About the Program

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, The Fulbright U.S. Student Program offers fellowships abroad for one academic year to graduating college seniors, graduate students, young professionals, scientists and artists. Program participants pursue graduate or professional study, advanced research, or English teaching in elementary and secondary schools or universities. Each year, approximately 1,600 Americans traveling to more than 140 countries receive support from the Fulbright U.S. Student Program.

WHO SHOULD APPLY

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program seeks applications from highly motivated, open-minded individuals in any academic field and from any background. We evaluate candidates based on their cumulative experience and goals; there is no minimum undergraduate GPA requirement. It is not necessary to be enrolled in a college or university at the time of application.

Fulbright candidates should be flexible self-starters with a strong interest in promoting international mutual understanding. Above all, they should be capable of contributing to, and benefiting from, an intensive cultural exchange program.
A Brief History :: The Fulbright Program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, is the U.S. government’s flagship international exchange program and is supported by the people of the United States and partner countries around the world. Approximately 8,000 grants are awarded annually. The Fulbright Program was established by the U.S. Congress in 1946 under legislation introduced by Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas. For more information, please visit: http://fulbright.state.gov.

THE FULBRIGHT U.S. STUDENT PROGRAM

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Be a U.S. citizen at the time of application. (Permanent residents are not eligible.)
- Hold a bachelor’s degree or the equivalent before the start of the grant. Applicants without a BA or the equivalent may also be considered if they have extensive professional study and/or experience in the field they wish to pursue.
- Submit a satisfactory Medical Certificate of Health from a physician.
- Demonstrate proficiency in the written and spoken language of the host country sufficient to communicate with the people and to carry out the proposed study. This is especially important for projects in the social sciences and the humanities.

For more information on eligibility requirements, including ineligibility, please visit: us.fulbrightonline.org

TYPES OF GRANTS AVAILABLE

Fulbright Grants for Research/Study and Fulbright English Teaching Assistantships Provide:

- Round-trip transportation to the host country
- Maintenance for the academic year, based on living costs in the host country
- Book and research allowances
- Healthcare coverage
- Mid-term enrichment activities in many countries or world regions
- Full or partial tuition, in some cases
- Language or orientation programs, in some cases

The Fulbright Critical Language Enhancement Award:
Candidates for the Fulbright U.S. student program in selected regions may apply to receive up to six months of additional intensive language training in eligible critical languages. The application for the Fulbright Critical Language Enhancement Award (CLEA) is made in conjunction with the Fulbright U.S. Student application.

“Fulbright ended up being an extremely important part of getting [the] film made. When you have a Fulbright…it lends incredible credibility to what it is you’re trying to accomplish.”
—REBECCA CAMMISA, FILMMAKER
(U.S. SCHOLAR TO MEXICO, 2005-2006)

FULBRIGHT ALUMNI :: LEADING BY EXAMPLE

Sadia Shepard
FILMMAKER & AUTHOR (U.S. Student to India, 2001-02)
Sadia Shepard used her Fulbright grant to explore the history and future of the tiny Indian Jewish community into which her maternal grandmother was born and which she left to marry Shepard’s Muslim grandfather. Her research in India was the basis for her widely acclaimed memoir, The Girl from Foreign: A Memoir, and her documentary film In Search of the Bene Israel.

Muhammad Yunus
ECONOMIST (Foreign Student from Bangladesh, 1965-66)
Muhammad Yunus, founder of the Grameen Bank and 2006 Nobel Peace Prize recipient, credits his Fulbright experience with launching his career in microfinance.

CONTACT

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