



The KITABU Foundation provides Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences with financial resources to promote transatlantic cooperation.

Among other things, these funds are used to award scholarships to students at Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences for semesters abroad or internships in the USA or Canada.

### **KITABU Scholarships USA / Canada**

#### **Individual scholarships for semesters abroad at (partner) universities / for internships in companies or institutions in the USA or Canada**

##### Target group:

Bachelor and Master students at Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences from all disciplines who are interested in spending at least three months for studying or an internship in the USA or Canada but are unable to do so without financial support in the form of a scholarship. Students who were already more than 6 weeks in the USA or Canada are excluded from this scholarship. Priority will be given to students who have not yet had the opportunity to spend several months abroad (in any country) in their previous life.

##### Purpose of funding:

Funding is available for study-related stays in the USA or Canada. This can be a semester abroad at a university (preferably, but not necessarily, at a partner university of Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences) or an internship at a company/institution. The preparation or completion of a bachelor's or master's thesis in cooperation with a partner university or a company/institution is also eligible for this scholarship.

##### Scholarship amount and duration:

The scholarships cover or subsidize the additional costs associated with studying/doing an internship abroad (travel, living expenses, health insurance, tuition fees if applicable). They consist of:

- Travel allowance: 1.100 Euro (East Coast), 1.500 Euro (West Coast)
- Scholarship installment for living expenses including health insurance: 1.200 Euro per month for the duration of the study-related stay:  
Scholarship duration for semester abroad: one term, min. 3 months, max. 5 months  
Scholarship duration for internships: min. 3 months, max. 6 months
- Tuition fees up to 9.000 Euro per term

##### Application deadlines:

Students apply one year before their planned departure:

- 31<sup>st</sup> March for a stay beginning in January of the following year (departure usually between January and July)
- 31<sup>st</sup> October for a stay beginning in July of the following year (departure usually between July and December of the following year)

Applications are submitted via the portal [Mobility Online](#) between 1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> March or 1<sup>st</sup> September to 31<sup>st</sup> October.

Please note: If you would like to spend a semester abroad in the USA or Canada, we recommend going abroad during the winter semester rather than the summer semester. At most North American universities, the spring term (corresponding to our summer semester) usually begins in early January, which collides with the exam period at Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences. The fall term (corresponding to our winter semester) usually begins in August and ends before Christmas.

#### Application documents:

- **Curriculum vitae**
- A detailed, convincing **letter of motivation** (max. 2 pages, see below: Special notes)
- **Proof of English language proficiency** (at least B1; the B2 level required for a semester abroad/ internship must be achieved before departure). If your transcript shows that you have completed an English course at B1 or B2 level at Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences, you do not need an additional certificate. If not, please contact an English lecturer at your faculty (AuL: John Fine; IuL: Martina Fritz/Gundula Wilke; MKT: Alan Hogg; WiSo: Hamid Asiayee; IfM: please contact Martina Fritz or one of the other lecturers) in good time and ask them to fill out the DAAD language certificate, which you can download from the application portal Mobility Online.
- **Current transcript of records with average grade** (please select in eCampus > Student Services > Documents > Self-service documents> “Module overview for master applications”); for students in their first bachelor semester: high school diploma, if applicable training certificate; for students in their first master semester: bachelor degree certificate
- **Explanations of your financial situation** (see below: Special notes)

#### Selection criteria:

The selection is made by an interdisciplinary committee based on the submitted documents and takes the following criteria into account:

- Valid reasons for wanting to study or do an internship in the US or Canada and convincing (plans for) preparation for the stay abroad
- Financial need
- Academic performance

#### Further procedure and conditions:

Acceptance is subject to the study abroad program taking place. Payment will be made upon presentation of the letter of admission from the host university or the internship confirmation.

Upon return, the transcript of records or work certificate must be submitted, together with a report on the stay abroad.

If the stay abroad is not undertaken or is terminated prematurely or is not carried out in accordance with the purpose of the grant, the scholarship will be fully or partly reclaimed.

Recipients are expected to be available as multipliers (e.g., for information events, Instagram posts, statements for websites, etc.).

#### Special notes:

The KITABU scholarship aims in particular at students who have so far refrained from the idea of a stay abroad due to limited financial resources. The long lead time between application and departure offers the opportunity to take care of the concrete planning and preparation of the stay abroad after the scholarship has been awarded and the financial framework is known. Therefore, detailed information regarding the destination university and course selection or confirmation of an internship does not need to be provided at the time of application.

However, it is important to provide convincing motivation that conveys, among other things,

- why staying abroad is important to the applicant,
- why he/she would like to spend a semester or do an internship specifically in the USA or Canada, whether the student is aiming for a semester abroad or an internship,
- how the semester abroad/internship would relate to their studies at Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences,
- what expectations they have in terms of personal and professional development,
- how they would prepare,
- and what criteria they would use to select a possible target university/internship position.

If you already have specific plans or made preparations, please describe them briefly.

Furthermore, information on the applicant's financial situation must be submitted, describing how the applicant finances his/her studies (amount of parental support, student loans, part-time job, savings) and why he/she is dependent on the scholarship to realize the stay abroad. In addition, you must indicate whether you could contribute money from your own resources (savings, support from family, etc.) to your stay in the USA/Canada in addition to the KITABU scholarship (and if so, how much). Specific documents such as bank statements do not need to be submitted. It must be indicated, if you are applying for further funding. Double funding for the same purpose (scholarship for a stay abroad) is not permitted. This does not apply to foreign Bafög. However, the Bafög offices responsible for the USA and Canada may offset the KITABU scholarship proportionally against Bafög payments.

Note for applicants:

Scholarship places are limited, and you must convince the interdisciplinary committee of your personal and professional motivation. General statements such as “I want to improve my English skills, leave my comfort zone, broaden my horizons, and gain intercultural experience” are usually not sufficient. You should clearly explain why you want to do this and establish an authentic, individual connection to yourself, your studies, and your plans for your professional and personal development. To help you prepare your application, you are invited to attend a preliminary information session held by the Center for International Mobility. This will take place online approximately four weeks before the application deadline. The Zoom link will be published on [the KITABU scholarship website](#).

Contact person at the Center for International Mobility:

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