

# World Affairs Council of Charlotte

## Margaret Gragg Bissell 2026–2027 Council Scholar Application

The World Affairs Council of Charlotte is pleased to announce the Margaret Gragg Bissell 2026–2027 Council Scholar Award Program. The Council Scholar Program offers a unique opportunity for selected educators to travel out of the country and bring their experiences abroad home to their school community in North Carolina.

We are seeking internationally-minded K-12 public, charter, and independent school educators and administrators who are passionate about bringing global perspectives into their classrooms. The Council Scholar Award Program provides up to \$3,500 for international professional development opportunities.

The World Affairs Council of Charlotte is committed to the expansion of international education in area schools. The Council Scholar Award Program is designed to annually recognize 10–12 outstanding teachers or administrators, grades K-12, in our community who have demonstrated a commitment to international education.

**Application Deadline:** Friday, January 15, 2027 · **Eligible counties:** Mecklenburg, Union, Gaston, Cabarrus, Iredell, and Lincoln · **Questions:** cklopp@charlotte.edu or 704-687-7759 (direct)

\* Indicates a required field.

### APPLICANT INFORMATION

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|                                         |  |
|-----------------------------------------|--|
| Email *                                 |  |
| First Name *                            |  |
| Last Name *                             |  |
| Mailing Address *                       |  |
| City *                                  |  |
| State *                                 |  |
| Zip Code *                              |  |
| Secondary Email Address (if applicable) |  |
| Phone Number *                          |  |
| Alternate Phone Number                  |  |

### SCHOOL & TEACHING BACKGROUND

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| School Name *                       |  |
| Principal's Name *                  |  |
| Number of Years at Present School * |  |
| Total Years of Teaching *           |  |

Current Grade Level Taught \*

Subject Area(s) Taught \*

Degrees & Institutions \*

Additional Teaching Experience (if applicable)

## PROPOSED PROGRAM

Have you traveled abroad in the past? \*

☐ Yes, I have traveled abroad in the past.

☐ No, I have not traveled abroad.

Type of program or proposal for professional development abroad \*

☐ Conference

☐ Language Immersion Program

☐ Workshops

☐ Professional Development Classes

☐ Study Abroad Programs Specific to Teachers

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

If you selected "Other" in the previous question, please provide a short description of your proposed program.  
(1,500 characters max)

Which country will you travel to? \*

If you're using a study abroad provider or participating in an organized program, the name of the vendor or organization

Please answer each of the following questions in detail. Responses should demonstrate your international perspective, plans, and goals as an educator.

- Limit: ~1–1.5 typed pages (approximately 500–600 words) per question.
- Be as specific as possible. General or incomplete answers may result in your application being returned for revision.
- If you reference a program, conference, or course, include the website and estimated cost when available.

**1. Describe your international travel experience and how you've shared it with your school community. If no prior travel, describe other ways you've encouraged a global perspective. (~1–1.5 pages) \***

**2. Describe your plan for the award, including how you learned about it, program details, costs, rationale, and specific activities you will do. Be detailed. (~1–1.5 pages) \***

3. Explain how this experience will significantly influence your interactions with students, staff, and parents. Provide specific examples. (~1–1.5 pages) \*

4. Outline your goals for incorporating international education into your classroom over the next two years. Be specific about the strategies you intend to use. (~1–1.5 pages) \*

**BUDGET INFORMATION**

Please download the template on our website and upload as requested below.

These are estimated costs, and we understand that market conditions and timing dictate changes in pricing on travel and programs. \*

Upload: Cost Information Template

## STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

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A letter of support on school or district letterhead is required for your application to be considered. This statement must be completed by your school principal or your immediate supervisor if you are in an administrative role.

The statement should briefly describe your passion for international education, your effectiveness as an educator, and the impact your participation in the Council Scholar Program would have on your school community.

Applicant's Name \*

School Name \*

Upload: Statement of Support (Principal or  
Supervising Administrator) on School or  
District Letterhead \*

## FINAL DECLARATIONS

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I certify that the information provided in this application is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature (Print Your Name) \*

Date (MM/DD/YYYY) \*

## SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

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Thank you for submitting your application. Completed applications must be received electronically by Friday, January 15, 2027.

Award recipients will be announced in early March 2027.