Overview: Open to freshmen through seniors for semester or year-long study in a non-western country. Only U.S. citizens are eligible, and the student must be interested in non-western language acquisition. In addition, students must indicate a desire to work for the federal government in the area of national security. Recipients are required to work in the federal government for a year after they graduate.

Timeline: The campus deadline for student applications is January 19, 2016 at noon. One-to-two weeks later the National and International Scholarships Program will conduct interviews with all applicants as well as send their materials to faculty reviewers. After this process the office might ask you to make some revisions to your letter. The final applicant deadline is February 9th, 2016. The Institute of International Education will begin to review applications and students should be notified of their status in late April or early May.

Guidance: The Selection Committee rates candidates based on their study abroad program preferences, including countries, languages, and field(s) of study; length of time abroad; and commitment to work in the federal government. The strongest candidates have a solid academic record and the potential to succeed in their proposed study abroad experience, a commitment to international education to fulfill academic and career goals, and language interest and aptitude. Moreover, the student's study abroad program should directly relate to both the applicant's career aspirations and their envisioned work in the federal government in the Departments of Defense, State, or Homeland Security or in the Intelligence Community.

1. Does the student have the educational qualifications necessary for success while abroad?
2. If able, please comment on the student’s commitment and interest in his/her destination country.
3. Does the student demonstrate the necessary maturity, motivation, and commitment to international education?
4. If possible, please remark upon the leadership qualities of the applicant.
5. What is the ability of the student to complete projects and deliver results?
6. Is there a strong desire in the applicant to contribute to an area of national security?
7. Is there evidence of creativity and innovation in the candidate’s approach to answering questions or solving problems?
8. Does the propose study abroad plan align with student’s academic and career goals?