



FIU- UNA BRAZIL UNDERGRADUATE STUDY ABROAD GRANT APPLICATION

The FIU – UNA Brazil Undergraduate Capacity Building Study Abroad (BCBUSA) program provides students in SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, MATH, AND EDUCATION with funding to participate in a semester-long study abroad academic exchange experience in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. Funded by the US Department of State, the program aims to establish a sustainable, well-founded, comprehensive semester-long exchange partnership between FIU and Centro Universitario UNA that will expose students in underrepresented fields abroad to intensive language training, community engagement, and continuous academic collaboration, and that will serve as a model program for successful student exchange partnerships for UNA, FIU, and institutions in the Americas.

Five (5) FIU students will be awarded a \$5,000 grant to spend the Spring semester at UNA as exchange students.

Selection Criteria:

- Must be pursuing an undergraduate degree in Education, Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math.
- Must have a minimum GPA of 3.0.
- Must be proficient in Portuguese (see application below)
- Must be US citizens at time of application.
- Must show an interest in intercultural exchange and community leadership and engagement.
- Must be available for an interview with the FIU selection committee.

Students must submit a complete Grant Application form (see below), along with supporting materials to the Office of Study Abroad and will be required to attend an interview with the FIU selection panel. The grant application packet submission deadline is **September 4th, 2013**. The application packet includes the following:

- Grant Application Form (below)
 - Two letters of recommendation--must be academic references
 - Personal Statement (see below for guidelines on the statement)
 - Copy of unofficial transcripts
 - **Evidence of Portuguese proficiency; must place into the upper intermediate level on the CELPE-Bras Exam** (Certificado de Proficiência em Língua Portuguesa para Estrangeiros) or equivalent assessment, as determined by the Portuguese Language Director. A copy of the CELPE score or equivalent assessment can be provided at the time of application.
-

Program Requirements (Upon Notification of Award):

- Awardees must submit an FIU online International Student Exchange (ISE) Application ***(due by September 15, 2013) and must follow all ISE procedures for FIU students participating in the International Student Exchange program.
 - Must submit an application packet to Centro Universitario UNA. The packet will include all materials needed in order to enroll at UNA as exchange students. This packet will be provided to you by FIU. The packet will include the following items:
 - International Students Application
 - Student Course Registration – (Formulário de Matrícula).
 - Student Health form
 - Declaration of Finances
 - Understanding Agreement
 - Housing Agreement
 - All FIU candidates attending UNA will be provided with a \$5,000 stipend to help cover semester expenses in Brazil, as well as a tuition waiver, which will be implemented as a result of the exchange partnership that exists between FIU and UNA. Students will be responsible for all expenses at the host institution.
 - Selected candidates will be enrolled as full time students at UNA; courses will be taught in Portuguese and may be in the students' academic major.
 - While at UNA, candidates will be required to participate in a community engagement component that will further immerse the students in the region, language, university studies, and the host culture. FIU students going to UNA will be incorporated into existing and successful UNA community engagement projects led by FIU students and vice versa. This will serve as an opportunity for Brazilian and US students to work alongside one another to achieve a shared goal, allowing students to observe that often the challenges confronting communities in different countries are very similar.
-

FIU- UNA BRAZIL UNDERGRADUATE STUDY ABROAD GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Personal Information

First Name:	Middle Initial:
Last Name:	
Panther ID:	
Contact Information	
Phone Number:	
Email:	
Academic Information	
GPA:	
Major:	
Academic Level:	FR SO JR SR
Community Activities (List all community activities in which you've been involved)	

PERSONAL STATEMENT GUIDELINES:

Applicants must respond to the following question on a separate sheet (typed).

The Brazil Undergraduate Study Abroad Grant program will provide you with a comprehensive and immersive academic experience in one of Brazil's most vibrant cities, Belo Horizonte. Discuss your personal, academic, and professional interests in Brazil. What kinds of previous experiences or achievements do you believe have best prepared you for the experience. What challenges do you anticipate facing and how will you overcome those challenges? Finally, discuss how this program will contribute to your future academic, personal, and professional aspirations.

All application materials are due in the Office of Study Abroad, PC 113, no later than **September 4th, 2013**.