

OVERVIEW

Overview

The *AHIF College Student Foreign Policy Study Trip* is a leading travel abroad program aimed to help Greek and Cypriot American college students better understand the core foreign policy issues in the Eastern Mediterranean and Southeast European regions that are important to the interests of the United States and the Greek American community. During the program, the students will have the opportunity to gain firsthand experience in U.S. foreign policy issues related to Greece and Cyprus. Prior to their departure, students will meet in Washington, DC where they will attend meetings and briefings with officials at the State Department, Congress, the Greek and Cypriot embassies, and think-tanks.

While in Greece and Cyprus, the students will attend meetings or briefings held at the U.S. embassies, officials from various foreign ministries, parliament members, religious leaders, think-tank organizations, and members of academia and the private sector of both countries. In Cyprus, the group will visit the Turkish-occupied area, receive a guided tour of old Nicosia Airport-UNFICYP in the demilitarized zone, and take a day trip to Paphos and Ayia Napa. While in Greece, the students will visit the Naval Support Activity (NSA) Souda Bay, Crete, to tour the NATO Missile Firing Installation (NAMFI), take a day trip on a private boat and an exclusive tour of the Karaiskakis Stadium, the home stadium of Olympiacos FC.

Academic Credit

Although the AHIF does not have the capacity to provide academic credit, students can enhance their degree by doing so independently through their universities. Past participants have met with their academic advisors to obtain course equivalency approvals for major, minor, or other degree requirements as well as scholarships or funding possibilities provided through the university. We will be happy to complete any forms necessary to assist you with this process.

Eligibility

The program is open to undergraduate students (rising sophomores) and to graduate students with a full-time enrollment status and a minimum 3.00 cumulative GPA. Students with a keen interest in US Foreign Policy interests in Greece, Cyprus, the Eastern Mediterranean, and Southeast Europe will benefit from this program. Program size is limited, and participation is contingent upon acceptance by the program review committee. Our program operates on a rolling admission basis beginning when applications open in January. **Applications received after April 1, 2024 will be reviewed on a space-available basis. All applicants must submit their materials together in one email/package by March 31, 2024, for priority consideration.**

Cost and Accommodations:

All participants need to make individual plans to arrive in Washington, DC by 11:00 A.M. on Tuesday, June 14, 2024. The participants depart Washington, DC for Cyprus on June 14 and depart Cyprus for Greece on June 20. The program will conclude officially at midnight on June 27 and students can depart for the U.S. on Saturday, June 29, 2024.

Hotel accommodations as well as most meals in Washington, DC, Greece, and Cyprus and transportation to and from the hotels, airport, excursions, and meetings will be covered by the AHIF. Upon acceptance to the program, students will be responsible for purchasing their airline tickets. The cost for all airline tickets, including flights from Washington, DC, to Cyprus, Greece, and a day trip to Souda Bay in Crete and return to the U.S. we anticipate being approximately \$2,500. All airline tickets must be purchased through a travel agency secured by AHIF. Those who wish to extend their stay in Greece should note that the cost for an extended trip may be higher. To avoid additional fees, we recommend that you contact the travel agent as soon as possible with your return date to reserve your seats. Any changes after booking have the potential to incur airline change fees and any additional fare difference.

APPLICATION STEPS

STEP ONE: Send all materials as (.pdf) files in a single e-mail to Alexander Christofor at AHIFTrips@AHlworld.org with the subject line **INTERNSHIP APPLICATION: [Full Name]**

1. **RESUMÉ** Highlight your education, research, work experiences, and involvement in the Greek American community.
 2. **TRANSCRIPTS** Unofficial transcripts should be emailed (AHIFTrips@AHlworld.org).
 3. **REFERENCES** Two letters of recommendation from professors, workplace, community or church.
 4. **HEADSHOT** A recent high-resolution color headshot (at least 300 dpi in jpg).
 5. **INSURANCE** Submit a photocopy of your health insurance card (front/back).
 6. **PASSPORT** Your passport number, country issued, and the expiration date is needed to book your flights and for entry into federal buildings. Students with no/expired passports should apply for one or to renew their passports.
 7. **COVID-19 IMMUNIZATION RECORD** Submit a photocopy of your immunization card for COVID-19.
 8. **ESSAY & BIO** Submit your 300-word essay and your bio (See the last page for details)
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STEP TWO: Mail your \$600 application fee deposit check

Send a check payable to AHIF, **which will be processed after you have been accepted into the program and you have notified us of your acceptance to secure your place on the program.** No refund will be made if you withdraw from the program after May 14. The \$600 deposit includes:

- APPLICATION FEE: \$100 application fee (nonrefundable).
- DEPOSIT: \$500 refundable deposit. The deposit will be refunded in September after the evaluation form and essay have been finalized. If you withdraw or are expelled from the program the deposit will not be refunded and you will be sent home at your own expense.

**AHIF Foreign Policy Study Trip
American Hellenic Institute Foundation
1220 16th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036**

STEP THREE: Compete DocuSign form

AFTER you have completed STEP #1 and STEP #2, you will receive an email from DocuSign. **You must fill out the required sections and submit it to continue with the application process.**

INTERVIEW

Interviews are an integral component of the application process. We will contact you to arrange for a zoom interview with members of the review board AFTER the above materials are received. Notification of selection decisions will be made by email by the mid-April. You will be expected to notify us, of your acceptance of our offer of admission within one week of the offer, book your flights, and we will process the \$100 application fee and \$500 deposit to secure your place on the program.



AHIF College Student Foreign Policy Trip DC • Greece • Cyprus

ESSAY

Submit a 300-word essay addressing the following questions:

1. How do you see yourself using this experience in the future to enhance your educational and career plans?
2. Is this your first trip to Greece and Cyprus?
3. What type of experience or work have you done in the past which make you a good candidate for this program?
4. Discuss your involvement in the Greek American community.

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Submit a 150-word *biographical paragraph* with your name, university, degree. Include future academic plans or projects and quote on how this trip will help you with your future plans. *Your submission should be a word document.*

See examples:

Alexis Tsapralis is a rising junior and a Dean's List student at Barnard College of Columbia University, where she is majoring in Political Science with a concentration in International Relations. Her passion for International Relations began at a young age with her involvement in Girl Up, a campaign of the United Nations Foundation. Through Girl Up, she gained experience lobbying congressmen on Capitol Hill for girls' education in developing countries and participated in annual summits which hosted distinguished speakers such as Kathy Calvin and Michelle Obama. On campus, Alexis is President of Hellas, Columbia's Greek heritage club, a member of the Orthodox Christian Fellowship, and a Student Advisory Board member for Barnard's Athena Scholars Program for Leadership Studies. These experiences have encouraged her to take Modern Greek language courses while at Columbia and continue to learn more about her Greek heritage. This past semester, Alexis interned at the Consulate General of Greece in New York City where she had the opportunity to more thoroughly explore her passion for Hellenic foreign affairs. Following the Foreign Policy Trip, Alexis will intern at the American Hellenic Institute in Washington, DC where she looks forward to using her knowledge gained in Greece and Cyprus to lobby for effective legislation in the U.S.



George Evangeloulis, a Dean's List student, National Merit Scholar, and Presidential Scholarship Recipient at the University of Southern California, is a rising junior studying Communication and pursuing a minor in Marketing. He was also selected as an Annenberg Ambassador, representing the School of Communication and Journalism at events, panel discussions, recruitment activities, and visitor tours. In the summer of 2017, he interned at Esplanade Studios, a major recording studio in New Orleans, and was an intern at the Audubon Nature Institute for 5 years. Fluent in Spanish and Greek, he hopes to strengthen his ties to his Greek heritage through his commitment to learning more about the country's political history and present foreign policies. He hopes to become a broadcast journalist and focus on world politics.