



FULBRIGHT

Scholar Program

Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program: Opportunities in the Western Hemisphere for 2025-2026

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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.



Today's Presentation

- Program Overview
- Eligibility and Types of Awards
- Awards in the Western Hemisphere
- Application Cycle and Tips
- Q&A Box





MISSION

- In partnership with **160 countries worldwide**, Fulbright offers passionate and accomplished faculty, administrators, artists, journalists, lawyers, and other professionals from all backgrounds an **unparalleled opportunity to study, teach, or conduct research**.
- Our mission is to **foster mutual understanding** between nations, **advance knowledge** across communities, and improve lives around the world.

A BRIEF HISTORY

- Established in 1946 by Congress, Fulbright is the United States government's **flagship international educational and cultural exchange program**.
- Fulbright 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.





Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Accessibility

The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the United States Department of State strives to embed diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) in all aspects of its work. Public diplomacy is most effective when people of diverse backgrounds and perspectives participate in people-to-people exchanges and programs to promote mutual understanding. The Bureau incorporates DEIA best practices throughout its exchanges and programs, grants, community partnerships, and in its workforce and workplace. ECA is committed to addressing barriers based on race, ethnicity, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion, geographic location, education, income, socio-economic status, and other diversity dimensions, that may hinder inclusion in the organization. The Bureau's commitment to DEIA strengthens U.S. foreign policy and is vital to building trust and partnerships here at home and around the world.





Fulbright by the Numbers

The Fulbright Program funds over **8,000 awards** annually:

900

U.S. scholars and
administrators

900

Visiting
scholars

2,200

U.S.
students

4,000

foreign
students

400

language
teaching
assistants





Fulbright U.S. Scholar Awards give opportunities to U.S. citizens to teach, research, carry out professional projects, and participate in seminars around the world.

Why Fulbright?

Fulbright is transformational.

- Foster sustainable partnerships
- Expand your publishing network and gain new teaching perspectives
- Serve as a cultural ambassador
- Gain the professional recognition as being identified as a Fulbright Scholar
- Join a vibrant and supportive alumni network!





Why Fulbright?



Fulbright is family-friendly.

- Approximately **60%** of our awards provide **dependent support**
- Many Fulbright dependents go on to have international careers





Why Fulbright?

Fulbright is supportive.

- **70% of applicants** engage with IIE staff
- **Continued support** while in country from IIE and host country staff
- Access to Fulbright **scholar liaisons** and **alumni** as resources





Eligibility for U.S. Scholar Program

- **U.S. citizenship**
- **Degree and experience**, as required by award:
 - Ph.D. or other terminal degree
 - MA and higher education teaching or professional experience
 - Professional and/or artistic experience with substantial accomplishments
 - Teaching experience as required
- **Compliance with policies** on previous Fulbright Scholar awards: two year waiting period between Fulbright U.S. Scholar award and next application





What can a Fulbright U.S. Scholar do? Start by finding your award!

Over 400 individual awards in more than 100 countries to **teach, research, teach AND conduct research** (listed as **teaching/research**), carry out a **professional project** or attend a **seminar**:

fulbrightscholars.org/awards/search

Select ***one award*** that suits your profile as a scholar, your project and your goals – and apply!





Fulbright U.S. Scholar Awards

Award Types that support research, teaching, and/or professional projects:

- Postdoctoral Awards
- Scholar Awards
- Distinguished Scholar Awards

Awards vary from **2-12 months**



Over 60 countries allow for the **Flex option**, which lets you divide a longer grant into two to three visits over up to two years, depending on the award.





Fulbright U.S. Scholar Awards – FPPF and IEA

- **Fulbright Public Policy Fellowship (FPPF):** Early and mid-career public policy professionals serve in foreign government ministries or institutions
- **Fulbright International Education Administrator (IEA) Awards:** Higher education administrators participate in seminars to learn about a country's higher education system and context.





Selecting the Right Award

- **Match** country interest, expertise, career profile, and proposal to the award description
- **Language ability** (if applicable)
- **Discipline preferences**, when specified
- **Project relevance** to the host country and/or institution
- **Benefits** to you and your community

Remember: *you can only apply for **ONE AWARD** per application cycle*



Teaching

Research

Teaching/
Research

Professional
Project



Western Hemisphere: Opportunities for 2025-26

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North America

- Carlos Rico (Canada and Mexico): [Award for North American Studies](#)
- Canada – webinar!
- Mexico – webinar!
 - Border Award





Caribbean

- Trinidad and Tobago: [All Disciplines](#)
- Guyana: [STEM/Agriculture/Strategic Security](#)

- Bahamas
- Barbados and Eastern Caribbean
 - Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- Dominican Republic
- Jamaica

* France's [All Disciplines](#), [Tocqueville Distinguished](#), and [French Studies](#) awards allow grants in Guadeloupe, Martinique, Réunion, and French Guiana.





Central America

- El Salvador: [All Disciplines](#)
- Belize
- Costa Rica
- Guatemala
- Honduras
- Panama





Andes/Amazon

- Suriname: [All Disciplines](#)
- Brazil: [FAPESP Network](#)
– webinar!

- Bolivia
- Colombia – webinar!
- Ecuador
- Peru
- *Amazonia*





Southern Cone

- Uruguay: [Agriculture](#)
- Paraguay





Patagonia

- Chile: [Distinguished Scholar Awards](#)
- Argentina





Application Components

Requirements:

- ✓ Application Form
- ✓ Project Statement
- ✓ Curriculum Vitae or Resume
- ✓ 2 Letters of Recommendation
- ✓ Language Proficiency Report *(if required)*
- ✓ Letter of Invitation *(if required)*

Supplemental Materials:

- ✓ Course outlines or syllabi *(for teaching)*
- ✓ Reference list *(for research)*
- ✓ Portfolio submissions *(for artists, architects, and journalists)*





Tips for a strong application:



Before you start, **read your award's description carefully** to ensure you meet all requirements and your proposed project is possible.



Start application and enter referees' information **as soon as possible.**



Take advantage of IIE resources, including webinars, office hours and application guidance on our website.





Application Cycle

The 2025-26 Fulbright U.S. Scholar Competition: Now Open!

FEBRUARY	Competition Opens
SEPTEMBER 16	Application Deadline
SEPTEMBER	Program staff conducts technical reviews for completeness
OCTOBER – NOVEMBER	U.S. peer review
NOVEMBER – JANUARY	Applicants notified of status. Recommended applications are sent to host countries and to the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.
JANUARY – JUNE	Final decisions are made
JUNE – ONWARD	Participants prepare for departure



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VISIT fulbrightscholars.org to learn more about the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program

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