Fulbright U.S. Student Program

Expanding perspectives through academic and professional advancement and cross-cultural dialogue.

Opportunities for U.S. College Graduates/Grad Students

Fulbright creates connections in a complex and changing world. In partnership with more than 160 countries worldwide, the Fulbright U.S. Student Program offers unparalleled opportunities in all academic disciplines to passionate and accomplished graduating college seniors, graduate students, and young professionals from all backgrounds. Program participants pursue graduate study, conduct research, or teach English abroad.

Fulbrighters join a network of thousands of alumni serving as leaders across the globe. Through the Fulbright U.S. Student Program, participants enrich their educations, advance their careers—and make meaningful contributions abroad and at home.

A Brief History of the Fulbright Program

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. For more than 70 years, we’ve demonstrated that by living and learning together with people of different cultures we can shape a more positive vision for our communities and our world. The U.S. Congress established the Fulbright Program in 1946.

Please see eca.state.gov/fulbright and us.fulbrightonline.org for more information.

“A chance is a wonderful thing. And I’ve been given this chance so that I can go out and do something really special, so that somebody else coming behind me will have that same type of opportunity. This is what Fulbright is all about.”

CHARLES COLEMAN, Fulbright U.S. Student to Israel, 2017-2018

The Fulbright Program 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.
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Who Are Fulbrighters?
Each year, thousands of Americans participate in the Fulbright U.S. Student Program. They represent the richness and diversity of America through their varied backgrounds, home communities, professional and academic skills, and academic institutions, and create lasting connections while learning with their counterparts overseas.

Successful applicants are highly motivated, open-minded people. They should be flexible self-starters with a strong interest in promoting the Fulbright Program’s mission: fostering mutual understanding between the United States and partner nations, sharing knowledge across communities, and improving lives around the world. Candidates are evaluated based on their cumulative experience and goals; there is no minimum GPA requirement. It is not necessary to be enrolled in a college or university at the time of application.

Who is Eligible to Apply?
To apply to the Fulbright U.S. Student Program, candidates must:
- 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.
- Demonstrate proficiency in the host country language, if required.

The following are not eligible for consideration:
- Applicants who currently hold or will hold a doctoral degree by the application deadline.

For more information on eligibility requirements, please visit us.fulbrightonline.org/about/eligibility.

What is the Award?
The Fulbright U.S. Student Program awards more than 2,100 grants annually to American students and professionals to study, conduct research, and serve as assistant English teachers in 160 countries around the world.

Grant benefits include:
- Round-trip transportation to the host country
- Full or partial academic tuition, based on award
- Living expenses stipend for the academic year, based on living costs in the host country
- Accident and sickness benefits
- Conferences, enrichment activities, and cultural events in many countries or world regions
- Book and research allowances, based on award
- Language or orientation programs, based on award

For more information on the Fulbright U.S. Student Program, visit eca.state.gov/fulbright and us.fulbrightonline.org

“I am grateful to be numbered among those who have been equipped, trained, and launched through the Fulbright Program and excited to see those who come after me and the impact they will have on the world.”

ANTONIO INGRAM, Fulbright U.S. Student to Malawi, 2017