



FULBRIGHT

A Program of the U.S. Department of State



CAMPUS COMMITTEE INFORMATION: STUDY/RESEARCH

OVERVIEW OF THE FULBRIGHT U.S. STUDENT PROGRAM

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program, sponsored by U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and administered by the Institute of International Education (IIE), provides grants for individually designed study/research projects or for English Teaching Assistant opportunities. The program facilitates cultural exchange through direct interaction on an individual basis in the classroom, field, home, and in routine tasks, allowing the grantee to gain an appreciation of others' viewpoints and beliefs, the way they do things, and the way they think. The primary goal is to promote mutual understanding between the people of the U.S. and other countries.

PURPOSE OF THE CAMPUS REVIEW

The purpose of the campus review process is to evaluate the applicant and their application materials, to give constructive criticism to the applicant to assist with final revisions prior to the National Deadline and to provide comments for the National Screening Committee through the Campus Committee Evaluation (CCE) Form. Additionally, it should help to determine whether an applicant is equipped to cope with living in the host country and whether the applicant is adequately prepared to carry out the proposed project.

FULBRIGHT SELECTION CRITERIA

IIE recommends that members of Campus Committees review the selection criteria listed in conjunction with the Sample Interview Questions and the appropriate country summaries on the website before interviewing an applicant to familiarize themselves with the requirements for the country involved.

Academic or Professional Qualifications

An applicant's academic and/or professional qualifications and achievement, especially in the field of grant study, is of significant importance. The project should be an accurate reflection of the Fulbright Program's mission and of the applicant's personal and professional goals. The Statement of Grant Purpose should demonstrate a clearly developed project, a feasible timeline, and a host country-specific methodological or teaching plan. Transcripts, references, research activities, strength of affiliation letter, and publications are all helpful in evaluating qualifications.

Applicants should be compared only against their peers; applications from graduating seniors or young professionals should not be judged on the same basis as those from PhD candidates. Any dramatic change in a applicant's grades should be discussed with the applicant and explained on the CCE Form, if possible.

Applicants should have adequate formal training for the study or art form they wish to pursue and language skills must be commensurate with requirements of their projects and recommendations of host country. Academic applications focusing on graduate degree enrollment or independent research and should be evaluated appropriately.

Applicants interested in pursuing research projects in the creative and performing arts are asked to submit projects indicating in some detail their reasons for choosing a particular country, the form their work will take, the results they hope to obtain, and the contribution that a foreign experience will have on their artistic development. They are required to submit samples of their work in support of their applications.

Fit with Fulbright Mission

The primary aim of the Fulbright Program is to promote mutual understanding and to introduce all segments of U.S. society to communities worldwide. Applicants from all academic and personal backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Applicants should exhibit adaptability, motivation, flexibility, excellent communication skills, leadership capabilities, and general ability to deal with unfamiliar situations. References, extracurricular activities, and work experience may indicate their range of interest and general curiosity and interest in interacting with those from different countries and backgrounds. The interests and potential of applicants who have not been able to participate in extracurricular activities because of physical disability or the need to work should be weighed more heavily than actual participation.

International Experience

Applicants with extensive in-country experience, outside of vacations, undergraduate study abroad, or military service, should be held to a higher standard and should be able to clearly articulate how the previous in-country experience prepared them for this proposed project.

Applicants who have not had the opportunity to travel abroad are not at a disadvantage. If their proposed project is of the same caliber as applicants with extensive experience, they should be given priority.

All other factors being equal, veterans and active duty military personnel are given preference.

Re-Application

Unsuccessful applicants, or those who withdrew from former competitions or declined awards, may reapply and be judged anew provided they continue to meet eligibility requirements and submit a completely new application.

REASONS FOR NOT ENDORSING

There is no cap on the number of applicants one institution may endorse; however, the Campus Committee has the option to Not Endorse should the applicant clearly not be eligible for a Fulbright Grant, not be qualified for the grant, or if the Campus Committee have serious concerns about the personal or academic preparedness of an applicant.

Applicants who are not endorsed by the Campus Committee will still be presented to the National Screening Committee, should they pass the technical review process. It is important, therefore, that the Campus Committee be especially comprehensive and direct in commenting upon applicants whom they do not endorse so that the National Screening Committee can fully understand the Campus Committee's reasoning. Non-endorsed applicants may still be recommended as Semi-Finalists by the National Screening Committee.

CAMPUS SPECIFIC INFORMATION: