Global Citizen Year proudly selects exceptional young leaders, independent of financial circumstances, and helps them develop the insights, skills, and networks for a lifetime of positive impact.
Program Cost

The tuition for Take Action Lab is $21,000 USD. This does not include flights and other out-of-pocket expenses that vary per student.

We don’t believe in hidden costs, and have aimed to provide a thorough and transparent breakdown of tuition and expenses below.

Tuition Includes

Airport transfers on arrival and departure
Our team will meet you at the airport on arrival. On both arrival and departure days, we’ll arrange transportation to and from the airport.

Housing in Cape Town
Global Citizen Year provides several houses where students live together during their 3 months in Cape Town. Houses are fully furnished and include shared common spaces, bathrooms, a fully equipped kitchen, and laundry facilities. Each student has their own private bedroom with a bed, desk, and storage. Wifi, water, electricity, and cleaning fees are included. [Note: Meals are not included.]

Apprenticeship matching & support
Our team has cultivated a strong network of outstanding apprenticeship placements in Cape Town. Each student is matched with a South African organization advancing a human rights cause aligned with their interests. Students will spend four days at their apprenticeship each week, supporting the mission, and deepening their own awareness by working on-the-ground with experienced human rights advocates and the communities they serve. A staff advisor and a mentor at the apprenticeship will support each student in setting and working toward meaningful goals for their apprenticeship experience. (Continued on next page.)
As a semester-long project at their apprenticeship, students will also learn to apply the principles of asset-based community development through an asset mapping project. They will conduct community stakeholder interviews culminating in a dynamic, multimedia asset map.

**Local support team**
Our local team of trained youth development professionals live in Cape Town and support students throughout their time abroad. In case of health or safety incidents, they are close by and available for immediate support.

**Curriculum & Cultural Activities**
- **Foundations course**: Before going abroad, this four-week course prepares the cohort to approach their time abroad with self-awareness, humility, and a learning mindset. Guided by experienced instructors, students reflect deeply on identity, privilege, belonging, and what it means to be a responsible global citizen. This virtual course equips students with an introduction to the historical and social context in Cape Town and forges a strong sense of community in the cohort.

- **Orientation Week**: Upon arrival in Cape Town, students receive a thorough week-long training to equip them with the cultural and risk-management skills to deeply and safely immerse.

- **Cultural activities & excursions twice a week**: Global Citizen Year hosts cultural activities or excursions each week, providing experiential opportunities to deepen students’ understanding of South Africa.

- **Reflection Week**: During the final week of the semester, students make meaning out of the rich experiences they’ve had in South Africa. Through guided reflection, students consider how they want to integrate their new perspectives into life going forward.
Estimated Out-Of-Pocket Expenses

We expect students will also need to budget approximately $5,000 USD for out-of-pocket expenses not included in tuition. This is an estimate, and exact costs may be more or less depending on personal spending habits and circumstances (i.e. distance from home to Cape Town, whether the student has a passport, etc).

Pre-Travel Expenses (estimated ~$2,000)
- Vaccinations costs and fees*
- Costs associated with retrieving health history forms or possible supplemental forms (if applicable)*
- Technology required for the program*
- Round-trip flight to Cape Town, South Africa
- Passport & visa fees*
- International travel medical insurance

*Financial Aid Offers do not include these costs

In-Country Expenses (estimated ~$1,000 per month)
- Voice & mobile data (SIM card is provided)
- Food & groceries for all meals (outside of orientation and learning activities)
- Local transportation, including daily commute to apprenticeships
- Personal spending money

Our Commitment

We are dedicated to making Take Action Lab accessible to talented young leaders from all backgrounds. We also know that people from the Global South and people who identify as BIPOC are underrepresented in positions of leadership and disproportionately impacted by income inequality. Therefore, our financial aid targets individuals without the means to afford Take Action Lab, with a need- and demographically-aware philosophy to ensure that we are giving access to traditionally underserved groups.
Merit Scholarships

Global Citizen Year awards merit scholarships to students who demonstrate a track record of curiosity, conviction, and courage, and a hunger to make a positive impact in their community and the world.

**Global Changemaker Scholarship**

All applicants are automatically considered for the Global Changemaker Scholarship. This is a merit scholarship awarding up to $10,000 to a select number of students with a track record of creating impact. In awarding the Global Changemaker Scholarships, we look for students who demonstrate initiative and collaboration in proactively shaping a better future, whether in their local community or the world at large.

- **Eligibility:** All applicants are eligible.
- **How to Apply:** All applicants are automatically considered.

**United World College Scholarship**

Global Citizen Year is proud to award a $2,500 scholarship to all United World College (UWC) graduates who enroll in Take Action Lab. Through our many years of partnership, we’ve witnessed the incredible synergy between the UWC and Global Citizen Year experiences and we look forward to welcoming many more UWC alumni into our community.

- **Eligibility:** Must be an alumnus of the United World Colleges
- **How to Apply:** In the application, there is a specific question for you to indicate that your high school was part of the UWC network.

**Educator Nomination Scholarship**

We invite educators to nominate exceptional students for Take Action Lab at [globalcitizenyear.org/nominate-a-student/](globalcitizenyear.org/nominate-a-student/). Nominated students will be awarded a $500 merit scholarship should they enroll in the program.

Financial Aid

Need-based financial aid is available to help cover the costs of tuition ($21,000 USD). We also offer financial aid to help cover out-of-pocket expenses in cases where students would not otherwise be able to participate.
Financial aid offers vary depending on students’ financial aid applications. Financial aid is limited and not guaranteed. (Continued on next page.)

## Financial aid may fully or partially cover

- Tuition
- Round-trip flights to Cape Town, South Africa
- International travel medical insurance
- Voice & mobile data
- Food & groceries
- Local transportation, including daily commute to apprenticeships

## Financial Aid does not cover

- Vaccinations costs and fees
- Costs associated with retrieving health history forms or possible supplemental forms (if applicable)
- Passport & visa fees
- Laptop computer required for this program

### How to Apply for Financial Aid

1. **Submit an application** for Take Action Lab.
2. Once applicants are accepted, they’ll progress to the clearance stage, where they’ll complete the financial aid application. (Detailed instructions will be available on the student portal for accepted students.)
3. Select applicants who have completed and met all clearance requirements will receive their official enrollment offer including their tuition/financial aid package.

Each semester, we carefully review all incoming financial aid applications, and regularly have more outstanding candidates than aid available. Financial aid is limited and not guaranteed.

### Have Admission Questions?

Check out our [FAQs](#) or email our team at [admissions@globalcitizenyear.org](mailto:admissions@globalcitizenyear.org).