UK Education Abroad is committed to UK’s values of diversity and inclusion. A broad range of perspectives, experiences and backgrounds inherent in diverse communities creates a rich learning environment from which all students can benefit.

Diversity Scholarship:

In the spirit of diversity, UK Education Abroad has partnered with International Studies Abroad (ISA) and Academic Programs International (API) to offer the Diversity Scholarship. This unique scholarship can be used as a voucher to be redeemed any time within two calendar years of receiving the award. Award amounts vary between $2,500 and $5,000.

For more information, visit uky.edu/international/diversityscholarship.
SEXUAL ORIENTATION ABROAD

It is important that you are aware of and consider the implications of being identified as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered in the host culture and how being "out" might impact interactions. You are going abroad to experience a different way of life, and with that comes the opportunity to explore your sexual orientation in a new context.

Do you anticipate "coming out" during this experience abroad? Do you want to connect with local LGBTQ* organizations or support services while abroad? Think about how you will answer questions about your sexual orientation in the language of your host country.

PREPARING TO STUDY ABROAD

Before you leave the U.S., we encourage you to learn as much as possible about the country where you plan to study. Cultures vary in terms of how sexuality and sexual identity are defined and understood. You are encouraged to explore and research the cultural, legal and social issues relevant to the host culture.

It is wise to consider the cultural norms of friendship and dating for relationships between people of any sexual orientation. Are you interested in talking with other students who have studied abroad about general attitudes toward LGBTQ* persons? Speak with your UK Education Abroad advisor so that we can assist you in gathering the information you need.

RETURNING HOME

Preparing for your return home is just as important as preparing for your departure. Before you return to the United States it is helpful to consider how changes in your self-identity may affect your relationships with family and friends. Give thought to what you have gained from your program. What have you learned while abroad and how will you use this knowledge in the future?

Are you interested in sharing your #seeblueabroad story?

UK Education Abroad always welcomes student articles, photographs and/or video submissions to our blog, enKompass, and our social media. Send submissions to educationabroad@uky.edu with your name, your program’s title/dates and a short description.