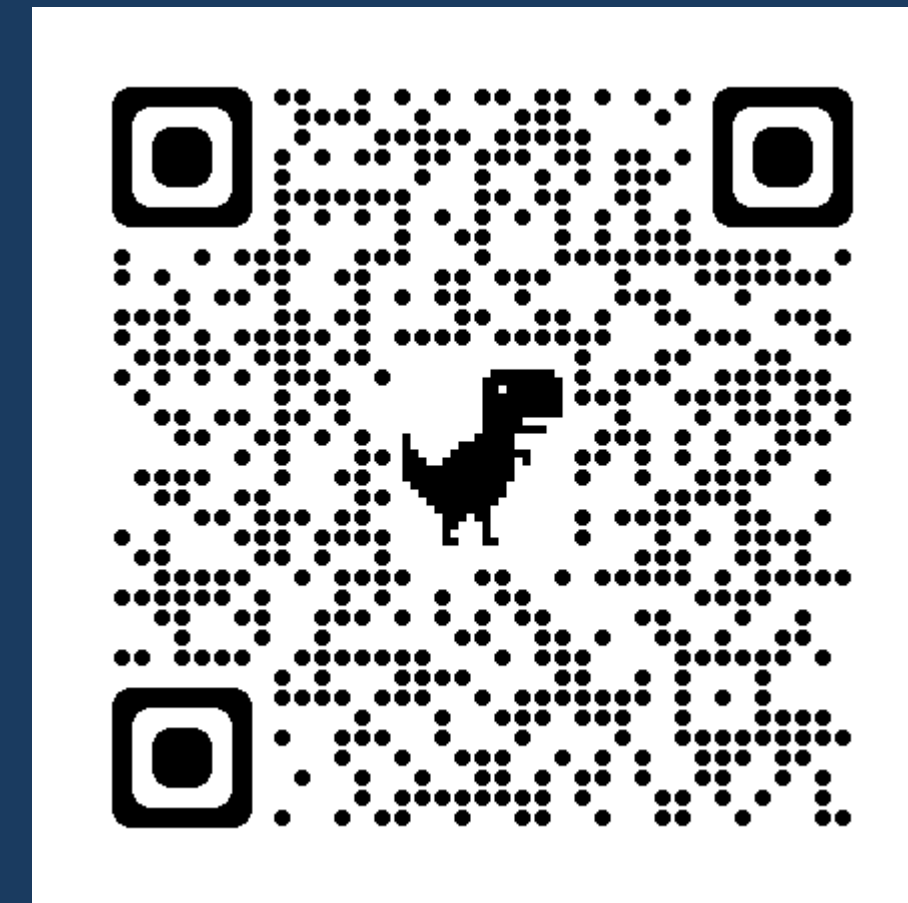
# Check-out some tips from Gilman Alumni, Loisa Chen



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# Use the CSUF Writing Center!

Make an appointment online



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**If you want SAGE to  
review your essay,  
email it to  
[absegura@fullerton.edu](mailto:absegura@fullerton.edu)  
no later than  
Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>!**



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#GilmanScholarship



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# Resources for International Exchange

## Other U.S. Government Resources:

- Critical Language Scholarship Program
- Fulbright U.S. Student Program
- Boren Scholarships and Fellowships

[exchanges.state.gov](https://exchanges.state.gov)



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# Flyers



Gilman One-Pager



Gilman-McCain One-Pager



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## Virtual Advising Appointments

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