



FULBRIGHT

Welcome to

What's New with Fulbright?

April 28, 2026

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What's New with Fulbright in 2026

Today's Presentation

- Overview of the *Fulbright Program*
 - Fulbright *Student Program*
 - Fulbright *Scholar Program*
 - Fulbright *Specialist Program*
 - Fulbright *Outreach Lecturing Fund (OLF)*
 - Fulbright *Scholar-in-Residence (SIR)*
 - Fulbright *Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Program*
- Next Steps





The Fulbright Program

Background

- Created in 1946 by U.S. Congress
- Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), as its flagship program
- Implemented by bi-national Commissions and U.S. Embassies abroad.
- Supports research, teaching, and professional projects abroad in 130 countries and locations.
- Awards are merit-based and selected through a multi-step review process, including peer review, host country review, and final approval by the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board (FFSB).





2026: A Year of Milestones



**Highlighting Fulbrighters
exemplifying American
excellence worldwide**



**Celebrating 80 years of
academic exchange
and bi-national impact**



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Fulbright Student Program

Andra Jacques

Assistant Director, Fulbright U.S. Student Program, IIE

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Program Award Types



Study/Research Award

Independent research, study, or arts projects abroad



800+
Awards



6-12
Months



~140
Countries

English Teaching Assistantship (ETA)

Help teach English and U.S. culture in the classroom



1000+
Awards



8-10
Months



~75
Countries





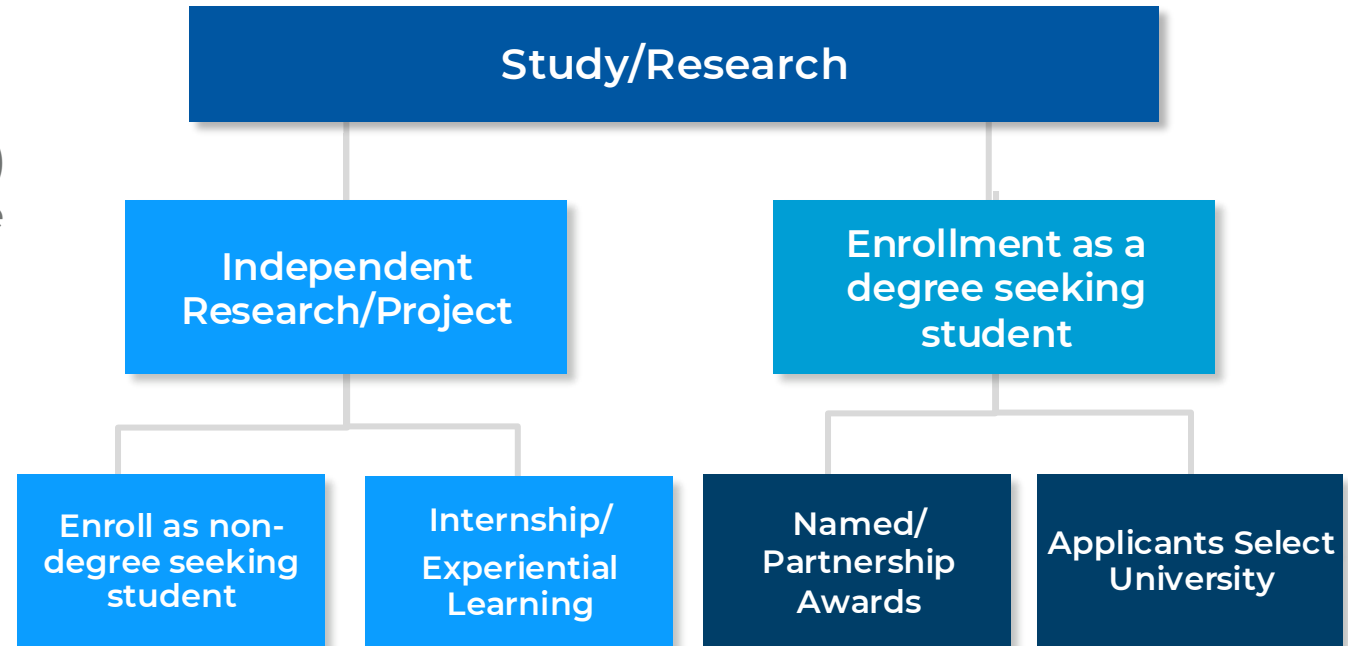
Award & Application Trends

Overview:

- **123 awards** in **33 countries** currently offer graduate degree opportunities
- Annually, a minimum of **144** (maximum of 365) students receive grants to undertake graduate degree enrollment.

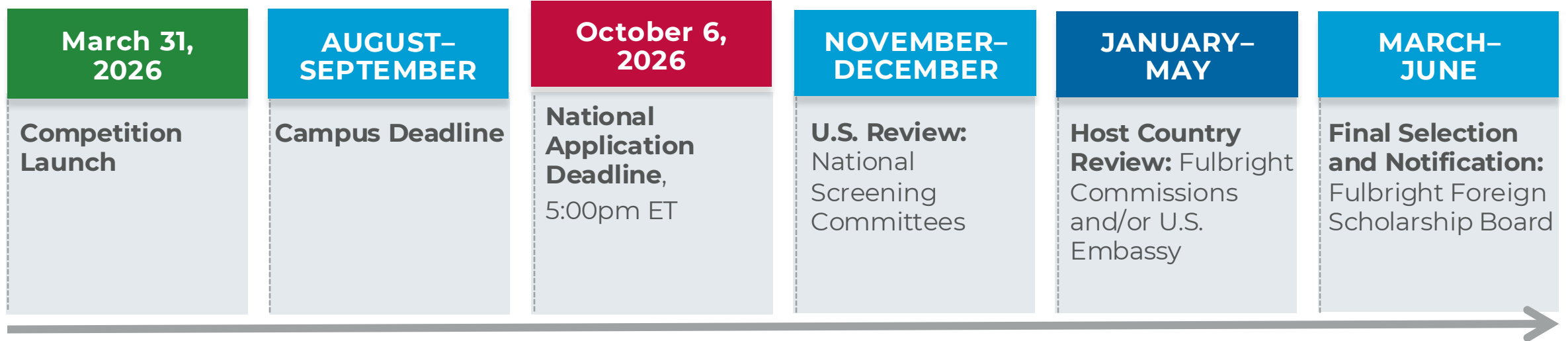
Applicant Interest & Competitiveness

- **17%-43%** of Study/Research grants are awarded to graduate degree candidates.
- Over **50% of academic applicants** have proposed graduate degree enrollment for the last three application cycles.





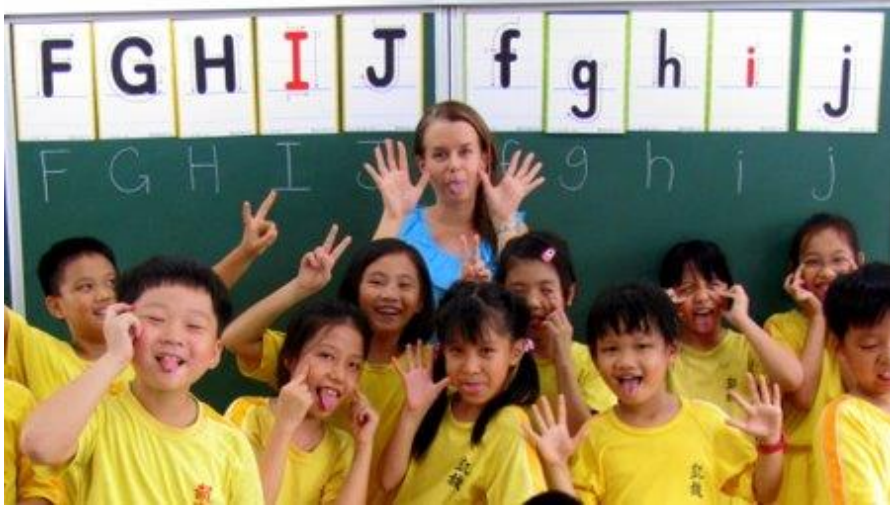
Application Timeline



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New Awards

Country	Award Title
Taiwan	Research Partnership Award: Academia Sinica
South Pacific	South Pacific Island Nations ETA
France	Fulbright-CESI College of Engineering Doctoral Research Award
Italy	Fulbright/Fondazione Falcone-NIAF Award to Promote The Rule of Law
Bolivia	English Teaching Assistantship (ETA) Award
Chile	Lithium Award Partnerships Award





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Fulbright Scholar Program

Amy Marrion

Outreach and Recruitment Specialist

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Program Award Types

2027-28 Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program

380

AWARDS

130+

COUNTRIES & LOCATIONS

2-12

MONTHS

TYPES OF AWARDS

Research

Teaching

Research & Teaching

Professional Projects

Seminars
(two weeks)



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Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program

Award Highlights 2027-28



All Fulbright Scholars receive support from *application throughout their award* from IIE, binational Fulbright Commissions, and U.S. Embassies and Posts.



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New Awards 2027-28

Fulbright U.S. Scholar Awards

Country	Award Title
Israel	U.S. - Israel International Education Administrators Award
Philippines	Fulbright Scholar Award – Philippine Space Agency Program in Space Science and Technology Applications
Chile	Lithium Award Partnerships Award
Qatar	Cybersecurity Research and Teaching at UDST
Brazil	Fulbright-FAPESP Postdoctoral Awards
Canada	Fulbright Canada Entrepreneurship Initiative (FCEI)



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International Education Administrator (IEA) Awards

- Funded two-week seminars for administrators (staff and leadership) with international education responsibilities
- Check the award requirements tab of the description for country specific requirements
- Faculty can participate, but only if they serve as an administrator with international responsibilities, such as a president, director, dean or chair
 - IEA awards do not support research or teaching.



<https://fulbrightscholars.org/us-scholar-awards/IEA>





Fulbright IEA Seminar Offerings for 2027-28

Location	Applicant Profile	Seminar Dates	Application Deadline
Taiwan	Senior Leadership & Student-facing Roles	March 2027	September 15, 2026
France-Senegal	HBCU Senior Leadership	March-April 2027	September 15, 2026
NEW Israel	Senior Leadership	June 2027	November 2, 2026
Japan	Senior Leadership & Student-facing Roles	June 2027	November 2, 2026
France	Senior Leadership	October 2027	February 1, 2027
South Korea	Senior Leadership & Student-facing Roles	October-November 2027	February 1, 2027
Germany	Senior Leadership & Student-facing Roles	October-November 2027	February 1, 2027



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Application Cycle

FEBRUARY	Competition Opens
SEPTEMBER 15	Application Deadline
SEPTEMBER	IIE staff conducts Preliminary Screening
OCTOBER – NOVEMBER	U.S. Peer Review
DECEMBER	Applicants notified of Peer Review result
DECEMBER – JUNE	Selection process takes place and notifications sent
JUNE – ONWARD	Participants are selected and prepare for departure



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Engaging with the Fulbright Scholar Program



Explore 380+ awards on our website



Attend Weekly Office Hours & Webinars



Discover the IEA Program



Establish a Scholar Liaison on campus



Review Campus Policies with Leadership



Highlight Fulbright Alum to Campus Community



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apply.iie.org/register/newsletter



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Fulbright Specialist Program

Amirah Nelson
fulbrightspecialist@worldlearning.org

Fulbright Specialist Program

Established in 2001, the Fulbright Specialist Program is a **part of the larger Fulbright Program** that provides **U.S. citizens who are well-established academics and professionals** with opportunities to engage in short, high-impact projects focused on **education, training, or capacity building activities**.

- Projects are from **two to six weeks**; approximately **400 projects** take place throughout the year
- **150+ eligible countries** - Specialists are hosted by a **range of overseas institution types**, including institutions of higher education, government agencies, and cultural organizations.
- **Field-driven projects:** overseas institutions develop ideas and submit project proposals to their local U.S. Embassy/Fulbright Commission.
- **Roster-based structure for U.S. applicants:** prospective Specialists must apply to a Roster, and then are eligible to match with available projects or independently identify an institution to host them.
- Administered by World Learning



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World Learning



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A Historic Year for Fulbright



- 2026 marks both **America's 250th anniversary** (i.e. Freedom 250) and the **80th anniversary of the Fulbright Act** – a bold investment in global peace and American prosperity through educational and cultural exchange.
- Throughout 2026, Fulbright Specialists are engaged in projects and/or public engagement activities like school visits, lectures, and other events celebrating Freedom 250.



Who is a Strong Fulbright Specialist Applicant?



Mehdi Mekni (left), Professor of Cybersecurity
University of New Haven
Fulbright Specialist to Madagascar

- **Demonstrated experience and leadership** in their field through scholarship, teaching, and/or professional practice
- **A track record of sharing expertise with others** – successful Specialists also understand how to *transfer* knowledge
- **Primarily motivated by potential impact** in a range of institutions and countries, rather than personal research interests
- **Proactive and entrepreneurial** to navigate the program’s matching process
- **Understands the Fulbright mission!**



Next Steps



*Claude Apiou
Adjunct Faculty, Columbus State Community College
Fulbright Specialist to the Philippines*

Refer to fulbrightspecialist.worldlearning.org to:

- Review eligibility criteria and U.S. application deadlines
- Sign up for *Ask a Program Officer* Q&As or other events, and view recorded information sessions featuring alumni
- Identify alumni through the Alumni Directory
- Start an application!

Questions? Email us at fulbrightspecialist@worldlearning.org



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Fulbright Outreach Lecturing Fund (OLF) Scholar-In Residence (SIR)

Greta Scharnweber

Director, Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program, IIE

SIR@iie.org

OLF@iie.org



Outreach Lecturing Fund (OLF)



Provides funding for hosting Fulbright Visiting Scholars already in the U.S. for short-term speaking engagements.

- Short-term travel grants (typically 2-5 days)
- \$1,500 base award (more for high-cost areas or incentive states)
- Financial contributions not required for University hosts
- All accredited institutions are eligible to apply.

<https://fulbrightscholars.org/OLF>



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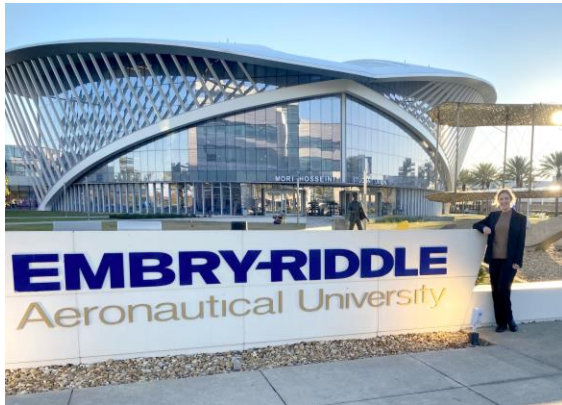
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OLF in Action



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OLF and Freedom 250

A chance for institutions to show off their home's history, culture, cuisine, and attractions.

Dr. Noha ElBana of Egypt traveled to Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi through the OLF program to lecture in aquaculture immunology, visit the Texas State Aquarium, and tour a World War II aircraft carrier, the U.S.S. Lexington Battleship Museum.



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OLF

Fostering Greater Geographic Representation

The OLF is currently awarding an additional \$500 to proposals from institutions in the following U.S. states:

Arkansas	Delaware	Maine
Montana	Nevada	New Hampshire
North Dakota	Oklahoma	Rhode Island
South Carolina	South Dakota	Wisconsin
Wyoming		





Scholar-in-Residence (S-I-R) Program

- **Institutions apply to host a visiting scholar to teach on your campus** and engage with your community for a semester or a full academic year
- Institutions may name a specific scholar or the Fulbright Program can recruit for your needs in a specific country/region
- S-I-R is perfect for institutions who lack connections w/ scholars abroad and who want to host funded visiting faculty/scholars from abroad.
- Competition is open now to host in 2027-2028 with a **deadline of June 1, 2026.**
- Contact us at sir@iie.org to **schedule a one-on-one call!**



fulbrightscholars.org/sir



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S-I-Rs in Action



Dr. Abhijit Chowdhury of India, a filmmaker, was hosted by Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA



Dr. Agnes Brekke of Colombia, a scholar of theater, was hosted by Metropolitan Community College in Longview, MO





S-I-Rs in the Community









Ramon Blanco Barrera, from Spain, hosted by the College of Sequoias




Manal Shalaby of Egypt, became known as the "cookie lady" during her program at Depauw

Meet the Fulbright Scholars
GOING GLOBAL
A global learning panel discussion

	Roslynn Ang (Singapore) Indiana University Bloomington	
	Lucy Muthoni (Kenya) Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology	
Marcelo Echague Pastore (Paraguay) Indiana State University		

Wednesday, Apr. 3, 4:00 PM (Hamilton Room)




Four S-I-Rs in Indiana met at DePauw University for an on-campus discussion



Tom Felle, from Ireland, worked with East Los Angeles Community College to develop e-Learning courses for the community



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Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Program

Shanna Thomas
Program Officer, IIE
FLTA@iie.org



Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Program

- Brings early career educators to U.S. colleges and universities to assist in the instruction of languages for one academic year
- A professional development opportunity for the FLTA
- Benefit to language programs and U.S. students
- FLTA Participants
 - Can be utilized in a variety of roles
 - Can add fresh perspective and energy to your institution's language curriculum





Fulbright FLTA Profile

- 30+ languages, 50+ countries represented
- Eager Cultural and Language Ambassadors
- Typically backgrounds in English language and English teaching
- Enthusiastic about exposure to teaching and best practice and the U.S. academic environment





Fulbright FLTAs on Campus

- Serve as teaching assistants or primary instructors for their language
- Take courses alongside undergraduate or graduate students in areas related to language teaching and American culture
- Share culture on campus and in their host community



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Fulbright FLTA Timeline

Fall

Annual application for following academic year opens

February

Application closes in late February

March - April

Selection notifications to hosts begin to be sent

April - May

FLTAs accept offers of assistantship

August - September FLTAs arrive on campus



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Institutional and Language Program Requirements

- Open to all accredited post-secondary institutions
- Student interest in requested language
- Faculty/staff available to structure and support the FLTA's program
- A plan to provide mentorship and assist in logistics
- Ability to meet minimum financial support requirements
 - For all language requests, a tuition and fees waiver for two courses per semester or one course per quarter (depending on your institution's academic calendar)
 - Support level requirements differ by language category





Interested in hosting an FLTA?

- Reach out to the Fulbright FLTA Program Team!
 - FLTA@iie.org
 - Derek Cook dcook@iie.org,
 - Shanna Thomas stthomas@iie.org
- Expected language offerings for 2027-2028:
<https://foreign.fulbrightonline.org/about/flta-program>
- Additional information about the FLTA Program for host institutions:
<https://foreign.fulbrightonline.org/host-institutions/flta-program>
- Begin dialogues with relevant offices on campus to gauge interest



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Key Takeaways



Next Steps

What's New with Fulbright

- Register & attend events (Webinars, Office Hours, “Ask a Program Officer”) to learn more
- Share International Education Administrators Program opportunities with your campus
- Review the Outreach Lecturing Fund (OLF) Directory
- Explore bringing a Scholar-in-Residence (SIR) to your campus
- Consider the Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Program for AY 2027–2028
- Start an application!



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Thank You!