

U.S. STUDENT FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIPS 2024-2025

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SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

The U.S. Fulbright Student Program awards around 2,100 grants annually and operates in over 150 countries, with the purpose of facilitating cultural exchange and fostering mutual understanding. Grants provide funding for one academic year. Length and start time vary by country, usually ranging from 8-12 months during the 2024-2025 academic year. While the majority of countries follow our academic year, some, including most in the Southern Hemisphere, will have a start date in early 2025.

- *Research/Study/Arts Fulbright Grants* provide funding for independent academic research, creative projects, and graduate study. Research and creative arts applicants are expected to develop their projects independently and establish in-country contacts, usually with advisers at foreign universities (called affiliations) prior to the application deadline. Grants for graduate degree enrollment are typically for one year of study and applicants apply separately to the graduate program.
- *Fulbright English Teaching Assistantships (ETAs)* place Fulbrights in classrooms in about 75 countries to provide assistance to local English teachers. ETAs help teach the English language while serving as cultural ambassadors for the U.S. The age and academic level of the students vary by country, ranging from kindergarten to university level. ETAs may also propose research projects or community engagement activities which complement teaching duties. Some regions have less stringent language requirements for ETAs than for other Fulbrights.

ELIGIBILITY

- Must be a U.S. citizen holding at minimum a bachelor's degree or the equivalent by the beginning of the grant period.
- For most countries, you cannot hold a PhD (or EdD) by the time of application. Recent MDs, JDs, and DVMs are eligible.
- For some countries, you must have sufficient proficiency in the written and spoken language.

BENEFITS

- Grant benefits for all Fulbright U.S. Student grants include: round-trip transportation to the host country; funding to cover room, board, and incidental costs based on the cost of living in the host country; and accident and sickness health benefits. All ETAs also receive a 60-hour online TESOL fundamentals course to be completed prior to the grant.
- In some countries, grants may also include: book and research allowances; mid-term enrichment activities; full or partial tuition; language study programs; and pre-departure and in-country orientations.

APPLICATION COMPONENTS

- Candidates can only apply to one award and one country, unless the region allows multi-country proposals (very few do).
- Application includes a statement proposing a research project and plan of study (ETA applicants explain their reasons for wanting to serve as teachers); a personal statement; 3 short-answer essays; 3 letters of recommendation; transcripts from all universities attended; and, for some countries, a language evaluation. Arts applicants also submit samples of their work.
- Letters of Affiliation: For research/creative grants, most host countries require a letter of affiliation from a contact within the host country with whom you propose to work. The affiliation is usually a professor from an academic institution, but in some cases it can be a contact within another appropriate institution, such as a nonprofit or archive. It is strongly preferred that the affiliation institution is based within the host country—not, for example, a campus of a foreign university or an international organization. While not usually required for graduate study, a letter of support from a faculty member within the graduate program can greatly help one's chances.

KEEP IN MIND

- The primary aim of Fulbright is to further mutual understanding between the people of the U.S. and other countries. Develop a specific plan for engaging with the host community through volunteer or extracurricular activities.
- Make sure your proposal is feasible within an academic year, given your language facility and research methods, as well as the culture, politics, and resources of the host country.
- Make clear why you need to go to the proposed country to do your research. If the research could just as easily be accomplished in the U.S., such as at the Library of Congress or a research library, you will not be competitive.
- Write the proposal so that those outside your field can easily understand your methods and significance of your research.

DEADLINES

- Application available online beginning April 1, 2023.
- Start early! **Candidates should try to meet at least once individually with Maria de Rocher by early summer 2023 to review plans.** Allow plenty of time for getting feedback on your essays and numerous revisions. Applications for research/creative grants are particularly time-consuming and should be started as soon as possible. Remember to reach out to your host affiliation and three recommenders early.
- Applications must be submitted in full online by the campus deadline of **Tuesday, September 5, 2023** at 11:59pm ET. Campus interviews will be conducted by the campus committee between September 15 to September 26 (exact dates TBD).
- Final applications are due to the national Fulbright committee by **Tuesday, October 10, 2023** at 5:00pm ET.

NOTIFICATION

- Notification comes in two stages. By February 1, 2024, candidates will be notified as to whether they made the first cut by the national screening committee. Those who make this first cut are recommended to the host country, which makes the final decision. Candidates will receive notification of the final decision between March and May 2024.