What makes the Boren Awards unique?
The National Security Education Program (NSEP) awards Boren Scholarships and Fellowships to America’s future leaders—undergraduate and graduate students committed to long-term, overseas immersive language study and to public service. Undergraduate students may be awarded up to $20,000 and graduate students up to $30,000.

Language: Learn a critical language overseas (no previous experience required) and pick the language and study abroad program that fits you best

Culture: Stay with a host family, live in the dorms with a local student, conduct research, or take on an Internship

Service: Contribute your language skills as well as your academic expertise to the federal government for at least one year

“Boren has made me more marketable to employers and allowed me to catch the eye of my current employer, the U.S. State Department. In addition, Boren got me through the door of the U.S. State Department.”

Natalie now works as a New Media Producer at the Bureau of International Programs at the Department of State.

*The preferred countries list for Boren Scholarships and Fellowships is subject to change. Please view the latest information on borenaWARDS.org.

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Environmental studies isn’t always the first thing that comes to mind when you think of U.S. national security, but I was able to make the connection, and I’m proud to be a Boren Scholar.”

Lorraine now works as a Consular Adjudicator for the U.S. Foreign Service at the Department of State.

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“My Boren experience enhanced my linguistic, cultural and cross-cultural skills in important ways. I believe my Boren experience will serve me well wherever my career takes me.”

Julie is now an Asia Pacific Program Specialist with the U.S. Forest Service Office of International Programs.

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The Boren award offers the opportunity to gain insights and in-depth knowledge of countries and a particular issue/research area that most would give anything to have.

2011 Boren Fellow Alum
Dr. Aaron Johnson
Thai, Thailand*

Dr. Johnson now works as a Worldwide Refugee Officer for the Department of Homeland Security.

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“If you have an earnest desire to provide expertise in area-knowledge to the federal government, pursuing a Boren Award will help you to follow a more direct path toward your goal.”

Daniel is now a Physicist for the National Institute of Science and Technology of the Department of Commerce.

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