

# Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program

## Peer Review and Selection Process

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*May 30, 2019*



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# Review Process and Timeline (2020-20 competition)

**SEPT. 16, 2019**

**Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program Application deadline**  
(Competition launches early February 2019)

**Mid-SEPT. –  
early OCT**

**Technical Review**  
(IIE/CIES program staff review submitted applications for completeness and eligibility; complete applications proceed to peer review)

**OCT. - NOV.**

**Peer Review**  
(U.S.-based discipline committees review applications and determine whether to recommend applications for further consideration)

**DEC.**

**Notifications**  
(All applicants notified of status following peer review)

**JAN. – MAY**

**Selection and Approval**  
(Recommended applications proceed to host countries, the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, and the Department of State for selection and approval)

**JAN. – MAY**

**Notifications**  
(Candidates notified of final selection decisions pending above outcomes)

**MAY – onward**

**Grantees prepare for grants**



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# Review Criteria

Reviewers consider the basic objectives of the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program, evaluating applications on the following criteria:

## **Applicant training, background, experience**

- Applicant possesses the training, credentials, active professional standing, as appropriate for their project, discipline, and career path
- Applicant meets the language proficiency requirements necessary for the project, or adequately addresses alternative(s)
- Applicant maintains an appropriate record of service to their academic/professional community and home institution/employer

## **Quality of project**

- The project is feasible, original, well-designed, innovative, and sophisticated, with sufficient resources and time allocated, and can be adapted if needed. In addition, the project can be understood by individuals outside of the applicant's discipline.



# Review Criteria, cont.

(Quality of project, cont.)

- Teaching:
  - Syllabi represent the applicant's experience teaching the subject(s), reflect innovative and effective pedagogical approaches, and are sufficiently developed
- Research:
  - Research is clearly designed, and methodology considered sound in the discipline
  - Bibliography reflects likelihood of project to contribute to the existing body of work on the topic
- The applicant demonstrates the need for the project to be undertaken in the specified location
- The applicant's project shows considerable engagement with the host institution and community



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# Review Criteria, cont.

## Project's potential impact, outcomes, and benefits

- Application demonstrates relevance and currency of project to the discipline
- Applicant clearly describes plans to feasibly disseminate results
- Applicant's project exhibits potential for impact, which is significant, broad, and sustainable in discipline, at their home institution and community, and to the applicant's professional development

## Personal qualities

- Applicant displays ability to be adaptable, culturally sensitive, collegial, and can serve as a cultural ambassador for the U.S.

## Previous Fulbright Awards

- Applicant provides compelling justification for prior Fulbright grant: Where there is competition for grants, preference will be given to candidates who have not had previous Fulbright grants, especially within the past ten years.



# Review Criteria, cont.

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## Veteran status

- Preference is given to veterans of the U.S. armed forces when other factors are equivalent

## Diversity and geographic distribution

- The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the United States Department of State strives to ensure that its efforts reflect the diversity of U.S. society and societies abroad. The Bureau seeks and encourages the involvement of people from traditionally underrepresented audiences in all its grants, programs and other activities and in its workforce and workplace. Opportunities are open to people regardless of their race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, geographic location, socio-economic status, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity. The Bureau is committed to fairness, equity and inclusion.



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# More Information

- [Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program Review Criteria](#)
- Prospective Peer Reviewers:  
<https://www.cies.org/program/peer-review>
- IEA Seminars [Review Criteria](#) and [Timeline](#)

