

Semester in Amsterdam Scholarships

Each semester, Semester in Amsterdam offers financial assistance in the form of three scholarships. Each scholarship is worth €2,500 per semester which is subtracted from tuition costs. Please note that the scholarships do not cover all expenses and scholarships cannot be combined. Students can choose to apply for more than one scholarship, but can only receive one. In the event that a student receives a scholarship but their program fees will be paid by their provider, the amount will be transferred to the student directly upon arrival after they open a Dutch bank account.

Please review the information on the following three pages about each of our scholarship awards. The scholarship deadline is always the same date as our official application deadline which is 1 October for the spring semester and 1 April for the fall semester.

Blogger Scholarship

All application materials must be submitted by e-mail to semesterinamsterdam@vu.nl by no later than the end of the day on the official application deadline in order to be considered.

Required Application Materials:

- Full name, nationality, name of home university, and main focus/area of study
- Motivational Essay of 350 - 500 Words Indicating: why the student would like to be the Semester in Amsterdam Blogger, how he or she will use this experience to further his/her academic, professional, or creative goals for the future, and any other relevant information about the student
- 1 - 3 Samples of the Student's Best Work Not Exceeding 750 words: these samples can be any type of writing (fiction, non-fiction, short essay, blog post, etc.). He or she may also choose to include a sample from a longer essay or piece of writing as long as the sample does not exceed 750 words. The student should indicate that this piece is a selection and not a complete work
- Links to Social Media Accounts He/She Wishes to Share: Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, or Twitter

Requirements for Scholarship Winner:

- Each blog entry should be a minimum of 500 words and include at least one picture
- Each blog entry should be submitted approximately every 2 weeks
- A minimum of one blog entry should be written on each of the following topics:
 1. Pre-departure preparation
 2. Arrival and settling-in
 3. Cross-cultural adjustment and first impressions
 4. Academics at VU Amsterdam
 5. Social life in The Netherlands
 6. Dutch culture
 7. Last weeks in Amsterdam
 8. Return home and reflections

Photographer/Videographer Scholarship

All application materials must be submitted by e-mail to semesterinamsterdam@vu.nl by no later than the end of the day on the official application deadline in order to be considered.

Required Application Materials:

- Full name, nationality, name of home university, and main focus/area of study
- Motivational Introduction Video of the Student (Approximately 30 seconds) indicating: Why he/she wants to be the Semester in Amsterdam Videographer/Photographer, how he/she will use this experience to further his/her academic, professional, or creative/artistic goals for the future, and any other relevant information about the student
- 3 Samples of the Student's Best Work (Approximately 30 - 90 seconds each): these samples should be videos or photographs which best demonstrate the student's abilities to create creative content
- Links to Social Media Accounts He/She Wishes to Share: Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, or Twitter

Requirements for Scholarship Winner:

- The scholarship winner must bring her/his own camera
- The scholarship recipient should attend 75% of all social program activities in order to record photo and video material to be shared publicly on the Semester in Amsterdam website and social media channels
- The scholarship recipient must make a minimum of four videos during her/his stay (approximately 1 - 3 minutes each). Possible topics include:
 - A Day in the Life
 - My Favorite Place in Amsterdam
 - My Free Time
 - Interviews with Semester in Amsterdam Students
 - A Social Program Recap featuring footage from the social program activities

Academic Excellence Scholarship

All application materials must be submitted by e-mail to semesterinamsterdam@vu.nl by no later than the end of the day on the official application deadline in order to be considered.

The Semester in Amsterdam program will offer one scholarship worth €2,500 to a motivated student who has a minimum grade point average of 85% and has demonstrated academic excellence. For example, if the highest possible mark is a 10, the student must have a GPA of at least an 8. We will take into account the differences in grading cultures. While no official language certificate is required, applicants must have mastered approximately B2 level English.

Required Application Materials:

- Full name, nationality, name of home university, and main focus/area of study
- (Unofficial) Academic Transcripts with GPA Clearly Stated
- Motivational Essay of 350 - 500 Words Indicating: why participation in the Semester in Amsterdam Program and the courses the student has chosen is relevant to his/her personal, professional, and academic goals, how he/she will use this knowledge to make a positive impact in the future, and any relevant information about the student
- Professional Letter of Reference Including: his or her experience working with the student (either in an academic, professional, or volunteer setting), his or her motivation for recommending the student for the scholarship, and complete contact information