

# YMCA Student Ambassador Grant Guidelines and Application

## Student Ambassador Grants

The YMCA International Committee offers Student Ambassador Grants for alternate spring break trips, church missions or study abroad projects. Grants are restricted to elementary, high school or college students who are YMCA members. This document contains important information and instructions for applying for the Student Ambassador Grants.

Student Ambassador Grants up to \$200 are available to qualified students for activities that support the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati's International Mission. Priority will be given to first time applicants. Typically, funds will be reserved for programs taking place outside the U.S. However, programs conducted within the U.S. will be considered if the program objectives are international in nature. Programs may be traditional study abroad programs offered by high schools, colleges, or universities for travel and independent study, provided that they involve academic credit, or any church sponsored mission trip. Any elementary, high school or college student is eligible to apply provided they are a YMCA member. Students must submit their proposals to the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati International Committee following the guidelines below.

## Submission of Application

Student Ambassador Grants must be applied for by January 31<sup>st</sup> of a given year. All requests will be evaluated by the committee at our February meeting (typically the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month). Funding amounts will be determined by the committee based on the number of funding requests received during the application period.

The actual trip can take place anytime during the year. The application is in the form of a proposal to the YMCA International Committee in the appropriate format (see below). No "retroactive" applications will be accepted with the exception of trips taking place during January of the year the application is made. All students are invited to consult with YMCA staff about their proposal, but the proposal must be submitted no later than January 31st for a given year.

Applications should be submitted to:

Ronald B. Cushing, Chair  
3144 Edwards Center One  
University of Cincinnati  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45221-0640  
[cushinrb@email.uc.edu](mailto:cushinrb@email.uc.edu)

or

Brad Kinkema, Staff Representative  
1437 S.  
Ft. Thomas, KY 41075  
859-781-1814  
[bkinkema@cincinnatiymca.org](mailto:bkinkema@cincinnatiymca.org)

## Student Ambassador Grant Application Format

Proposals for Student Ambassador Grants should be no more than one page in length (excluding transcript and Cover Sheet), single-spaced, in 12 or 10-point type. Include the following sections and attach the cover sheet:

- **Background:** Tell us where the idea for this project originated, or what larger program or activity it is a part of.
- **Description:** Describe the activity as fully as you can. What do you want to do, where, and how?
- **Rationale:** Why do you want to do this particular project? How specifically does it fit into the YMCA's International Mission?
- **Outcomes:** What will be the specific and tangible outcomes of this project?

**Budget:** Provide a clear budget breakdown of the total cost of your proposed activity (e.g., airfare, lodging, etc.). List any and all other sources of funding that you have already received or for which you intend to apply.

**Timetable:** When will the project begin, and when will it be over?

**Trip Materials/Brochure:** Submit any brochures/flyers or other information about the program that have been printed by the sponsoring agency/church/school.

**YMCA Membership:** Submit a photocopy of your YMCA membership card.

**Cover Sheet:** Make sure that the coversheet is completed fully. Proposals that are not complete will not be reviewed.

**Evaluation:** Students that are funded are required to submit a final 1 page report to the YMCA International Committee. The report should detail what you learned as a result of your experience. In addition, you are required to submit a “poster” of your trip that details who you are and what you did. Posters must be at least 11 X 17 inches in diameter and must include at least four photographs from your trip.

Evaluations and posters are due within three months of the completion of the activity. Students that fail to submit the required evaluation or poster will not be eligible for further funding from the committee.

**Evaluation:**

- **Objectives and Outcomes:** Review briefly the purpose of the activity and what specific things you hoped to achieve or accomplish. In this light, what did you actually achieve, what could you not achieve, and why? Be specific about the products – tangible and intangible – that have resulted.
- **Discussion:** Briefly discuss the significance of the experience or activity, in terms of how satisfied you were with the outcomes, unanticipated problems, pleasant surprises, etc.
- **Application and Outreach:** Tell us how you intend to use what you gained from this experience in the future.

If for any reason you do not participate in the program we have funded, you are required to return the funding to the YMCA International committee. Contact us as soon as possible.

Questions? Just e-mail us for answers: [Ronald.Cushing@UC.Edu](mailto:Ronald.Cushing@UC.Edu) or [bkinkema@Cincinnatiymca.org](mailto:bkinkema@Cincinnatiymca.org).

**YMCA International Committee  
Student Ambassador Grant Cover Sheet**

**INFORMATION ABOUT YOURSELF:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Address:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Male:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Female:** \_\_\_\_\_

**YMCA Branch Membership:** \_\_\_\_\_

**INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR STUDIES:**

**High School:** \_\_\_\_\_ **College/University:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Major:** \_\_\_\_\_

<input type="checkbox"/> Freshman	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <sup>st</sup> Year	<input type="checkbox"/> 4th Year
<input type="checkbox"/> Sophomore	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	<input type="checkbox"/> 5th Year
<input type="checkbox"/> Junior	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year	<input type="checkbox"/> Masters
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior		<input type="checkbox"/> Doctoral

I have talked about my study abroad program with (faculty/faith reference and telephone):

\_\_\_\_\_

**INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR PLANS FOR THE GRANT:**

**Destination:** \_\_\_\_\_ **From:** \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ **To:** \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Will you be part of an organized program? \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no

If yes give the contact name and phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Other sources of funding already received or intend to apply for to help fund this project: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Outreach Plans (see Guidelines and Application)**

High School/College/Church \_\_\_\_\_

YMCA Branch \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**PUTTING YOUR PROPOSAL TOGETHER:**

Be sure that your proposal includes the following sections and items:

<input type="checkbox"/> Background	<input type="checkbox"/> Transcript
<input type="checkbox"/> Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership Card (copy)
<input type="checkbox"/> Rationale	<input type="checkbox"/> Outcomes and Outreach
<input type="checkbox"/> Budget	<input type="checkbox"/> Coversheet

Note: Evaluation reports must be submitted within 3 months of completion of activity.

Due Date: January 31st (See Guidelines and Instructions)