

# Freeman-ASIA Scholarship Checklist

1. Read all instructions listed online at [iie.org/programs/Freeman-ASIA](http://iie.org/programs/Freeman-ASIA) to make sure you are eligible for this award.
2. Select a certifying Freeman-ASIA adviser. Only select from the Learning Abroad Center advisers listed below. Meet with the certifying adviser if you wish to discuss how your study abroad program may meet the scholarship criteria, your personal statement, or your service project proposal. Have your adviser's information on hand when you begin the online application.
3. Attend a Study Abroad Financial Aid Preview meeting with one of the certifying Financial Aid Advisers listed below (612.624.1111). The preview meeting will require you to obtain a detailed cost of participation for your program abroad. More information on the preview meeting is available at: [UMabroad.umn.edu/students/finances/abroad](http://UMabroad.umn.edu/students/finances/abroad). The financial aid adviser you meet for the preview meeting with will be your certifying financial aid adviser for your application. (The Freeman scholarship is partially need-based: make sure you have a current FAFSA on file before your Preview meeting.)
4. Complete the online application. The application will require: financial information about your program, including a full cost of participation estimate, a Statement of Financial Need, a personal essay, a service project proposal, and academic/transcript information. You can start the application, save your work, and come back later if you do not finish in one sitting.
5. Follow up with your study abroad and financial aid advisers to let them know you are ready to be certified, and to verify they received certification instructions. Due to the lengthy application and certification process, and strict deadlines, Freeman recommends applicants submit their application well ahead of the deadline. Allow your advisers sufficient time to follow up on your application; do not expect them to certify your application the same day it is submitted.

## Freeman-ASIA Applications Recent Statistics

- In summer 2017, UMTC had 5 applicants and 2 winners (40% award rate).
- In spring 2017, UMTC had 4 applicants and 1 winner (25% award rate).

## Preference is given to students:

- Participating in language study that will enhance their ability to engage with the host culture. A language intensive program may fit this criteria.
- Studying an East or Southeast Asian language, culture, and history on their program abroad.
- Enrolling in courses taught by host country faculty.
- Demonstrating a sincere interest in East Asian culture, and incorporating that interest into future academic/professional goals.
- With demonstrated financial need.
- With a strong personal statement and service proposal.

Most of these traits will not be asked about anywhere on the application. It will be up to you to work them into your essay.

## Other key tips:

Your essay may be the most important part of your application. Students who meet the preference factors listed above, but write poor essays rarely receive an award. Conversely, students who meet no preference factors, but write strong essays are successful on a regular basis.

Be thorough when defining your Follow-on Project. Mentioning specifics about how you will carry out your project, why you chose to target this population, why you chose this approach, and who you plan to work with shows much more initiative than vague details and unclear concepts.

## Resources:

- University of Minnesota Center for Writing: 15 Nicholson Hall & 9 Appleby Hall, [writing.umn.edu](http://writing.umn.edu)
- National and International Scholarship Advising: 390 Northrop. Their staff can assist with revising scholarship essays and their website provides tips for writing effective personal statements: [honors.umn.edu/scholarships/advising-resources](http://honors.umn.edu/scholarships/advising-resources)
- Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence (MCAE) Instructional Center, 140 Appleby Hall, 612.624.5494 (You do not need to be a multicultural student to access their services)
- The Freeman-ASIA website offers tips for successful applications, detailed instructions, deadlines, and other resources: [iie.org/Programs/Freeman-ASIA](http://iie.org/Programs/Freeman-ASIA)
- The Learning Abroad Center Freeman-ASIA contact: Thuy Doan [thuydoan@umn.edu](mailto:thuydoan@umn.edu)

## Certifying Freeman-ASIA Advisers at the Learning Abroad Center:

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## Certifying Financial Aid Advisers:

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