



AHIF College Student Foreign Policy Trip DC • Greece • Cyprus - 2019



Overview

The *AHIF College Student Foreign Policy Study Trip to Greece and Cyprus* is a leading travel abroad program aimed to help Greek and Cypriot American college students better understand the importance of US-Greece-Cyprus relations and foreign policy issues important to the Greek American community. During the eighteen-day program, the students will have the opportunity to experience firsthand experience about the foreign policy issues affecting Greece and Cyprus, their relations with the U.S., and the interests of the U.S. in the region. Prior to their departure, students will meet in Washington, DC where they will attend meetings and briefings with officials at Greek and Cypriot embassies, the State Department, Congress 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 take a day-trip to 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 trip participants have met with their academic advisors to obtain course equivalency approvals for major, minor, general education 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), to graduate students with a full-time enrollment status and a minimum 3.00 cumulative GPA. Students with a keen interest in US-Greek-Cyprus relations and policy challenges facing Greece and Cyprus 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 in January; priority is given to applications received by March 31st, afterward in a *space-available basis*.

Cost and Accommodations:

All participants need to make individual plans to arrive in Washington, DC by **3:00 pm on June 18, 2019**. The students depart for Cyprus on June 21 and June 27 for Athens. The program will conclude officially at midnight on July 4 and the group will depart for the U.S. on July 5, 2019.

Hotel accommodations (*Capital Hilton, Washington, DC; Hilton Cyprus, Nicosia, Cyprus & Grande Bretagne, Athens, Greece*) 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 approximate cost for the round-trip ticket from Washington, DC-Larnaca-Athens-Chania-US is \$2,400. To ensure that the group travels together, ALL airline tickets must be purchased through Konstantinos Georgiadis, Amphitriion Holidays, 301-545-0999, aleko@amphitriion.com. Those who wish to extend their stay in Greece should note that the cost for an extended trip will 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 will incur airline change fees and any additional fare difference.



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APPLICATION PROCESS

Application reviews are on a **rolling basis and begin in January**; applications received after March 31 will be reviewed on a **space-available basis**. All applicants must submit the following items *together* in one email/package by March 31:

1. **APPLICATION** All application materials are to be submitted *together* in one package by March 31. **ALL THREE** – participant and both parents/guardians– need to **sign and initial** the waiver and liability sections of the *Application* and *Extended Stay* forms.
2. **DEPOSIT** A \$500 refundable deposit is due at the time of application payable to *AHIF*. Once admitted to the program the \$500 deposit will be processed. The deposit will be refunded in September after the evaluation form and essay have been received. **No refund will be made if you withdraw from the program after April 30.**
3. **RESUMÉ** Highlight your education, research, work experiences, and involvement in the Greek American community.
4. **TRANSCRIPTS** Official transcripts should be mailed or emailed (yolap@aheworld.org).
5. **REFERENCES** Two letters of recommendation from professors, workplace, community or church.
6. **HEADSHOT** A recent high-resolution color headshot (at least 300 dpi in jpg).
7. **INSURANCE** Submit a photocopy of your health insurance card (front/back).
8. **PASSPORT** Your passport number, country issued, and the expiration date is needed to book your flights and for entry into federal buildings in the U.S., Nicosia and Athens. Students with no/expired passports should not wait until they have been accepted to the program to apply for one or to renew their passports.

SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION

- Email: In a single e-mail, attach ALL documents MSWord (.doc) or Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) files to Yola Pakhchanian at [yolap@aheworld.org] with the subject line **AHIF STUDENT TRIP APPLICANT: [Your Name]**. The letters or recommendation and transcripts can be emailed directly with the same subject line.

Mail	Email	
✓	✓	<u>Application</u> Form (<i>Signed by student & both parents/guardians</i>)
✓	✓	Extended Stay Form (<i>Signed by student & both parents/guardians</i>)
✓	✓	<u>\$500 Application Fee</u> (<i>check or credit card</i>)
	✓	Current <u>Resume</u> - <i>Microsoft Word document only</i>
	✓	300-word statement & 150 word bio - <i>Microsoft Word document only</i>
	✓	Travel Agent Information Form (<i>Return date is required</i>)
	✓	2 letters of Recommendation
	✓	<u>College</u> Transcripts
	✓	A photocopy of your health insurance card (<i>front & back</i>)
	✓	Recent high-resolution color headshot (<i>at least 300 dpi in jpg</i>)

- **MAIL ALL papers that need your signature: *Application* & *Extended Stay* forms and *check* to:**

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

INTERVIEW

Phone interviews are an integral component of the application process. Yola Pakhchanian will contact you to arrange for an interview. Notification of selection decisions will be made by email to all applicants by mid-April. If you have any questions contact Yola at yolap@aheworld.org



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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.

Your submission should be a word document only please.

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.