2021 Fulbright US Student Program
“Getting Started” Session

Tips and information for students and alumni applying for a 2022-23 Fulbright grant

Recorded April 6, 2021

Joy Campbell, MSU Fulbright Program Advisor
Topics to Cover Today

• Assumptions
• Review of the Fulbright US Student program
• Timeline
  • Overview, important dates and deadlines
• Getting Started
• Choosing Your Award
• Beginning Your Application
• Next Steps
Assumptions

• You are eligible for Fulbright US Student award
  • Program requirements
  • Host country requirements

• You attended or have viewed a pre-application information session
  • Missed it? Check MSU Fulbright website for recordings

• You plan to apply for a Fulbright this year
  • Or you’re just really planning ahead for next year!
Review of the Fulbright US Student Program

- Created by Congress in 1946
- Sponsored by the US Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
- US Student Program administered in the US by the Institute of International Education (IIE)
- Administered overseas by bi-national Fulbright Commissions and US Embassies

“Our mission is to foster mutual understanding between nations, advance knowledge across communities, and improve lives around the world.”
Review of Application Timeline

- Winter into Spring: Research grant type, select country, competition opens in late March
- Summer: Prepare application, meet interim MSU deadlines
- September: MSU application deadline, campus committee interview
- October: National application deadline
- November-December: US review, National Screening Committees
- January-May: Semi-finalist notifications (January), host country review for semi-finalists
- March-June: Final selection and notification
Important Dates and Deadlines

• March 31 ➔ Competition opened
• Ongoing throughout summer ➔ Weekly office hours, communications from me, “write-ins” and other application sessions
• Ongoing until deadline ➔ Keep an eye on upcoming IIE webinars
  • May 31 ➔ Draft of personal statement due
  • June 15 ➔ Draft of statement of grant purpose due
  • July 15 ➔ Draft of “Host Country Engagement” section due
  • July 31 ➔ Draft of “Plans Upon Return to the US” section due
  • August 15 ➔ Draft of “Abstract” section due
• September 1 by 11:00pm * ➔ MSU deadline (entire application, including letters)
• Throughout September ➔ Campus interviews
• October 12 by 5:00pm ➔ National deadline

* All times Eastern Time Zone
Getting Started: The IIE Website

• The IIE website is a comprehensive resource for applicants.

• Mini tour of website:
  • About
  • Countries
  • Applicants
  • Current Fulbrighters
  • Alumni
  • Fulbright Program Advisors
  • Statistics
  • Contact
Choosing Your Award: Review of Award Types

Study/Research Grant
- Independent research, study, or arts projects abroad
- 900+ Awards
- 6-12 Months
- ~140 Countries

English Teaching Assistantship (ETA)
- Help teach English and US culture in the classroom
- 1,250+ Awards
- 8-10 Months
- ~75 Countries
Choosing Your Award: Award Search Tool

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award Type</th>
<th>World Region &amp; Countries</th>
<th>Foreign Language Proficiency</th>
<th>Accepted Degree Levels</th>
<th>Other Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Study/Research</td>
<td>East Asia-Pacific</td>
<td>Not Required</td>
<td>Bachelor’s</td>
<td>Award length</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Independent Study/Research</td>
<td>Europe &amp; Eurasia</td>
<td>Recommended</td>
<td>Master’s</td>
<td>Start date</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Graduate Degree Enrollment</td>
<td>Middle East &amp; North Africa</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Doctoral</td>
<td>CLEA eligibility</td>
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<td>ETA</td>
<td>South &amp; Central Asia</td>
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<td>Dependent support</td>
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<td>• Middle School</td>
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<td>• Secondary School</td>
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<td>• Post-Secondary</td>
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Choosing Your Award: Award Search Tool in Action

- Country
- Award type
- Accepted degree levels
- Placement type (for ETAs)
- Dependent support available
- Start date
- Award length
- CLEA-eligible
Beginning Your Application
Beginning Your Application: Welcome Page
Beginning Your Application: Preliminary Questions

- Basic eligibility
  - Citizenship
  - Degree status
- Award type
  - Rest of the application is predicated on your choice here
Beginning Your Application: Country & Award Selection

- Select school or at-large
  - Select MSU
- Select country
- Select type of award and confirm details
Beginning Your Application: Continuing to Enter Data

- Personal information
  - Name
  - Biographical, demographic, and citizenship information
  - Misconduct or convictions

- Contact information
  - Address(es), phone numbers, email addresses, emergency contact

- Program information
  - Title, abstract, host country engagement, plan upon return, statement of grant purpose, personal statement
Beginning Your Application: Other Information to Gather

- Academic information
  - Academic information, transcripts
- Awards and achievements
  - Scholarships, grants, and fellowships
  - Extracurricular activities, publications, presentations
- Professional information
  - List of past positions
    - Begin with most recent position
  - List ones that best support your application
- Experience abroad
  - Host country, other countries
  - Have dates ready
- Language self-evaluation
  - Up to four languages
- Recommenders and language evaluators
  - Three recommenders, one language evaluator per applicable language
  - Don’t invite them until you are 100% sure about your award type and host country
You Can’t Accidentally Submit

• Over the summer
  • I can see your in-progress application

• September 1
  • Submitting sends it to me
  • We can unsubmit and resubmit as many times as necessary

• October 12
  • Submitting sends it to IIE
Next Steps

- **Get through the rest of the semester**
- Connect with me
  - Joy Campbell, joycamp@msu.edu
- Familiarize yourself with the MSU Fulbright website
  - https://www.isp.msu.edu/fulbright
  - Complete the Fulbright Program Interest Survey
- Familiarize yourself with the IIE Fulbright website
  - https://us.fulbrightonline.org/
  - Research host countries and programs
  - Pre-register for webinars