SA0910-079: Resolution Modifying the Requirements for the Academic Initiative/Global Link Scholarship for International Students

DATE: April 25th, 2010
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WHEREAS; the number of international students applying for the scholarship is increasing and the amount of money allocated for the “Global link” scholarship has been stationary prior to 2010; and,

WHEREAS; the ALOC approved an increase in “internationalization” budget for the 2010-2011 academic year; and,

WHEREAS; in February 2007 the highest reward reached $1,000 and in February 2010, the reward ranged from $327 to $635; and,

WHEREAS; the number of opportunities to earn a “global link” point is greater than the demand; and,

WHEREAS; as stated now, April 25th, 2010, the “global link” point system is currently disregarding the number of hours spent per point; and,

WHEREAS; most scholarships require a GPA higher than 3.00; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; that the UW-La Crosse Student Association approve the revised “Global Link Scholarship Policy”; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; that the Office of International Education allocates the scholarships as outlined in “global link scholarship Policy” beginning Fall 2010.

___________________________________________                 _______________________
Karly Wallace Date
President, Student Senate
Vice-President, Student Association

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Erik Kahl Date
President, Student Association
Global Link Scholarships Policy

Global Link Scholarships are given to international students each semester based on the previous semester’s work and involvement in educating others about the culture of their home country. Money for these scholarships comes from the Student Association and the UW System fund. The purpose of this scholarship is to assist students who pay out of state tuition.

Who is eligible?
Degree seeking F-1 students (contract students are not eligible).

What are the requirements?
- Students must achieve/complete the following items during the semester:
  - Undergrad students must achieve a minimum GPA of 3.0 for the semester while taking a full course load (minimum of 12 credits)
  - Graduate students must achieve a minimum GPA of 3.5 for the semester while taking a full course load (minimum of 9 credits).
- Earn at least four Global Link Points
- Attend one scholarship meeting at the end of the semester

What counts as a Global Link Point?
- An international student advisor will email some options on events to earn global link points
- An international student advisor will oversee point distribution
- A student/organization might fill out a form to “ask” for an event to count as 1 or 2 global link point(s).
- No task will exceed 2 points

What about ESL students?
Students taking only ESL courses are not eligible (there is no out of state tuition for ESL courses). Students taking partial ESL and University courses are eligible under the following conditions:
Pass all ESL courses and achieve a minimum GPA of 3.0 for undergrads and 3.5 for grads.
- Take a full course load (12 credits UG and 9 credits G)
- Participate in at least four Global Link Activities
- Attend one scholarship meeting at the end of the semester
Are there any exceptions?
Yes. Graduate students can only receive money from one of the sources. Eligible graduate, ESL, or Undergraduate students who have their out of state tuition waived may not be eligible for the scholarship.

Where do I find out about the Global Link Activities?
Each semester an email is sent within the first 3-4 weeks outlining opportunities for the semester (only UW-L student email addresses are used). Regular updates follow. Sign up sheets for various activities are available at the front desk of OIE. There are always numerous opportunities available to interested students who want to participate. Global Link opportunities are offered September – November (fall semester) and February – April (spring semester).

When are the scholarship meetings?
*Time will be updated yearly*

What happens if I have to work or class during the times listed?
Students who have a class conflict with each of the times listed need to notify the international student advisors (sasaki.dian@uwlax.edu and scarpa.cynt@uwlax.edu) at least one week prior to the first meeting date. Students who have a work conflict will need to talk with their supervisors about getting time off to attend one meeting.
Suggestion – attend the first available meeting you can just in case something comes up.

What happens if I forget to attend a meeting? Can I still pick up an application from OIE?
It is the student’s responsibility to fulfill all three requirements in order to be eligible to receive a scholarship. If a student forgets to attend a meeting, they have not fulfilled all necessary requirements.

Can International Students receive financial aid?
International students are not eligible to receive financial aid. As part of the F-1 visa requirements, international students must have the financial means to pay for their tuition, fees, housing, meals and insurance each term they are registered.

Are there any other scholarships available for international students?
Go to the UW-L Foundation website to check available scholarships.
http://www.foundation.uwlax.edu/schbooklet.html
Criteria for each scholarship will be listed in the booklet. Generally, these scholarships are open to all students on campus.