An Introduction to Fulbright Scholar Grants for U.S. Faculty and Professionals
Presentation Overview

I. Introduction

II. How to apply for Fulbright Scholar grants

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IV. Fulbright Visiting Scholar opportunities
Senator J. William Fulbright (1905-1995)

“In the long course of history, having people who understand your thought is much greater security than another submarine.”
Fulbright Scholar Program

• Established in 1946
• Sends U.S. academics and professionals overseas
• Brings scholars and professionals from abroad to the U.S.
• Sponsored by U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
• Administered by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES)
Why Consider a Fulbright?

• Discover new research directions
• Gain new teaching insights
• Share your knowledge
• Understand your discipline in a global context
• Meet international colleagues and establish long-term professional relationships
• Allow family to experience a different culture
• Represent your country!
THE FULBRIGHT EXPERIENCE

WHAT FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS SAY:

• “We are not the first to discover this consequence of the human side of a year in a different culture... we feel like we now have two homes with our feet planted firmly, if precariously, on two sides of the Atlantic.”

• "When you are willing to sit down and exchange questions and answers, make comparisons of what is important, and laugh about the things that just do not translate and never will...you find out all kinds of wonderful things."

• “I had this great opportunity to be a teacher, researcher and an ambassador. It was wonderful.”
Eligibility Requirements

• U.S. citizenship
• A Ph.D. or equivalent professional/terminal degree in your field
• For professionals and artists outside academia, recognized professional standing and substantial accomplishments
• Teaching experience as required by award
• Limits apply to prior Fulbright Scholar grantees
Language Requirements

- English is sufficient for most lecturing awards
- Research awards require knowledge of language as appropriate for project
- Latin American countries may require Spanish or Portuguese
- Francophone Africa generally requires French
- Some awards in the Middle East may require Arabic
Awards in more than 130 Countries

- More than 800 Grants for
  Faculty
  Administrators
  Professionals

- Two to twelve months
- Seminars 2-3 weeks
Worldwide Opportunities

- Four types of awards
  - Lecturing
  - Research
  - Lecturing/Research
  - Seminars

A. Lecturing or Lecturing/Research 67%
B. Research 26%
C. Seminars 7%
Multi-Country Opportunities

• African Regional Research Program (sub-Saharan)
• Middle East and North Africa Regional Research Program
• South and Central Asia Regional Research Program
• Europe: European Union Affairs, Austrian-Hungarian Research Award
• Western Hemisphere: Canada/Mexico Joint Award in North American Studies, Argentina/Uruguay Lecturing/Research Award in Environmental Sciences
How to Apply for the “Traditional” Fulbright Program

• Go to CIES Web site www.cies.org
  • Use online Catalog of Awards and application
  • Read program overview, Guidelines, Frequently Asked Questions and Tips for Applying
  • Consult Web site for updated award information (DEADLINE AUGUST 1)
Selecting an Award

- Decide if you want to lecture, research or do both
- Check discipline and professional indices
- Read award descriptions and stipend information
- Use an All Discipline award if no specific award matches your expertise
- Check Country Pages on CIES Web site
- Contact CIES program officer(s) for more information about awards and countries
Components of Online Application

- Application Form
- Project Statement
- Curriculum Vitae or Resume
- Course Outlines or Syllabi (for lecturing awards)
- Select Bibliography (for research awards)
- References and Teaching Report
- Supplemental Materials (depending on award)
  - Language Proficiency Report
  - Letter of Invitation
  - Additional Materials for Applicants in the Arts, Architecture, Writing and Journalism
Making Contacts Abroad

- International division of your professional organization
- International office on your campus
- University search Web sites such as:
  - Braintrack - [www.braintrack.com](http://www.braintrack.com)
  - Library of Congress Portals to the World - [http://www.loc.gov/rr/international/portals.html](http://www.loc.gov/rr/international/portals.html)
  - Online directories of U.S. and Visiting Fulbright Scholars – searchable by discipline and country
- CIES program officer can provide names of institutions that have hosted scholars
Submitting a Competitive Application

• Be sure your expertise matches award and your experience qualifies you for all award activities
• Follow instructions and format precisely
• Write a clear, focused project statement
• Focus on what you plan to DO—not your biography
  • Write so that people outside your field can understand your project and why it is important
  • State contribution to host institution/country and to home institution
• Get three strong, current reference letters
  • One from your supervisor (crucial for a teaching report)
  • One from someone not at your institution
  • One from a colleague who knows your work well

• Consider how each part of application relates to the whole and supports your candidacy

• Organize carefully – don’t make reviewers search

• Meet all eligibility requirements and application deadline
TIPS: The Project Statement

• Vital part of a successful application package
• Must be persuasive
• Must explain
  • What the applicant proposes to do
  • How it will be done
  • Why it is important to do it
  • Why the applicant wants to do it
Project Statement: Lecturing Awards

Describe

• What you propose to teach
• What related courses you have taught
• How you will adapt the material and teaching style to fit the different culture and setting
• Why you are suited to this award
  • Draw attention to relevant expertise and experience
  • Show evidence of flexibility and adaptability
• Why you want the experience of teaching in this particular country
Project Statement: Research Awards

Describe

• What you will do and how you will do it
• Why this research is needed; what will be contributed to both countries and the discipline
• Why it must be done in this country
• How you will face the challenge of conducting research in a foreign language, if applicable
• Consider the culture and politics of the host country
• Indicate a dissemination plan for your results
TIPS: For All Awards

• Do your homework: research host country and institution and award particulars

• Limit discussion on project background; use bibliography instead

• Know that collaborative projects are more compelling

• For Lecturing/Research awards, amount of attention in proposal to respective activities should match award description
Review Process and Timetable

• Step 1: Program officers review applications for eligibility, completeness, etc. (August)

• Step 2: Specialist review committees read applications in the arts, hard sciences and professional fields. They provide a preliminary review from a discipline specific perspective (September)

• Step 3: Specialist reviews accompany applications, which are then screened by U.S. peer review committees. Committees represent many disciplines and focus on one world area. (October to December)
• **Step 4:** Applicants receive notice of their status, either recommended or not recommended (*November through January*)

• **Step 5:** Applications of recommended candidates are forwarded to host countries for selection and to the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, which has final approval. Applicants are notified as approvals are given (*February through May*)

• **Step 6:** Grant Packets are sent to selected grantees (*May through June*)

• **Step 7:** Enjoy your Fulbright Experience!
What Reviewers Look For

• Suitability for award (match)
• Teaching ability and record
• Publication and scholarly record in relation to career stage
• Applicant’s adaptability and cultural sensitivity
• Merits of proposal
  • Innovative project and methodology
  • Feasibility
  • Value to discipline, scholar, host country and institution
• Demonstrated need to be in country for project
Grant Benefits

• Package includes stipend, in-country living allowance, travel for grantee

• Some countries: travel for dependents, dependent schooling, research allowance, book allowance

• Stipends and benefits vary considerably from country to country

• Consult Award descriptions at www.CIES.org
Additional Opportunities for U.S. Scholars:

• Distinguished Chairs Program
• Fulbright Specialists Program
• Seminars for International Education Administrators
• German Studies Seminar
• New Century Scholars Program
Distinguished Chairs Program

• Applicants must have prominent record of scholarly accomplishment

• About 40 awards in Europe, Australia, Brazil, Canada and Israel

• Awards announced in January

• New Deadline: AUGUST 1, 2009
Fulbright Specialists Program

- Two- to six-week consulting and/or lecturing opportunities with foreign colleagues and institutions
- Online application to Fulbright Specialist roster with rolling deadline
- Academic matchmaking: academic institutions overseas develop projects and request specialists from the roster
- Opportunity to collaborate with existing contacts and further develop institutional linkages
- Program does not support research
Eligibility for Fulbright Specialists

- Twenty eligible academic and professional disciplines
- For academics, a Ph.D. or appropriate terminal degree and minimum of five years of post-doctoral teaching
- For professionals or artists outside academe, recognized professional standing and substantial professional accomplishments and minimum of five years professional experience
- Minimum of two years between grants
- Limits apply to prior Fulbright Scholar grantees
Seminars for International Education Administrators

- Two to three-week group programs in Germany, Japan and Korea
- Open to full-time education administrators directly involved with international programs
- Program in Germany also open to specialists in career services, alumni relations, or development
- Application Deadlines:
  - Japan & Korea: NOVEMBER 1
  - Germany: FEBRUARY 1
German Studies Seminar

- 25 grantees annually participate in an intensive two to three-week group summer seminar in Germany
- Open to scholars in fields related to that year’s topic or in German Studies
- Previous Topics:
  - The Impact of Science on Policy Formation (2008)
- Application Deadline: NOVEMBER 1
New Century Scholars Program

- Thirty eminent scholars and professionals from the U.S. and abroad work collaboratively to examine a theme of transnational significance
- Participants conduct individual and joint research throughout the program year
- New Century Scholars Distinguished Leader directs three scholar meetings
- 2009 topic: The University as Innovation Driver and Knowledge Center
- Deadline: DECEMBER 1
Opportunities for Visiting (Non-US) Scholars

- Traditional Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program
- Occasional Lecturer Program (OLP)
- Fulbright Scholar-In-Residence (SIR) Program
- Fulbright Visiting Specialists Program: Direct Access to the Muslim World
Traditional Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program

- **Visiting Scholars from other countries research, teach and help internationalize U.S. campuses**

- **Overseas scholars interested in Visiting Scholar programs should contact the Fulbright commission or U.S. Embassy in their home countries**
Fulbright Occasional Lecturer Program (OLP)

• Travel support for Fulbright Visiting Scholars already in the U.S. to visit other campuses for short-term guest lecturing

• Benefits of OLP to Visiting Scholars
  • Network with colleagues and share research interests
  • Experience the diversity in U.S. higher education

• Benefits of OLP to institutions
  • Networking opportunity for US faculty
  • Contributes to the internationalization of campuses
  • Introduces the institution to the benefits of Fulbright exchange in a simple, low-commitment manner

• Contact: OLP@cies.iie.org
Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Program

- Brings scholars and professionals from abroad to campuses that do not often host visiting scholars

- Involves colleges and universities that serve student populations underrepresented in international exchange programs

- Requires the application be made by the interested U.S. institution. Deadline is **OCTOBER 15**

- **Contact:** SIR@cies.iie.org
What Scholars-in-Residence Can Do on U.S. Campuses

- Teach regular courses from a comparative or foreign-area perspective
- Serve as resource people for faculty and students in interdisciplinary programs or courses with international themes
- Create or assist in developing new courses or programs
- Participate in special seminars or colloquia
- Interact with primary and secondary schools through lectures, curriculum development, and other programs
Fulbright Visiting Specialists Program: Direct Access to the Muslim World

• U.S. institutions host scholars and professionals from countries with a significant Muslim population for three to six weeks to:
  • Teach or team-teach short courses
  • Develop curricula
  • Deliver lectures or seminars
• Approximately 20 grants (limit one per institution)
• Proposals must include community outreach
• Program does not support language teaching or research
• Deadline: APRIL 1, 2009 for calendar year 2010
• Contact: VisitingSpecialist@cies.iie.org
Other Fulbright Programs

• Fulbright U.S. Student Program
  • For recent graduates, postgraduate candidates up through dissertation level and developing professionals and artists to study and research abroad
  • Administered by Institute of International Education, IIE
    www.fulbrightonline.org/us

• Fulbright Teacher and Administrator Exchange
  • Principally for primary- and secondary- level educators
    www.fulbrightexchanges.org

• Fulbright-Hays Awards
  • For faculty research, group projects and seminars abroad in certain social sciences and humanities fields
  • Administered by the International Education and Graduate Programs Service of the U.S. Department of Education
    www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/iegps
Thank you

For more information, visit www.CIES.org