

VIRA I. HEINZ PROGRAM FOR WOMEN IN GLOBAL LEADERSHIP (VIH) SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR TEMPLE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Application Process & Study Abroad Program Advising

Although not required for the application, all applicants are strongly encouraged to have chosen a summer study abroad program that will help you achieve your academic, personal and long-term goals. Having a strong purpose for participating in the program will help make you a stronger candidate for VIH.

- At minimum, all Temple applicants must **attend a Study Abroad Foundations Information Session** prior to applying to VIH. To sign up for a session, visit <http://studyabroad.temple.edu/information-session-registration>.
- It is also strongly encouraged that you **meet with Melinda Schiano di Cola, Temple's VIH Coordinator**, after you have attended the Study Abroad Foundations Information Session and met with your academic advisor. Please schedule your appointment with Melinda well in advance of the deadline by stopping by Education Abroad in 200 Tuttleman, calling 215-204-0720 or sending an e-mail to study.abroad@temple.edu.

Eligibility Notes

- **GPA Requirement:** The 3.0 QPA requirement is cumulative, meaning you must factor in all coursework completed to date (including coursework completed at other colleges/universities).
- **Previous International Travel:** Women admitted to the VIH Program cannot have any international experience, regardless of reason, age or length of time abroad, prior to the international experience funded by VIH. Study abroad, personal travel, having been born abroad and having spent very short periods abroad (such as going to another country for a day as part of a cruise) are all examples of international experience. The only exception is travel to Canada. If you have any questions about this, please contact Melinda Schiano di Cola prior to applying.

Essay Questions

We strongly recommend utilizing the resources at the [Writing Center](#) when working on your essays. Be sure to thoroughly proofread your essays. If you have difficulty formatting your essays using the fillable PDF that is part of the VIH application, you may attach a separate page with your typed essay questions, but please be sure to include the actual question above every answer.

References

As part of your application, you are required to submit one *academic* letter of reference and one *personal* letter of reference, each in its own *sealed and signed* envelope. A personal reference is someone who knows you well and is able to write about your character, motivation and qualifications. Examples of personal references include but are not limited to mentors, employers and advisors. Contact your references early, and provide them with information about the VIH program, so that they are best equipped to write quality recommendations. If you have trouble obtaining an academic or personal reference, reach out to Melinda to discuss this.

Budget

If you have any additional expenses that do not fit into the budget categories, such as immunizations, please note them on the side and be sure to calculate them in your total.