

Fulbright U.S. Scholar Opportunities in Sub-Saharan Africa 2027-2028

Webinar Q&A Box Questions and Answers

These questions have been anonymized. Any question too specific to any one applicant has been removed.

Question	Answer
If you are on the Specialist Roster and receive a Scholar award, can you fulfill both?	Thank you for your question! Yes, you can receive both but you cannot do the awards at the same time.
About how many opportunities for each country in Southern Africa?	Thank you for your question! They vary for each country, and you need to look at each award individually on our website.
What does Madagascar focus on?	Thank you for your question! Madagascar is an All Disciplines award, so they are open to any academic field. However, they do have a list of Areas of Interest on the award, that gives more specifics about the disciplines they hope to prioritize.
Should we be open to applying to countries that have US entry restrictions - as per the current admin?	Thank you for your question! All the countries that are listed on our award page are welcoming applicants.
I have two questions: 1) Can a colleague who is not in my field, but in my institution. But have done research with me. 2) Which is best to use CV or Resume.	Thank you for your question! I am assuming you are asking about the recommendation letter? Yes, they can serve as a recommender. And we use both CV and resume. We recommend whichever summarizes your work experience best.
If you are applying for a Fulbright grant for a second time, do you have to create a new account or can you use your current account? Thanks.	Thank you for your question! Please use the same account and do not make a second one. If you need to change emails, please emails us at scholars@iie.org and we can do that for you.
What supports are available to help meet any institutional leave requirements (e.g., course buyouts, etc.)?	Thank you for your question! We recommend you talk to your leadership and give them advance notice and also talk to your Fulbright Scholar Liaison on your campus if you have one. Check with alumni on your campus and ask them about their experience with getting leave.
Can we apply for next year summer around time?	Thank you for your question! This competition welcomes applications for 2027-28 academic year (fall 2027 and spring 2028)

<p>Can you speak to Fulbright's protocols for monitoring political stability in host countries and what resources are available to fellows if security conditions deteriorate? I'm also curious about how program interruptions are handled in terms of academic continuity and re-entry.</p>	<p>Thank you for your question! Any country that is on the list will have a partnership with the Fulbright Program and is considered safe unless otherwise noted.</p>
<p>Do we need ourselves to find the host institutions in the abroad?</p>	<p>Thank you for your question! Yes, you are expected to review the award descriptions, and most awards will have a list of preferred institutions or their websites, so you need to reach out to them and see if they are interested in hosting you.</p>
<p>Within the same year, seeing that specialist is a two-week timeframe?</p>	<p>Thank you for your question! You cannot do a Specialist and the Scholar award at the exact same time; you must select different times and it can be within the same year.</p>
<p>In Southern Africa you did not include the numbers per country as you did in other regions. Could you specify that per country?</p>	<p>Thank you for your question! You can find that information on our website as each award and each country will indicate the number of selected participants.</p>
<p>So, is it weird when people at universities in these other countries just get random emails from people in the U.S. they've never heard of asking for some sort of recommendation? Or are they used to that?</p>	<p>Thank you for your question! Many institutions abroad are familiar with the Fulbright Program and therefore will welcome your email. For additional information on making connections abroad, please see our website: https://fulbrightscholars.org/us-scholar-awards#steps</p>
<p>Hello. To confirm, can I be reminded of what the liaison sector of the scholar applicant process supports?</p>	<p>Thank you for your question! The Liaison is your Fulbright campus representative on your campus if you have one at your campus that they can connect you with resources on your campus to learn the leave policies. We do not have leave supporting policies.</p>
<p>I am an early career faculty researcher, with research funding from the NIH through 2029. I plan to apply for a Fulbright two years from now. What steps do you recommend so that I will be ready for the application in 2028?</p>	<p>Thank you for your question! We recommend that you establish connections with potential hosts now and when you are ready it will be much easier to connect with them and work on a collaborative project.</p>
<p>Why is it so hard to get people to respond to requests for invitation letters?</p>	<p>Thank you for your question! That's a great question and it all depends on the host and the institution. But we recommend reaching out to several contacts and see who responds. Good luck!</p>

<p>I was back and forth with the Embassy person and the POC they wanted to connect me to but still not successful.</p>	<p>Thank you for your question! We suggest maybe trying a different host.</p>
<p>I cannot be gone from the office for an entire term but would I be able to do a flex application to help universities in Ivory Coast, Senegal or an anglophone country.</p>	<p>Thank you for your question! We recommend you look for an award that supports the flex option.</p>
<p>I am interested in the Flex option to work with multiple countries. Is there any guidance or expectation with regards to how much time is spent in each of the host countries?</p>	<p>Thank you for your question! Every award that offers the flex option will list the timeframes and the time you can do the award.</p>
<p>Can a couple from the same family apply for the same country?</p>	<p>Thank you for your question! Yes, but only as individual applicants and not with the same project idea.</p>
<p>Does being a dual citizen work against you?</p>	<p>Thank you for your question! Every country will have specific eligibility requirements for dual citizens so please review the award requirements.</p>
<p>When you say one needs a recommendation from one's "home institution," who typically writes that?</p>	<p>Thank you for your question! You supervisor, head of department or a colleague that knows your work well.</p>
<p>Are NGO's considered appropriate host institutions?</p>	<p>Thank you for your question! Yes. But please check the award preferred hosts in the selected country.</p>
<p>Does the Flex option allow you to travel to an Asian country and an African country. I am interested in Indonesia and Madagascar.</p>	<p>Thank you for your question! Yes, I suggest you consider the Global Scholar award that allows you to do an award in at least 2 world regions, maximum 3 world regions and they allow the flex options.</p>
<p>What if the NGO is not on the preferred list?</p>	<p>Thank you for your question! Then please email us to confirm at subsaharanafrika@iie.org.</p>