

FULBRIGHT



Before we get started...

Program
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iie The Power
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Education

Top 10 Questions about Fulbright Scholar Applications



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The Fulbright Legacy

- Established 1946 to expand and strengthen the relationships between the people of the United States and citizens of the rest of the world
- Sponsored by U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
- Administered by the Institute of International Education's Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES)





Am I eligible for a Fulbright award?

- U.S. citizenship
- Degree as required by award
 - Ph.D. or other terminal degree may be required
 - Many awards in the Core Program are open to applicants with a Masters and professional or academic experience
- Professionals and artists outside academia - recognized professional standing and substantial accomplishments
- A 2-year waiting period between the end of a grant and applying for another grant





What Application Resources are there?

- [Fulbright Scholar Program website](#)
- [Catalog of Awards](#)
- [Application](#)
- [Application Instructions](#)
- [Application Guidelines](#)
- [Project Statement Guidance and Samples](#)
- [Webinars](#)
- [The Fulbright Scholar Blog](#)
- [MyFulbright](#)
- [Fulbright Scholar Liaisons](#) – logistics
- [Fulbright Scholar Ambassadors](#) – mentors
- [Outreach Lecturing Fund](#) - connections





How do I find the right award?

- Match your expertise, experience and proposal to the award description
- Regional experience and language ability
- Discipline preferences listed in the award
- Relevance of the project to the country; why will host country benefit from your project?
- Career level - early career, postdoctoral, mid-level, Distinguished Chair
- Discipline preferences are often listed with an award





Can I apply for more than 1 award?

- No. May apply to only 1 award (1 country/program) per year.

But:

- Regional awards allow work in more than 1 country
- Global Scholar Award at least 2 separate world regions
 - Work typically in 2-3 different countries
 - 2-3 segments over as much as 2 years

See [Catalog of Awards](#) for multi-country award opportunities.





How Do I Divide my Time on Teaching/Research Grants?

- Read the award carefully
- Some awards tell you the division of time between teaching and research
 - **Grant Activity:** *"The teaching component of the grant must be 50% of the grant activity. The applicant must offer at least one substantial course to graduate students (Master's or Ph.D.) in his or her own field of expertise. This module must be offered as a specialized/extra option for students rather than a regular course from the existing curriculum."*
 - *"Teach classes at the undergraduate or graduate level. Grantees in the teaching/research category will spend **80 percent of their time teaching undergraduate or graduate students, while 20 percent of their time will be spent on research in their specialization.**"*
- Others leave it up to the applicant to determine:
 - *"Faculty development and training, review undergraduate/graduate programs and curriculum development, develop quality assurance in the delivery of Business Studies programs, and participate in student advising and tutorials. Conduct research in field of specialization."*





What about Language Requirements?

- Some awards do not require the local language
- If the award does have a language requirement
 - Language Proficiency Report – 2 parts
 - You are a native speaker – only Part I – self-evaluation
 - Not a native speaker – both parts
 - Part II – someone certified to evaluate comprehension, oral and listening skills
- If you do not speak the local language
 - Explain how you can be successful
 - Teaching is done in English
 - Language required is other than local language
 - Letter of Invitation makes clear language skills not necessary
 - Translator is available





What about a Letter of Invitation (LOI)?

- Some awards require a letter of invitation
- Some countries “recommend” a letter
 - Better to have one
- Some do not want a letter

See [Catalog of Awards](#) for requirements.

Tips:

- Award may include contact at host institution
- Guidance posted here: <http://www.cies.org/letters-invitation-developing-contacts-abroad>
- Person who issues the LOI will vary by institution
- Should be on letterhead, addressed to you
- Best LOI refers to you and to your project and why the match is a good one





What about Letters of Reference?

- 3 letters are required
 - Teaching awards – at least 1 evaluates abilities as an instructor
 - Research awards – 3 reference letters
- Best letters link applicant to the proposal
- Referees can evaluate the applicant's
 - Professional work
 - Ability to conduct the proposed work
 - Adaptability
 - Merits of the proposal
 - Impact of the work
- Good to have 1 letter from outside home institution
- Letter can come from abroad
 - Cannot be from same person who prepares letter of invitation
- Must be submitted electronically via application





What's in a good Project Statement?

- Self-introduction to all reviewers, U.S. and overseas
- Job interview: answer questions reviewers may have
- Important: content & style of presentation are clear
 - ✓ Neat – headers and bullets may be useful
 - ✓ Well thought out sentences
 - ✓ Well-written sentences
- Do your homework – research the country, its institutions and any award particulars in the Catalog
- Why this experience and this place?
- What professional experiences and skills do you offer?
- How do you plan to accomplish your goals?
- What do you expect to get out of the experience?
- How will you collaborate with the host institution? How will it benefit them?
- Address flexibility (versus rigidity) of plans





What are some common mistakes?

- Fulbright is about academic excellence through cultural diplomacy
- Project
 - Failure to adequately describe the purpose and methodology
 - Applicant does not explain the value of the project
 - Reviewers may not intuit why THIS research is necessary
- Written with too much technical jargon; reviewers do not understand the proposal
- Proposal can be understood only because reference letters are more clear than the applicant's explanation
- Time frame does not match the proposal's needs
- Lack of clear time line – a sense of how/when the grantee will accomplish the goals set out in the project
- Use first person “I” rather than 3rd person “the grantee,” etc.





Tips

- Application
 - Match the award description details (grant date, grant length) with application
- Project Statement
 - The C's: Compelling, carefully constructed, concise, clear, complete
- Supporting Documents (Project statement, CV, etc.)
 - PDF format
 - Pay attention to page limits; number pages
- Proofreading:
 - Have a colleague read for content, flow, jargon
 - Spellcheck (Fulbright has one "L")
- Citations: use a single citation style consistently



Questions & Answers

CONTACT US
scholars@iie.org
with any questions.

Reminder:
The application deadline for the
2018-2019 Core Fulbright U.S.
Scholar Program is
Tuesday, August 1, 2017



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