



# 2023 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Information Session

Pre-application information for PhD students  
considering a DDRA grant

January 18, 2023

Joy Campbell, MSU Fulbright-Hays Project Director

# Welcome!

- Joy Campbell (she/her)
  - DDRA Project Director
  - Fulbright Program Advisor
- International education at MSU
  - Over 20 years at MSU, mostly working with Title VI programs like DDRA
  - Beginning 4<sup>th</sup> year as Fulbright advisor in International Studies & Programs (ISP)
  - Also serve as Peace Corps Prep Program Manager & MSU's Peace Corps Recruitment Office Supervisor
- Long-term international experience
  - France – 3 years (teaching, studying)
  - Morocco – 2 years (Peace Corps, teaching)





# Topics to Cover Today

- Overview of the DDRA program
  - Worldwide and MSU stats
- Eligibility
- Benefits
- Grant administration
- Application approvals
- Important dates and deadlines
- Grant period
- Application components
  - Application Narrative (Project Proposal)
  - Budget
  - Bibliography
  - Curriculum Vitæ
  - Graduate Student References
  - Foreign Language Evaluation(s)
  - Human Subjects Research Narrative
  - Host Country Supporting Materials
  - Transcript(s)



# Overview of the DDRA Program

- Mutual Education and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961
  - Commonly referred to as the Fulbright-Hays Act after Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas and Representative Wayne Hays of Ohio
- Designed to contribute to the development and improvement of the study of **modern foreign languages and area studies** in the US
- Over 6,300 fellowships awarded since 1964
- Provides funding (\$15,000-\$60,000) to doctoral students to perform **6 to 12 months of full-time research abroad** in modern foreign languages and area studies in order to complete their dissertations.

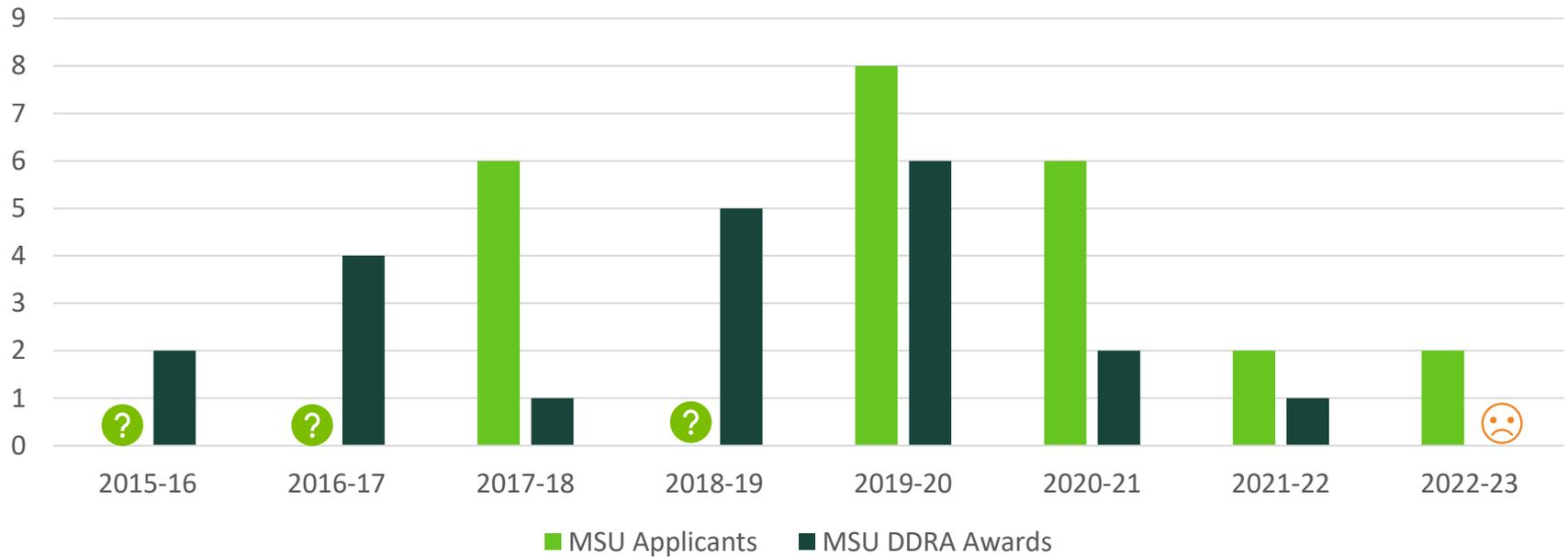
# 2021-22 DDRA Fellows Worldwide



## World Areas:

- Western Hem. – 41
- Africa – 23
- South Asia – 12
- Near East – 16
- East Asia – 22
- Southeast Asia – 17
- Central/E. Europe & Eurasia – 7

## Recent MSU DDRA Awards



## Recent MSU DDRA Locations and Topics

History – Cameroon, France, Taiwan	Cameroonian Citizen Diplomats and the PRC - Producing Knowledge and Navigating Friendship in the Cold War Era
History – Ghana, Burkina Faso, Senegal	Crafting Savanna Identity: Leatherwork as Everyday Technology in the Volta Basin
Anthropology – Mexico	Chineseness in Mexico: Transpacific Discourses in Tijuana
Teacher Education – Senegal	The Contested Terrain of Teacher Education and Employment in Senegal
History – Namibia, South Africa	Fenced Out: Labor Relations and Inter-Species Conflict on Sheep Farms in Apartheid-Era Namibia
Anthropology – Kenya	Intersectional Identity and the Development of Kenya's Technology Sector
History – Ghana	Living with Water: Recreating Identity and Adaptation in Nzulezo-Ghana
History – China (now Taiwan)	Consuming Medicine: How Public Health Campaigns Expanded the Definition of 'Medicine' in Mao's China

## Eligibility

- US citizen, national, or permanent resident
  - If you were born abroad, you cannot propose research in your birth country
- Graduate student in good standing at MSU
- Admitted to candidacy in a doctoral degree program in modern foreign languages and area studies (except for Western Europe) at MSU when the fellowship period begins
  - Must be ABD when grant begins
- Planning a teaching career in the US upon completion of PhD
- Possess sufficient foreign language skills to carry out the dissertation research project



## Benefits

- Round trip international airfare (for fellow only)
- Maintenance allowance for grantee (and dependents if any)
  - Varies by location and set by federal government; covers living expenses such as lodging, food, phone/Internet, local transportation
  - Dependents include legal spouse and unmarried children under 21
- Project allowance for research-related expenses
  - Books, digitizing/copying, affiliation fees, travel within country
  - Does not cover interpreters or research assistants
- Supplemental health and accident insurance

# Grant Administration

- Administered by the International and Foreign Language Education Office (IFLE) of the US Department of Education (ED)
- Institutional grant awarded to MSU, not individual students
  - No direct communication between the applicant and ED
  - MSU disburses funds to fellows and reconciles expenses
- PI for the grant is Dr. Ashley Green
  - Assistant Dean of Administration, International Studies and Programs
- Project Director for the grant is Ms. Joy Campbell
  - Fulbright-Hays Project Director, International Studies and Programs
  - Fulbright Program Advisor, International Studies and Programs





## Application Approvals

- Research narrative must be approved by dissertation advisor and project director
- Budget must be approved by project director and fiscal officer
- Human Subjects Statements must be approved by dissertation advisor and project director (and have an IRB plan)
- Application package must be approved by MSU's Office of Sponsored Programs
  - The application package will not be held back to accommodate individual applicants who do not meet the deadlines.

# Important Dates and Deadlines

- Publication date of the Notice Inviting Applications varies widely
  - Once the NIA is published, we expect a 60-day period before the deadline.
- Start planning now!
  - Talk to dissertation advisor
  - Let me know you are planning to apply
- Interim deadlines and information sessions will be announced after NIA
- Award notification expected in late August to mid-September; comes from project director

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>NIA Published</b>	<b>National Deadline</b>	<b>Days from NIA to Due Date</b>
2012	Tuesday, May 15, 2012	Thursday, June 14, 2012	30
2013	Thursday, May 2, 2013	Monday, June 3, 2013	32
2014	Monday, May 19, 2014	Tuesday, June 24, 2014	36
2015	Friday, February 27, 2015	Tuesday, April 28, 2015	60
2016	Tuesday, March 22, 2016	Friday, May 6, 2016	45
2017	Friday, January 13, 2017	Tuesday, March 14, 2017	60
2018	Wednesday, May 16, 2018	Monday, July 2, 2018	47
2019	Thursday, January 24, 2019	Monday, March 25, 2019	60
2020	Tuesday, December 17, 2019	Tuesday, February 18, 2020	63
2021	Thursday, February 4, 2021	Monday, April 5, 2021	60
2022	Wednesday, February 2, 2022	Wednesday, April 6, 2022	63



## Grant Period

- Grant timeline coincides with Federal fiscal year
- October 1, 2023 to March 31, 2025
  - Minimum time in field: 6 months
  - Maximum time in field: 12 months
  - Earliest departure date: November 1, 2023
  - Latest departure date: Late summer 2024 (would allow six-month stay plus post-grant reporting and evaluations)





# Important Considerations

- Must comport yourself as appropriate for a representative of the US and MSU
- Must remain at research site for duration of grant
  - All dependents must travel with fellow to and from research site
  - No permission to attend conferences, even if research-related
- May not hold an assistantship (GA, TA, RA) while you are doing your DDRA
- Except for death in immediate family, fellow will not be able to return to the US
  - No family reunions, weddings, or family visits even in dire circumstances
- Grant is put in hiatus status if fellow must leave research site
  - Hiatus period is added to the end of grant to complete actual research period
- Must maintain contact with Project Director, Fulbright Commission, and US Embassy
- Must conform with Fly America Act
- Award is taxable



# Application Components

- Application Narrative (Project Proposal)
  - Addresses program selection criteria following a strict outline
- Budget
  - Applicant drafts budget, which is then approved by fiscal officer and OSP
- Bibliography
- Curriculum Vitæ
  - Tailored to this specific project
- Graduate Student References (3)
  - One must be from dissertation advisor
- Foreign Language Evaluation(s)
  - One for each language of research
- Human Subjects Research Narrative
- Host Country Supporting Materials
  - Letter(s) of support from host institution(s)
- Transcript(s)
  - Graduate transcripts must be included
  - Undergraduate transcripts may be submitted if they demonstrate language and/or area studies coursework



## Application Narrative (Project Proposal)

- Describes proposed project while addressing program selection criteria listed in NIA
  - 10 letter-size pages maximum, double spaced, 1-inch margins, 12-point font (Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New, or Arial)
  - Narrative should clearly parallel Technical Review Form and answer all questions thoroughly
    - Quality of proposed project (60 points, 6 questions)
    - Qualifications of the applicant (40 points, 4 questions)
    - Competitive preference priorities (up to 7 bonus points last year)
  - Consider host country political sensitivities, visa requirements, safety and security concerns



# Budget

- Budgets must be submitted to me and approved by the fiscal officer.
  - We will provide a sample budget and hold an information session.
- Budget categories
  - International airfare
  - Maintenance allowance (including dependents, if applicable)
    - Calculated by location using federal worksheet
    - Rent, food, local transportation, phone, Internet
  - Project expenses
    - Photocopies, travel between research sites, archive fees
  - Health and accident insurance





# References and Language Evaluation

- Graduate Student References
  - Three required, one of which must be from the dissertation advisor
  - Each referee completes form online and uploads letter
- Language Evaluation
  - Required for language(s) of research
  - Each evaluator completes form online and uploads reference explaining how evaluation was conducted
  - If your language of research is English, or your native/heritage language, you may not be eligible for points in the language question on the technical review form.



# Other Application Components

- Bibliography
  - 2 letter-size pages maximum (in addition to the 10-page narrative)
  - Same formatting specifications as narrative
- CV
  - No prescribed length
  - Highlight area studies courses and language training on first page
- Human Subjects Narrative
  - Brief narrative justifying exempt or non-exempt status of proposed project.
  - You do not need to have IRB approval to apply, but you will need it before research begins.
- Transcript(s)
  - Graduate transcripts required; undergraduate may be included if there are significant area studies or other related courses





# Next Steps



Connect with me!

**Joy Campbell**

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Schedule an appointment

Visit 216 International Center



Visit MSU's Fulbright site:

**[isp.msu.edu/fulbright](http://isp.msu.edu/fulbright)**

Complete the Fulbright  
Program Interest Survey

General information

DDRA-specific pages

Link to Dept. of Education

DDRA page



Speak with your  
**dissertation advisor**  
about plans and timing



**Begin drafting** your  
narrative and preparing  
other documents



# Any Remaining Questions?

