Jeff Zimpleman was born and raised in Iowa. He grew up in Clive and graduated from Valley High School in West Des Moines. He went on to attend Dartmouth College, where he earned a degree in chemistry, did graduate work at the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, California, and received an MBA from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York.

Throughout his life, Jeff loved to travel and valued the opportunities to learn that it provided. He traveled widely and often, and in his 36 years he visited 30 countries; studied business in Spain; saw 6 of the 7 continents; and ventured above the Arctic Circle. Traveling always provided chances to meet new people and experience new cultures, whether in the classroom or out, and he relished these opportunities.

When he visited a country he followed some simple rules: first, learn as much of the language as he could; second, stay in places that would take him into the heart of the cities and countries that he visited; third, spend time with locals. While Jeff loved to travel to broaden his own horizons, he also sought to take his roots with him: to bring those values of respect, consideration, and education that he learned in Iowa to the people and places he visited.

Jeff Zimpleman passed away at an early age. This scholarship honors his memory by sharing his love of traveling and learning and by challenging students to study international affairs, as well as to attend conferences and symposiums that will help them to make a difference in our broader international community.

Iowa Sister States is proud to partner with the family of Jeff Zimpleman in the creation of this scholarship. Jeff’s love of exploring new places and his understanding of the importance of nurturing international relationships resonates with the very essence of Iowa Sister States’ organizational vision which is to, “…be a leader in integrating Iowans with the world community.” Iowan Jeff Zimpleman, a citizen diplomat, did just that: he integrated himself into the world community. With this scholarship we offer you the same opportunity.

The Board of Directors, volunteers and staff of Iowa Sister States, as well as the Zimpleman family, invite you to apply for the Jeff Zimpleman-Iowa Sister States Scholarship. Use this opportunity to do great things!

Who is eligible to apply for this scholarship?

Enrolled college or university student(s) that can prove they are a current resident of the State of Iowa and have been for at least 5 years.
What will the scholarships fund?

➢ The funds provided by this scholarship are intended to be used for costs related to travel (i.e., flights) and in some cases costs related to housing. This scholarship does not cover tuition or course fees.

➢ Iowa students that are seeking degrees/diplomas/certificates in the area of international business international agriculture-related studies, international relations/culture (to include language, art and music) that takes them to see one of Iowa’s 9 sister states.

➢ Iowa students that are traveling abroad for short courses, internships, conferences, or symposiums regarding international business, international agriculture-related studies, international relations/culture (to include language, art and music) that takes them to see one of Iowa’s 9 sister states.

➢ Iowa students working on research projects or documentaries in the area of international business, international agriculture-related studies, international relations/culture (to include language, art and music) that takes them to see one of Iowa’s 9 sister states.

Iowa’s 9 Sister States are:

Yamanashi Prefecture, Japan
Yucatan, Mexico
Hebei Province, PRC
Terengganu, Malaysia
Stavropol Krai, Russia
Taiwan
Cherkasy Oblast, Ukraine
Veneto Region, Italy
The Republic of Kosovo

Application Process

The name and purpose of this scholarship is unique, and so is the application process. For programs in Summer 2021 to Spring 2022, the Jeff Zimpleman-Iowa Sister States scholarship fund will have $30,000 to give out. The actual size of each scholarship, including the number of scholarships, will vary depending on the need of the applicant, the number of applications received, and the types of project ideas.

Applicants must complete the full application. The selection committee will review all applications. There may be need for follow up questions.

The application is available online at www.iowasisterstates.org or you can contact Iowa Sister States, the contact information is at the bottom of these document.

Applications will be considered on a rolling basis as necessary.

Want Some Pointers From the Scholarship Organizers?

➢ At a minimum applicants need to show the selection committee their desire of using their skills for the greater good of the international community.
➢ Financial need will be balanced with the applicant’s merit.
➢ Think outside the box!

### Follow-On Activities

All applicants that are selected to receive a scholarship will be asked to become a part of an alumni group that will be set up specific to this scholarship. This group should serve as a platform for alumni of the scholarship to network and collaborate on ideas and projects that further enhance the idea behind this scholarship.

### Questions?

Contact:
info@iowasisterstates.org
Iowa Sister States- Jeff Zimpleman Scholarship
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Des Moines, Iowa 50315
515.348.6268