

William and Judith Bollinger International Student Enrichment Fund

Criteria for Eligibility and Award Information

The William and Judith Bollinger International Student Enrichment Fund was established to enable international students studying at the LBJ School to pursue educational and cultural interests, within the United States (excluding United States Territories), both at and away from The University of Texas at Austin. The funds are meant to elevate the experiences of international students by expanding their knowledge and inspiring them to share that knowledge with their peers, friends, and families back home.

Criteria

To be considered for funding, requests must show that the award will allow the student to participate in an enriching cultural or educational experience.

Eligibility

All international students currently enrolled in a master's program at the LBJ School are eligible to apply. The student must be enrolled at the LBJ School full-time during the semester(s) they apply for and use these funds and must be in good academic standing.

Awards

The maximum award amount is \$2,500 annually (September 1 through August 31). A committee meets to review applications on a regular and on-going basis. Awards will be given each year until the budgeted funds are exhausted.

When to Apply

Applications for Bollinger Funds must be completed, submitted, and approved prior to the trip you are seeking funding for. Applicants who wish to apply for smaller or less expensive activities are encouraged to aggregate them into an overall plan for the entire academic year.

Students should expect notification regarding the committee's decision of the request for funds no earlier than two weeks after the application is submitted. The payment process may take several weeks, so students should keep that in mind when applying.

How to Apply

Complete the LBJ School of Public Affairs - William & Judith Bollinger International Student Enrichment Application in LASSO. In the application you will need to complete the required narrative and attach the required budget components. Make sure your budget and supporting documentation such as a copy of the airfare from a travel website, a screenshot of the hotel rate and company/agency name, and all receipts or basis for estimates of expenses are combined into one document before uploading to LASSO.

Incomplete applications will be returned for completion and will not be considered until resubmitted. Students should expect notification regarding the committee's decision of their request for funds no earlier than two weeks after the submission of the completed application.

Funding is not guaranteed, and the payment process may take several weeks, so students should keep that in mind when applying.

Receiving Your Fellowship Award

You must set up a direct deposit account to receive your award. This should be done prior to submitting your application to ensure the transaction is processed properly.

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You may sign up for direct deposit online at https://utdirect.utexas.edu/acct/rec/weft/webEFT_info.WBX.

Tax Implications for Fellowships

Fellowship direct payments for foreign students are subject to 14% being withheld from each payment. Taxes deducted from a foreign recipient could be refunded when a treaty benefit is available between the U.S. and the foreign student's country of tax residence by filing a federal income tax return or when the foreign student has lived in the U.S. long enough to become a resident for U.S. tax purposes. To apply a tax treaty foreign students can complete the GLACIER tax compliance forms with UT Tax Services.

Tax Treaty forms are completed through UT Payroll <u>Tax Services</u> by completing the GLACIER Tax Compliance software. Texas Global (formally International Office) does not process tax treaty forms. Texas Global International Student and Scholar Services will provide software for students considered nonresident for tax purposes to file their Federal Income Tax Returns and assist with general tax return questions. The Scholarship Desk will assist students and others with tax residency applications. More information can be found <u>here</u>.