

# Fulbright-Nokia Distinguished Chair in Information and Communications Technologies

## Award Autogenerated Code

10475-FI

## Region

Europe and Eurasia

## Country

Finland

## Award Type

Fulbright Distinguished Scholar Award

## Number of Recipients

Up To 3

## Award Allowances

The monthly grant is €5,600 EUR (approx. \$6,200), paid in euros in monthly installments. The maximum amount for a nine-month grant is €50,400 EUR (approx. \$56,000). *Please note: amounts in USD are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.*

There are no separate allowances for accompanying dependents.

Housing for the scholar and accompanying family members is expected to be arranged and paid for by the host institution; this information should be confirmed in the letter of invitation. Applicants should communicate their housing needs to the host institution as early as possible, so that appropriate housing can be arranged.

## Estimated Travel and Relocation Allowance for Grantee

A one-time travel allowance of \$2,000 is provided.

For Flex grants: round trip travel will be included for each segment of the grant.

## Additional Dependent Benefits

No dependent tuition allowance is offered, but K-16 education in Finland is generally free or heavily subsidized.

The Finnish school system is considered one of the best in the world. Finland has been one of the top performers in the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA), an ongoing study administered every three years that tests the math, reading and science literacy of 15-year-olds in OECD nations. Average group sizes in basic education in Finland have for a long time been below the OECD average.

Instruction in English is available in Helsinki and other bigger cities at kindergartens, elementary and secondary schools, as well as at the university level.

Early childhood education is pedagogically planned education, teaching and care, with carefully considered developmental goals. All early education teachers and caretakers are trained within national guidelines. Families are expected to pay a small fee for public daycare/päiväkoti (approx. €200-400 EUR/month) even though it is heavily subsidized. Private daycares may cost more. Usually, one of the parents stays at home with children until they are nine months old.

Preschool education prepares children for comprehensive school. Children normally enter preschool education at the age of six and comprehensive school at the age of seven. After comprehensive school (grades 1-9), students enter upper secondary institutes that include upper secondary school and vocational institutes. Finnish schools are generally free of charge, although some special schools, such as private international schools, may charge tuition.

In universities, non-EU students pay tuition fees in English-taught Bachelor's or Master's degree programs.

## Candidate Profile

Distinguished Chair

## Activity Type

Research

Teaching/Research

## Application Deadline

Closed

## Award Activity

The Fulbright-Nokia Distinguished Chair in Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) offers a unique opportunity for a U.S. scholar and/or specialist to engage in international research, collaboration, teaching and lecturing at a higher education institution in Finland.

The research questions are expected to be related to the digital infrastructure of future societies and industries, as well as directly connected to disciplines of the digitalization era. Topical research areas of interest include software or hardware and algorithms, data science, advanced network technologies and design issues related to digitalization. Research agendas in law, policy, and business practices, directly related to the evolution of technology and ICT, will also be considered.

The Fulbright-Nokia Distinguished Chair in ICT award emphasizes projects that prioritize active research work, including publications, yet also include lecturing and/or supervising students. While the main aim of this Chair position is designed to promote international exchange, the selected Chair is encouraged to participate in and explore research collaboration, write joint publications with Finnish colleagues, develop international exchange collaboration between the U.S. home and Finnish host institution, and otherwise engage with the host community. Fulbright scholars are often invited to lecture in other Finnish higher education institutions. The Fulbright-Nokia Chair may also be asked to give a guest lecture at Nokia.

The scholar and the Finnish host institution work together in designing the Chair position activities. Candidates should discuss and come to an agreement with the host about the ratio of teaching to research, as well as the number and level of courses to be taught. The host may expect the scholar to supervise students who are completing their master's theses or Ph.D. dissertations. A research and teaching plan should be included in the project statement of the Distinguished Chair application.

If a scholar proposes to collaborate with more than one host institution, the project statement must clearly indicate the exact period of time the scholar will be affiliated with each host.

Visit the [Program Homepage](#) <sup>[1]</sup>. The Fulbright-Nokia Distinguished Chair is jointly funded by the [Nokia Foundation](#) <sup>[2]</sup> and the [Fulbright Finland Foundation](#) <sup>[3]</sup> (the Finnish Fulbright commission).

## Award Length and Period

Three to nine months; please see the Flex Option.

Grants must begin in late August 2022, unless otherwise agreed upon with the Fulbright Finland Foundation.

The academic year in Finnish higher education institutions begins in September and ends in May. The Finnish host department is able to give details on the term structure and teaching periods.

## Locations Text

Finland is technologically one of the most advanced countries in the world. One quarter of the Finnish labor force is directly or indirectly employed by the technology industry and three quarters of private-sector R&D investment goes to the technology sector. The size and the role of Information and Communications Technologies in the Finnish economy and R&D have grown considerably along with Nokia's worldwide success and subsequently very active technology startup scene. The purpose of the Fulbright-Nokia Distinguished Chair in Information and Communications Technologies is to enhance cooperation with Finnish and U.S. universities and academics in this field.

Candidates are expected to secure an affiliation with a Finnish institution and include a letter of invitation in the application. Assistance in locating possible host institutions and making connections is available from the Fulbright Finland Foundation, if needed.

## Flex Option

Yes

## Flex Description

The award can be split into two segments within one academic year. Each segment must be a minimum of three months and together the two segments cannot exceed nine months.

The Flex Award is designed for scholars who require multiple visits to the host country. This option allows grants to be conducted over short segments, during the fall and/or spring semesters in one academic year. Applicants should clearly indicate plans for Flex in their project statement, including a project timeline.

Flex grant parameters:

- Maximum length of the total grant is nine months.

- Minimum length for any grant segment is three months.
- Two grant segments must be spread over one academic year.

### **Discipline Type**

Only projects in the following disciplines will be considered

#### **Disciplines**

Communication

Computer Science

Engineering

Information Sciences/Systems

#### **Areas of Interest**

While this award is open to any project in the disciplines listed above, there is a special interest in scholars who work in the following specialty areas: Telecommunications, Communications Engineering, Computer Science and Engineering, Electronics and Electrical Engineering, Electronics and Components Design, Data Science, and Engineering and Materials. Interdisciplinary research specializations that directly focus on the evolution of technology and ICT will also be considered.

### **Special Features**

Together with a welcoming and intriguing environment, Finland offers interesting opportunities for U.S. researchers and lecturers, both professionally and socially. One can experience a way of life in Finland that combines a dynamic urban culture with a richly diverse natural environment. It is very common for a Fulbright scholar to take his/her family along to Finland. The experience can be life-changing, not only for the scholar, but for the spouse and children as well. Please visit the following websites to begin your search:

- [Research in Finland](#)<sup>[4]</sup>
- [Universities in Finland](#)<sup>[5]</sup>

### **Degree Requirements**

Ph.D. (or other terminal degree) required

#### **Additional Qualification Information**

During the selection process, some applicants may be invited to a Zoom call in mid-January 2022.

Candidates should have a prominent record of scholarly accomplishment, including a significant publication record. Projects that prioritize active research work and publications yet also include lectures and student supervision are particularly encouraged.

Additionally, candidates in all Fulbright programs are reviewed on the project's contribution to the objectives of the Fulbright Program as well as on the adaptability and suitability of the candidate to act as a Fulbright Ambassador for the U.S. in Finland.

### **Additional Language Requirement**

An international scholar does not need the official languages of Finnish or Swedish in order to be able to live in Finland. English is widely spoken in academic circles. However, should the candidate's planned research project specifically require Finnish, feasibility of conducting research must be demonstrated in the project statement.

### **Invitation Requirement**

A letter of invitation is required.

#### **Additional Comments**

**Fulbright Finland Foundation** encourages potential applicants to visit its website for further information and contact the office directly with any questions:

office(at)fulbright.fi  
tel: +358 44 5535 286

### **Leasa Weimer, PhD**

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(Distinguished Chair Program Coordinator)

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### **Contacts and Helpful Links**

[Fulbright Finland](#)<sup>[3]</sup>

Information on the [Fulbright-Nokia Distinguished Chair in Information and Communications Technologies](#)<sup>[1]</sup> award on the

Fulbright Finland website

[This is Finland](#) <sup>[6]</sup> (Finnish culture, politics, history, society, etc.)

[The Nokia Foundation](#) <sup>[7]</sup>

The Official Travel site of Finland: [Visit Finland](#) <sup>[8]</sup>

[Studies and Research in Finland](#)<sup>[9]</sup>

## Multi-Country/Area Award

No

## Award Length Filter

Flex

Three to six months

Seven to 10 months

## Invitation Requirement Additional Information

The Distinguished Chair application should include a letter of invitation from a Finnish higher education institution. The letter should include information on the agreed teaching and research plan, details of housing, and length and dates of the proposed visit (Finnish host institution should refer to these [instructions](#) <sup>[10]</sup>).

**NOTE:** Late June, July and early August are traditionally summer vacation months in Finland and responses to inquiries may be delayed. Applicants are advised to contact the Finnish host institution well in advance to solicit an invitation letter for their application.

## Award Code

12161-FI

## AddThis

## Award Year

[2022-2023 Awards](#) <sup>[11]</sup>

## Special Award Benefits

Finnish medical care is of high quality and low cost. At some institutions Fulbright Scholars have access to the university health care services provided for faculty and staff.

The Fulbright Finland Foundation in Helsinki arranges a four-day orientation for scholars at the end of August, which scholars arriving for the fall semester are expected to attend. In addition, the Fulbright Finland Foundation organizes lectures and visits throughout the academic year for the Fulbright scholars to deepen their understanding of the Finnish culture.

Awards in the Fulbright Distinguished Chairs Program are viewed as among the most prestigious appointments in the Fulbright Scholar Program.

## Language Proficiency Requirements

None, English is sufficient. However, feasibility of conducting the project must be demonstrated in the project statement.

## Career Profile

Mid-Career Academics

Senior Academics

## Scholars selected for this award can choose to:

- Advise and/or mentor students
- Assist in faculty, curriculum, and/or program development
- Conduct a research project of the applicant's choosing
- Teach graduate and/or undergraduate courses of the applicant's choosing

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## Links

[1] <https://www.fulbright.fi/fulbright-nokia-distinguished-chair-information-and-communications-technologies>

[2] <http://nokiafoundation.com/>

[3] <https://www.fulbright.fi/>

[4] <http://minedu.fi/en/higher-education-and-research>

[5] <http://minedu.fi/en/universities>

[6] <https://finland.fi/>

[7] <http://www.nokiafoundation.com/>

[8] <http://www.visitfinland.com/>

[9] <https://www.fulbright.fi/grant-programs-finland/studies-and-research-finland>

[10] <https://www.fulbright.fi/instructions-finnish-institutions-inviting-us-scholars-finland>

[11] <https://awards.cies.org/award-years/2022-2023-awards>

