Spotlight on Finland: Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program

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Mission

• In partnership with 160 countries worldwide, Fulbright offers passionate and accomplished faculty, administrator, artists, journalists, lawyers, and other professionals from all backgrounds an unparalleled opportunity to study, teach, or conduct research.

• Our mission is to foster mutual understanding between nations, advance knowledge across communities, and improve lives around the world.

A Brief History

• Established in 1946 by Congress, Fulbright is the United States government’s flagship international educational and cultural exchange program.

• Fulbright is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and administered by the Institute of International Education.
Diversity and Inclusion

Fulbright strives to ensure that it reflects the diversity of U.S. society and societies abroad. We encourage the involvement of people from traditionally underrepresented audiences in all our grants, programs and other initiatives.

Opportunities are open to people regardless of their race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, geographic location, socioeconomic status, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity.
Fulbright by the Numbers

The Fulbright Program funds over 8,000 awards annually:

- **800 U.S. scholars and administrators**
- **2,200 U.S. Students**
- **4,000 foreign students**
- **900 visiting scholars**
- **400+ language teaching assistants**

Approximately 390,000 “Fulbrighters” have participated in the program since its inception in 1946.
Eligibility for U.S. Scholar Program

- U.S. citizenship
- Degree and experience, as required by award:
  - Ph.D. or other terminal degree
  - MA and higher education teaching or professional experience
  - Professional and/or artistic experience with substantial accomplishments
  - Teaching experience
- Compliance with policies on previous Fulbright Scholar awards and waiting periods between grants
Selecting the Right Award

- Match expertise, experience and proposal to the award description
- Regional experience and language ability
- Discipline preferences, when specified
- Is the project relevant to the host country? How will communities benefit from your project?
- Career level – postdoctoral, early career, mid-career, Distinguished Chair, administrator, established professional
Seeking Solutions for Global Challenges

- Open to academics and professionals
- All Disciplines
- Any appropriate institution
- 2 – 6 months
- Research, teaching or professional project
- Flex option offered

Themes include, but are not limited to:
- Shared environments
- Emerging Technologies & Hybrid Threats
- Managing Migration & Humanitarian Crisis
- Governance, Peace, and Wellbeing
All Disciplines Award

- Open to academics, including early career
- 4 – 9 months
- Any appropriate institution
- All Disciplines
- Flex option offered
- Teaching, Teaching/Research
Distinguished Chair Partnership Awards

• Fulbright Bicentennial Chair in American Studies (University of Helsinki)
• Fulbright-Aalto University Distinguished Chair (Architecture, Art, Business, Engineering)
• Fulbright-Hanken Distinguished Chair in Business and Economics (Hanken School of Economics)
• Fulbright-Nokia Distinguished Chair in Information and Communications Technologies (Any Finnish University)
• Fulbright-Saastamoinen Foundation Distinguished Chair in Health Sciences (University of Eastern Finland)
Scholar Partnership Awards

Scholars, including early career

• Fulbright-Haaga-Helia Scholar Award
• Fulbright-Tampere University Scholar Award (All Disciplines)
• Fulbright-TUAS (Turku University of Applied Sciences) Scholar Award
• Fulbright-University of Turku Scholar Award (All Disciplines)

Scholars, excluding early career

• Fulbright-Saastamoinen Foundation Grant in Health and Environmental Sciences
• Fulbright-University of Vaasa Scholar Award
• Fulbright-VTT (VTT Technical Research Center of Finland) Grant in Science, Technology, and Innovation
Awards for Professionals

• **Mid-Career Professional Development Grant**
  • 4-5 months for professional development projects
  • Applications sought in all disciplines
  • Any appropriate institution (e.g. universities, museums, government organizations, nonprofits, art institutions)

Other Awards for Professionals

• **Seeking Solutions for Global Challenges**
• **Fulbright-VTT (VTT Technical Research Center of Finland) Grant in Science, Technology, and Innovation**
Dr. Catia Confortini - Fulbright U.S. Scholar in Finland

• Associate Professor of Peace & Justice Studies, Wellesley College

• **Activity:** Lecturing/Research

• **Project:** New Directions for Feminist Peace Research – Gender, Violence, and Global Health: Mapping Intersections
Dr. Joshua Pearce - Fulbright U.S. Scholar in Finland

- Richard Witte Professor, College of Engineering, Michigan Technological University
- Visiting Professor, School of Electrical Engineering, Aalto University, Finland

- **Activity:** Lecturing/Research

- **Project:** Open Source Atomic Layer Deposition and Associated Tools for Solar Photovoltaic Development
Understanding the Awards

Seeking Solutions for Global Challenges Award

FINLAND
Europe and Eurasia

AWARD DETAILS

GRANT ACTIVITY
This new award is designed to enable U.S. scholars and professionals to conduct research and/or teach in any discipline and/or conduct professional projects on topics of current and global importance at any Finnish institution for a period of two to six months.

APPLICATION DEADLINE
Tuesday, September 15, 2020

https://awards.cies.org
Project Statement

• Describe your proposed project in 3 – 5 pages.
• Focus on what you plan to do, the specific courses you plan to teach, the goals of your research, your methods.
• Explain the anticipated impact of your award on your hosts, home institution and you.

Supplemental Questions

• Why Fulbright? (1,000 characters)
• Why this country? (2,000 characters)
• How adaptable are you? How well will you deal with challenging situations? (1,000 characters)
• How will you adapt your materials for to host culture (2,000 characters)
Affiliations and Invitations

Application Requirements

**INVITATION REQUIREMENT**
A letter of invitation is required

- Non-binding expression of interest from proposed host abroad
- Should come from person with whom you will be collaborating
- Should be on host institution letterhead
## Application Cycle

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Awards Catalog Opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 15</td>
<td>Application Deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Program staff conducts technical reviews for completeness</td>
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<tr>
<td>October – November</td>
<td>U.S. peer review</td>
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<tr>
<td>November – January</td>
<td>Applicants notified of status. Recommended applications are sent to host countries and to the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.</td>
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<tr>
<td>January – April</td>
<td>Grantees are notified of final approvals</td>
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<td>May – Onward</td>
<td>Grantees prepare for grants</td>
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