



March 18 2015

Dear Colleagues at the Institute of International Education:

We thank you for encouraging universities, governments, organizations and many others to increase the number of students from the United States who study abroad. The Andean Center for Latin American Studies (ACLAS) has been hosting study abroad participants in Quito, Ecuador for almost 25 years, and we are continually inspired by the impact that education abroad has on students. It is with great pleasure that we share with you our pledge to Generation Study Abroad:

The Andean Center for Latin American Studies (ACLAS) pledges scholarship dollars to contribute to increasing the number of students from community colleges and the healthcare professions who study abroad. Additionally, we pledge to engage our alumni to share their stories of how education abroad has enhanced their lives and their careers.

Beyond the typical challenges students face in order to earn credit abroad, students in community colleges and the healthcare fields encounter tight schedules tracks, limited degree time and substantial out-of-classroom responsibilities. We believe that this financial support will help the recipients overcome one of the many challenges they face in order to make an education abroad experience a reality. Additionally, because we typically host faculty-led programs from one institution, we hope the structure of giving additional scholarships for additional participants in the program will encourage word-of-mouth about the program and scholarships and not discourage scholarship applicants when program numbers grow.

Our scholarship contributions are as follows. The guidelines are the same for both community college and healthcare programs:

Programs 28 days or longer:

- A \$500 scholarship will be provided to one student (selected by the student's institution) per program, plus one additional \$500 scholarship for each five additional students who commit to the program. For example, one student on a program generates one scholarship; six students on a program generate two scholarships; 11 students generate three scholarships; and so on.

Programs 27 days or shorter:

- A \$200 scholarship will be provided to one student (selected by the student's institution) per program, plus one additional \$200 scholarship for each five additional students who commit to the program. For example, one student on a program generates one scholarship; six students on a program generate two scholarships; 11 students generate three scholarships; and so on.
- To be eligible for the scholarship student must earn academic credit on their program.
- A program deposit indicates commitment to a program. The number of deposited students will determine the number of scholarships available to the institution. If the number of students on the program changes after the student commitments (deposits) are made, that will not affect the number of scholarships.)

Additionally, we will engage our program alumni to collect and share how their study abroad experiences have contributed to their current careers. With our 20-plus years of alumni, we are optimistic that we can collect meaningful stories and share them through social media, newsletters and word-of-mouth.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this change. Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions at swest@aclas.org or (503) 877-9751.

Saludos cordiales,

Fernando Miño Andrade
Executive Director

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