

Fulbright Grants

The United States Congress created the Fulbright Program in 1946, immediately after World War II, to foster mutual understanding among nations through educational and cultural exchange. With this as a starting point, the Fulbright Program has provided more than 234,000 participants—chosen for their leadership potential—with the opportunity to observe each others' political, economic and cultural institutions, exchange ideas and embark on joint ventures of importance to the general welfare of the world's inhabitants. Since the establishment of the Program, 84,000 students from the United States and 146,000 students from other countries have benefited from the Fulbright experience. The U.S. Student Program awards approximately 900 grants annually and currently operates in over 140 countries worldwide. The primary source of funding for the Fulbright Program is an annual appropriation made by Congress to the Department of State. Participating governments and host institutions in foreign countries, and in the United States, also contribute financially through cost-sharing and indirect support, such as salary supplements, tuition waivers, university housing, etc. The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the Department of State, under the policy guidelines established by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board (FSB) and in cooperation with a bi-national Fulbright Commissions and Foundations and Public Affairs Sections of U.S. Embassies abroad sponsors the Program. The Institute of International Education (IIE) coordinates the activities relevant to the U.S. Student Program and conducts an annual competition for the scholarships, most of which are for one academic year of study or research.

Program Design:

The U.S. Student Program is designed to give recent B.S./B.A. graduates, master's and doctoral candidates, and young professionals and artists opportunities for personal development and international experience. Most grantees plan their own programs. Projects may include university coursework, independent library or field research, classes in a music conservatory or art school, special projects in the social or life sciences, or a combination. Recent projects have involved cancer research in the UK, free market development in Mauritius, women's rights in Chile and contemporary artistic expression in India. Along with opportunities for intellectual, professional, and artistic growth, the Fulbright Program offers invaluable opportunities to meet and work with people of the host country, sharing daily life as well as professional and creative insights. The program promotes cross-cultural interaction and mutual understanding on a person-to-person basis in an atmosphere of openness, academic integrity, and intellectual freedom. The best way to appreciate others' viewpoints, their beliefs, the way they think, and the way they do things, is to interact with them directly on an individual basis—work with them, live with them, teach with them, learn with them, and learn from them.

Fulbright Full Grants

These grants generally provide:

- round-trip transportation
- language or orientation courses
- where appropriate; tuition
- in some cases; book and research allowances
- maintenance for the academic year, based on living costs in the host country
- supplemental health and accident insurance

Fulbright full grants are payable in local currency or U.S. dollars, depending on the country of assignment.

Fulbright Travel Grants

Travel grants are available only to Germany, Hungary, or Italy. They are available to supplement an award from a non-IIE source that does not provide funds for travel or to supplement a student's own funds for study.

Travel grants provide:

- round-trip transportation to the country where the student will pursue studies for an academic year
- supplemental health and accident insurance
- cost of an orientation course abroad

Foreign and Private Grants

The specific benefits and special requirements of grants offered by foreign governments, universities, and private donors can be found in the Individual Country Summaries. Where the awards do not cover the entire expense of foreign study (e.g., international travel) candidates are expected to cover the additional costs from their own funds. As indicated above, some foreign grants may be supplemented by Fulbright travel grants.

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www.iie.org/FulbrightTemplate.cfm?Section=U_S_Student_Program