



STUDENT OPPORTUNITY GRANT APPLICATION GUIDELINES

GRANT PURPOSE

Student Opportunity Grants provide eligible Eastman School of Music students with financial assistance in two categories: 1) Travel Grants which reimburse the student for expenses up to \$400 incurred traveling to and from an audition for young-artist-type programs, a master class, or a competition, but not a paying-job or interview for a paying job; and 2) Summer Grants, which reimburse the eligible student for expenses incurred to attend an established program related to the field of vocal music, e.g., a summer opera festival for which the student would not be remunerated or a course of foreign language study. **Student Opportunity Grants support only a portion of the program costs and are intended to supplement other funding sources.**

ELIGIBILITY

1. All Eastman School of Music full-time voice and stage-directing students as well as opera-focused collaborative pianists who are currently enrolled in either undergraduate or graduate degree programs and who are studying with a faculty member of the Eastman School of Music Voice and Opera Department are eligible to apply for both categories of grants.

2. FEO will not provide grants to audition for another school, to offset a student's expenses at ESM, to satisfy credit requirements at ESM or to apply for a job.

3. All international travel funded through a FEO Summer Study Grant **MUST be approved in advance** by the University's Office of Global Engagement, as a risk assessment must be undertaken to ensure that the program and destination meet University safety guidelines. Failure to adhere to this requirement will prevent Eastman from dispersing the grant to a student regardless of prior approval by FEO. Once approved by FEO, it is the student's responsibility to contact Eastman's Office of Academic Affairs to make arrangements for a review of their international travel plans.

4. FEO grants are subject to University of Rochester policies regarding domestic or international travel. The University may at any time suspend travel to a particular country or region. If a student has incurred actual out-of-pocket expenses before travel was suspended, FEO may in its sole discretion reimburse the student.

SCHOOL-YEAR TRAVEL GRANTS

a. Travel expenses of up to \$400 **paid as reimbursement** may be used to cover transportation to/from auditions, master classes, or competitions. Auditions to apply to another school or to apply for a job are ineligible.

b. Travel Grant applications must be submitted **at least one week before the start of the program**. Exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

c. **A student may receive no more than two Travel Grants during their current degree program.**

d. A written report about their travel experience must be submitted within two weeks after the end of the program or they forfeit the grant. **Reimbursement will not be processed until the report is received.**

SUMMER STUDY GRANTS

a. **To be eligible for Summer Study Grants, the applicant must be committed to returning to ESM for the next succeeding semester.**

b. Students may use FEO funds to attend an established summer program of vocal performance, opera stage direction, or opera-related collaborative piano accompaniment without remuneration, or a non-credit course of foreign language study.

c. The funds may be used for tuition, travel, and/or accommodations at the requested program.

d. FEO Grants are intended to be only one funding source, not a full or even major scholarship for attendance. FEO has sole discretion in granting the numbers and amounts of Summer Study Grants, and in exercising that discretion, FEO may consider factors including but not limited to the number of grants requested in any given year, the amount of money available to be granted in that year, the year/level of the applicant relative to the year/levels of all applicants, and the amount and number of grants previously granted to any applicant over the course of the applicant's course of study in the VOVC.

e. To be considered, applications must be received on or before the deadline (printed on the form), even if the applicants have not been officially accepted into the program.

f. Applications to multiple programs must be submitted separately.

g. A summary of the applicant's summer program experience must be submitted within two weeks after the conclusion of the program, but no later than September 15 or they forfeit the grant. **Reimbursement will not be processed until the report is received.**

h. Undergraduate students receive a maximum of TWO Summer Grants; graduate students receive a maximum of ONE Summer Grant; a student who pursues multiple degrees at Eastman receives a maximum of THREE Summer Grants; and when the amount of grants being requested in a given year exceeds the funds available to be granted, FEO may give preference to higher year/level students over lower year/level students.

Questions regarding Travel or Summer Grants should be emailed to FEOGrants@gmail.com. Please note that we only communicate via email.