Differences Between the Fulbright US Scholar Program and the Fulbright Specialist Program

Fulbright US Scholar Program

Fulbright Specialist Program

Funded by US Department of State, administered by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES). For more information, see: https://cies.org/	Administrator	Funded by US Department of State, administered by World Learning. For more information, see: https://fulbrightspecialist.worldlearning.org/
The Fulbright US Scholar Program awards provide opportunities for faculty as well as for professionals, artists, journalists, scientists, lawyers, independent scholars and many others to teach, research, or conduct a combination of teaching and research. Over 800 fellowships are awarded annually, in over 400 types of opportunities.	Purpose	The program pairs highly qualified US academics and professionals with host institutions abroad to share their expertise, strengthen institutional linkages, hone their skills, gain international experience, and learn about other cultures while building capacity at their overseas host institutions.
US citizens (permanent residence is not sufficient); other restrictions apply	Eligibility	US citizens (permanent residence is not sufficient); other restrictions apply
2-12 months; some awards allow a Flex option to divide the time into separate trips	Length	2-6 weeks (varies according to project)
Most fields	Disciplines	Many fields; Fulbright Specialist activities fall within select eligible disciplines, each with designated specializations.
Worldwide, ~135 countries	Geographic Area	Worldwide, ~150 countries
Applicant selects and applies to only one award per cycle; most awards are for a single country. For multicountry projects, applicants should search for Global or multi-country awards.	Country Selection	Applicants with an interest in a particular world region or country may indicate preferences, along with relevant language proficiency, at the time of application. However, this will not guarantee placement in the desired country or region.
Award amounts vary by country, project length, and activity. Dependent allowance available for some awards.	Award Amount & Benefits	Round-trip economy class airfare between the US and host country; transit allowance; visa fees; daily honorarium; enrollment in a limited health benefits program; lodging; meals; in-country transportation. Dependent allowance is not available.
Varies; proficiency in local language is required or recommended for some countries	Language Requirement	Varies, though there is no language requirement to join the Roster; proficiency in local language is required or recommended for some placements
Submitted electronically via CIES application portal; application components include project statement, CV, letters of recommendation, bibliography, syllabi, letter if invitation, language proficiency, digital portfolio (some components only applicable for certain awards)	Application Process	Submitted electronically via World Learning application portal; individuals apply to join the Fulbright Specialist Roster. If selected, individuals remain on Roster for three years. Host institutions submit project proposals to their Fulbright Commission; if a proposal is approved, a Specialist from the roster is matched to the project. There is no guarantee to be matched; individuals on Roster must be matched and complete an exchange to be considered a Fulbright Specialist.
Mid-September each year; International Education Administrators (IEA) program deadlines may vary	Deadline	Peer review panels evaluate applications to join the Fulbright Specialist Program every eight weeks.
Fulbright Scholar Liaison: Joy Campbell joycamp@msu.edu, 517-884-2167 306A International Center Begin here: http://isp.msu.edu/fulbright	MSU Contact Information	No official MSU contact Begin here: https://fulbrightspecialist.worldlearning.org/