



# Study Abroad Scholarships and Study Tour Grants

Turkey - Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus - Bosnia & Herzegovina

*Expand your mind. Expand your horizons.*



**TURKISH  
COALITION** of  
**AMERICA**

[www.tc-america.org](http://www.tc-america.org)

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TCA Scholarship Recipient  
Melissa Carnero spends  
time on Turkey's coast.

# Experience Turkey Before You Graduate!

With the Turkish Coalition of America (TCA) **Study Abroad Scholarships for American Students of Minority and Heritage Communities**, you have the chance for an unforgettable experience in some of the most exciting destinations for studying abroad: **Turkey, the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, and Bosnia and Herzegovina.**

## The Study Abroad Scholarships for American Students of Minority and Heritage Communities

TCA provides up to **100 scholarships per year** for students of the following backgrounds:

- African American
- Armenian American
- Bosnian American
- Filipino American
- Hispanic American
- Macedonian American
- Native American

Undergraduate and graduate students who have been accepted to a language program or a university study abroad program in Turkey, the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, or Bosnia and Herzegovina can apply for the scholarship program.

Eligible students will receive between \$500 and \$2,000 to use toward the cost of studying abroad.

"Thank you for making my experience in Turkey possible. I have never learned so much while having so much fun with students from all over the world! I am really thankful for the "intercultural richness" here and I feel very privileged for the opportunities that are offered to students like me."

Juan Tec  
TCA Scholarship Recipient

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## What is TCA?

The **Turkish Coalition of America (TCA)** is a public charitable organization founded to promote goodwill between the United States and Turkey and to enhance a better understanding of Turkish American issues through public education.

"Turkey has impacted my life in a positive way! I must say that I have never experienced such wonderful, warm-hearted people in my life. Through my study abroad experience I can definitely recommend Turkey as a safe, people-friendly, and amazing country for other students to study abroad. I am very thankful for the help the Turkish Coalition has granted me. I will never forget the amazing memories and the incredible people that I have met."

Ivan Marin  
TCA Scholarship recipient

## Why Students from Minority and Heritage Communities?

American minority students are largely underrepresented in study abroad programs. The Turkish Coalition of America supports American minority students with scholarships to help pay for their study abroad programs in Turkey. Studying in Turkey helps them become more competitive in the global marketplace, forge cultural and educational exchanges, and foster a greater understanding abroad about diversity in America.

The Armenian American, Bosnian American, and Macedonian American Communities have strong historical and cultural ties with Turkey. TCA offers scholarships to students from these heritage communities in order to explore these links and facilitate dialogue and mutual understanding between these communities and Turkey.

TCA scholarship recipient  
Taylor Gayton enjoys a trip to  
Cappadocia.

"I want to personally thank you for the scholarship for my study abroad trip to Turkey. It was truly one of the greatest experiences of my life! To have never been out of the country and be given an opportunity like this was completely amazing. Without your scholarship I highly doubt that I would have been able to afford the trip. Thank you for such an amazing gift and opportunity."

Ashley Ayers  
TCA Scholarship Recipient

# Study Abroad in Turkey Scholarships for American Students of Minority and Heritage Communities

## Apply Now!

Apply today if you are an undergraduate or graduate student who is:

- A U.S. citizen of African, Armenian, Bosnian, Filipino, Hispanic/Latino, Macedonian, or Native American origin.
- Enrolled full-time and in good standing at an accredited U.S. college or university.
- Accepted into a language program or a study abroad program at a university in Turkey, the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, or Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- Willing to share your experiences in Turkey with your peers and the TCA community.

## What is the Scholarship Amount?

Scholarships range from \$500 to \$2,000:

- \$2,000 for a semester or year.
- \$1,000 for studying the destination country's language.

- \$1,000 for university-based summer programs lasting for more than 4 weeks.
- \$500 for university-based summer programs lasting up to 4 weeks .
- \$500 for participants in university/ college-sponsored study tours.

## How Do I Apply?

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. You can learn more about the application process on the TCA website, [www.tc-america.org](http://www.tc-america.org).

Applications must include:

- Completed application form (available online).
- A recent photograph.
- Documentation verifying enrollment in a study abroad program at a university in the qualifying countries.
- Resume.
- Official transcript (please send the original, NOT a copy. Transcript must be included with your application, NOT sent separately).

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## Why Turkey?

Turkey has played a crucial role throughout history and remains a pivotal player in shaping our world today. Turkish culture reflects an unparalleled richness and diversity and remains mostly shaped by its deep roots in the Middle East, Anatolia and the Balkans, as well as by the Anatolian peninsula's unique position as a cradle of numerous civilizations across the ages.

With its ability to fuse East and West, Turkey offers invaluable insights for those who aspire to careers in international affairs, political science, humanities and business. As the cradle of civilizations, Turkey is where history comes alive.

"Turkey is by far the best place to study abroad. The people are wonderful. The food is delicious. The language is interesting and learnable. The culture is intense, vibrant and completely different than the U.S."

Alex Ebsary  
TCA Scholarship Recipient

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## Did You Know?

- Forming a bridge between Europe and Asia, Turkey is home to Istanbul - the only city in the world built on two continents.
- The ancient city of Troy is located in Turkey.
- Turkey is the birthplace of such consequential historic figures as *Homer, King Midas* and *St. Nicholas (Santa Claus)*.
- Turkey is home also to the ancient *Lycian* civilization, the birthplace of representational democracy that inspired the U.S. Constitution.
- Turkish food, along with Chinese and French, is ranked among the top three cuisines of the world.
- Turkey provides 65-70% of the world's dried apricots and 80% of the world's hazelnuts.
- Turkey boasts hundreds of pristine beaches that carry the Blue Flag eco-label for their water quality, cleanliness and environmental management.
- Turkish is listed among the 13 Critical Languages designated by the U.S. State Department.
- Turkey is a key NATO ally and a predominantly Muslim nation with a secular democracy and vibrant civil society.
- Turkey is one of the 20 largest economies in the world.



## Quality Education

Turkey's higher education system, strongly influenced by American academic models, is comprised of universities that utilize the U.S. credit system with many institutions offering curriculums or degree programs entirely in English. Turkey has the second largest English-medium higher education system in Europe, only behind the United Kingdom.

## Friendly, Safe and Affordable

With one-third of its population falling between the ages of 12 and 24, Turkey combines modernity and tradition in one of the safest countries in the region.

Moreover, tuition and living costs are lower in Turkey than in most European countries and the United States.

TCA scholarship recipient Logan Heiman (center) shops at the Grand Bazaar in Istanbul with friends.

"One of my favorite things was Turkish hospitality - I had many opportunities to eat with Turkish families and made many friends."

Joshua Lykes  
TCA Scholarship Recipient

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## Why Bosnia and Herzegovina?



Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), much like Turkey, is known for its diverse, East-meets-West culture. Slightly smaller than the state of West Virginia, BiH is home to three 'constituents' or nationalities within its borders: Bosniaks (Bosnian Muslims), Bosnian Croats and Bosnian Serbs. Bosnia hosts a rich history from its Ottoman Turkish and Austro-Hungarian past and is located just a short trip away from many of Europe's most coveted destinations. BiH

is a rewarding study abroad destination for students of international affairs and conflict resolution as this Balkan destination grapples with nation building in the wake of the most devastating conflict in Europe since World War II.



## Why Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus?

The third largest island in the Mediterranean, Cyprus is located at the juncture of three continents, just 40 miles from Turkey. Like its neighbor to the North, the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) offers astonishingly beautiful sites and a rich cultural history. Praised for its picturesque settings and low cost of living, TRNC offers a wealth of experience in an intimate atmosphere. The island is also at the center of exciting political developments as negotiations between the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities continue under UN mandate. English is widely spoken in TRNC providing for ease of communication.



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## Turkey Study Tour Grant

The TCA Study Tour Grant supports educational travel programs to Turkey by American universities and educational institutions. It subsidizes participation costs for students and provides a general incentive for institutions to choose Turkey as a study tour destination.

To apply, interested institutions are advised to submit a letter of intent a minimum of four months prior to their planned travel date. Only institutions can apply and all applications must follow the proposed letter of intent format which can be found on the TCA website at [www.tc-america.org](http://www.tc-america.org).

Minority students who participate in a Study Tour sponsored by a TCA Grant are not eligible for additional funding under the TCA Study Abroad Scholarship Program for minority students.

“Studying abroad in Turkey has been a great opportunity to expand my understanding of other societies. The opportunity I’ve been given has been one of the most important things I have done in my life so far. In the future, I hope to return to Turkey to explore the regions of this vast nation that I have not been able to visit during the past five weeks. Thank you so much for the grant you have given to our group!”

Kyle Meppelink

TCA Study Tour Participant, Grand Valley State University

“Within this fascinating journey made possible by this innovative course, my own learning journey is equally remarkable. We’ve traveled so many miles to learn about a different country, a different culture, and even a different way of conducting business. I’ll never forget the lovely Turkish people, their delicious food, the views of the Bosphorus, and the poetry in the characters and streets of Istanbul.”

Daniela Almeida

TCA Study Tour Participant, Georgia State University

↑ TCA Study Tour Grant Recipients from Georgia State University in front of the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul.

# What People are Saying about TCA's Study Abroad in Turkey Scholarships for American Students of Minority and Heritage Communities

## Hon. Tom Cole (Oklahoma/4th District)

the sole tribal-enrolled Native American member of the U.S. House of Representatives: "The Turkish Coalition of America is taking the lead in building understanding between the cultures of minority students in the US and their counterparts abroad. I am proud of the strong commitment of this organization to bridge the gap between Native American, African American and Latino students and the nation of Turkey."

## Hon. Virginia Foxx (North Carolina/5th District)

whose district has a Historically Black College and University (HBCU) institution, Winston-Salem State University: "I have enjoyed working with TCA in promoting U.S.-Turkey relations, and I am excited that TCA is providing the opportunity for more African American college students to study in Turkey. Students are going to love the beauty and history of Turkey and her people and will find an inspiring environment in pursuing their studies."

## Hon. Alcee Hastings (Florida/20th District)

member of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission): "I laud TCA for reaching out to the African American community in establishing this scholarship program. I have always been very fond of Turkey and her people and have continued to support Turkish initiatives in Congress through my tenure. I look forward to working with TCA on such an important scholarship program."

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"Turkey is a country of great diversity and wonderful splashes. It is an endless source of exploration and inspiration. I enjoyed the warm-blooded attitude and hospitality of people and delicious deserts, contemporary art and urban life, and the melody of the Turkish language, which I tried to grasp as much as possible."

*Armine Avetisyan, TCA Scholarship Recipient*

"I enjoyed getting to know the Turkish people and studying Turkish politics, culture, and language more intimately. Thank you so much for the opportunity!"

*Madeleine Herr, TCA Scholarship Recipient*

"Thank you for such an amazing experience. You have contributed to an everlasting memory that will be cherished for many years. The scholarship you provided really helped solidify my chances to go on the trip. Having had the opportunity to visit Turkey has changed my outlook on life and I really appreciate it. Thank you again for everything."

*Christopher Hewett, TCA Scholarship Recipient*

"Turkey is beautiful! Istanbul is a thriving and booming city that never seems to run out of food, clothing, or trams. I've loved my life here!"

*Ariam Frezghi, TCA Scholarship Recipient*

↑ Benjamin Araica, a TCA scholarship recipient, in front of the Izmir coast.



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*Fostering Understanding of Turkish American  
Issues through Public Education*

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