

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Dear Student,

Michigan State University is proud to announce a new study abroad program, "*Disability in a Diverse Society*." It will take place in Dublin, Ireland at the Dublin City University campus from June 9 to July 7, 2007. We are excited to be able to offer \$3000 scholarships to students with disabilities participating in this program. The source of these scholarships is a grant generously funded by the IFSA Foundation.

The grant recognizes that few students with disabilities participate in study abroad programs or international travel, activities that lead to acquisition of important personal skills and knowledge resulting in a more competitive résumé for a future job market. We are fortunate to provide a few scholarships as financial incentive to students with disabilities.

To be eligible for consideration you must: 1.) be a student with a documented disability, 2.) have applied to the *Disability in a Diverse Society* study abroad program, 3.) meet the eligibility criteria of a 2.0 cumulative GPA for the above program, and 4.) have your application with all supporting documentation received no later than 5:00 pm on February 15, 2007. Priority will be given to students with demonstrated financial need.



Resource
Center for
Persons with
Disabilities
*Maximizing
Ability &
Opportunity*

120 Bessey Hall
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan
48824-1033
www.rcpd.msu.edu

(517) 353-9642
TTY: (517) 355-1293

Submit all application materials by mail or directly to the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities office, attention Study Abroad Scholarships, 120 Bessey Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824.

Sincerely,

Valerie Nilson
Disability Specialist

Cindy Chalou
Asst. Director, Office of Study Abroad

Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD)

120 Bessey Hall Michigan State University East Lansing, MI 48824-1033
(517) 353-9642 (517) 355-1293 (TTY) (517) 432-3191 (fax)
rcpd@msu.edu <http://www.rcpd.msu.edu/>

**Disability In A Diverse Society Study Abroad Program
Scholarship Application**

Please print legibly or type your responses to each item below. To be eligible for consideration you must: 1.) be a student with a documented disability, 2.) have applied to the Disability In a Diverse Society study abroad program, 3.) meet eligibility criteria of a 2.0 cumulative GPA for the above program, and 4.) have your application with all supporting documentation received by RCPD no later than 5:00 PM on February 15, 2007. Submit all documentation by mail or directly to the RCPD office.

Name: _____
Campus Phone: _____ Email: _____
Campus Address: _____
Home Phone: _____
Home Address: _____

1. Current enrollment status: (check one)
 Currently enrolled at MSU
 Currently enrolled at a higher education institution and planning to enroll in *Disability In a Diverse Society* study abroad program through MSU
Institution: _____
2. Anticipated class level at end of Spring semester of the year of participation:
(check one) Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior
 Other _____
3. Major or field of study: _____
4. Expected completion date of degree: _____ (semester/year).

My signature below certifies that my responses to all information submitted are complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that my application may be rendered invalid if information provided contains inaccuracy or omission. If selected as a recipient of the Disability In A Diverse Society Study Abroad Scholarship, I agree to: (1) submit a letter of appreciation and acceptance of the scholarship to the donors and a copy to the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities within three weeks of the announcement of the recipients, and (2) attend the RCPD Awards Reception on Friday, April 20, 2007 from 2:00 – 4:00 pm. If extenuating circumstances (such as geographic distance) will prevent your attendance, please contact RCPD.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Disability In a Diverse Society Study Abroad Scholarship Application (page #2)

The following attachments must be submitted with the completed application form.

1. **Essays** Write a brief essay on the two following topics. Limit your essays to one page each.
 - Describe your disability and how it has affected you (i.e., professional goals, self image, etc.).
 - Your personal and academic background and interests, why you are interested in participating in this particular study abroad program, and how your studies will prepare you for your career and personal goals.

2. **Extra Curricular Activities** On a separate sheet, describe your involvement in any organizations or activities, school related or otherwise. Indicate the name and description of the organizations and your dates of involvement. Include any leadership position(s) you have held in the organization or group.

3. **Awards** On another separate sheet, list any awards, scholarships, or other special recognition you have received. Indicate the date(s) of receipt, names(s) and description(s) of these types of recognition.

4. **Reference Letters** Please include two letters of reference from instructors, academic advisor or counselor, or others familiar with your abilities and goals in your field of interest. At least one of these letters must be from an instructor. Ask your references to include their email address and phone on their letters.

5. **Transcript** A copy of academic transcripts for past two years of academic study. If you have attended post-secondary institutions for fewer than 2 years, please provide your high school transcript. Michigan State University students can obtain their grade reports from STU INFO.

6. **Medical or Psychological Documentation of your Disability (if not already on file with RCPD)** If a non MSU student, refer to the RCPD web site for further information on documentation guidelines (www.rcpd.msu.edu). This information is considered confidential and will be reviewed only by Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities staff. It will not be used in considering your acceptance into the Study Abroad program.

7. **Financial Documentation** Include a copy of your Spring Semester 2007 financial aid award letter. If you are not a federal financial aid recipient, please describe how you are paying for your 2007 educational costs by listing each categorical item, the cost, the source of funding, and a description. Include tuition, books, housing, food, personal, any disability related expenses, etc.