

Demonstration of SGP Line Breaks in IIE Applications

Fulbright National Screening Committee reviewers read dozens of applications, often in a very short period of time. **Give their eyes a break by allowing for some white space in your Statement of Grant Purpose.**

Applicants are told in several places not to use hard returns in their statements. However, experimentation has shown that in the SGP, you do not seem to lose characters by breaking up your paragraphs with hard returns.

See the examples on the following pages; note how the PDF view on p. 5 is easier on the eyes than the PDF view on p. 3. Ask Joy if you have questions about how to do any of this formatting!

tl;dr



Applicant view:

Statement of Grant Purpose *

The Fulbright Program, including the Fulbright-Hays Program, is a U.S. government program with the goal of improving intercultural relations, cultural diplomacy, and other countries through the mutual exchange of persons. It was created by Senator J. William Fulbright in 1946, and is considered a program, competitively selected American citizens include receive scholarships or grants to study, conduct research, or teach in other countries. The program grants to U.S. students, 1,200 to U.S. scholars, 4,000 to teachers and professionals.

The Fulbright Program is administered by cooperating over 160 countries around the world. The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State administers the Fulbright Program and receives funding from the United States government. Support comes from partner governments, foundations, and other countries, a bi-national Fulbright Commission administers the program but no Fulbright Commission, the Public Affairs Office. Over 370,000 people have participated in the program since it was created. It has won Pulitzer Prizes.

In 1945, Senator J. William Fulbright proposed a bill to use the proceeds from selling surplus U.S. government war property to fund international exchange between the U.S. and other countries. With the crucial timing of the aftermath of WWII and with the pressing establishment of the United Nations, the Fulbright Program was an attempt to promote peace and understanding through educational exchange. The bill devised a plan to forgo the debts foreign countries amassed during the war in return for funding an international educational program. It was through the belief that this program would be an essential vehicle to promote peace and mutual understanding between individuals, institutions and future leaders wherever they may be.

In August 1946, Congress created the Fulbright Program in what became the largest education exchange program in history. The program was expanded by the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, introduced by Representative Wayne Hays and known as Fulbright-Hays Act. It made possible participation in international fairs and expositions, including trade and industrial fairs; translations; funding for American studies programs; funds to promote medical, scientific, cultural, and educational research and development; and modern foreign language training.

The program operates on a bi-national basis; each country has entered into an agreement with the U.S. government. The first countries to sign agreements were China in 1947 and Burma, the Philippines, and Greece in 1948. In March 2024, the Russian government declared the Institute of International Education (IIE) and Cultural Vistas as "undesirable" in Russia. This decision effectively ended the Fulbright Program, which had been established in the USSR during the 1973-74 academic year. In February 2025, the Trump administration initiated a funding freeze on State Department programs, including the Fulbright Program, disrupting financial support for thousands of scholars. On June 11, 2025, eleven of the twelve members of the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board resigned in protest, citing what they described as "unlawful" political interference by the administration. The board, which provides oversight for the international Fulbright exchange program, alleged that political appointees at the U.S. Department of State blocked or delayed awards for the 2025-26 academic year and subjected more than 1,200 foreign finalists to unauthorized ideological screening. The board's open letter stated that review criteria were improperly influenced by applicants' positions on topics such as climate change, race, and gender. The resignations prompted concern from higher education leaders and U.S. lawmakers. Senator Jeanne Shaheen stated that the alleged interference "politicizes one of our most respected international education programs" and could harm the U.S. reputation.

The Fulbright Program exchanges scholars, students, teachers, and professionals for each country. It provides funding for the Fulbright Program, including the Fulbright-Hays Program, Teacher Exchange Program, and Fulbright-Hays Program. The Fulbright Program, including the Fulbright-Hays Program, is a U.S. government program with the goal of improving intercultural relations, cultural diplomacy, and other countries through the mutual exchange of persons. It was created by Senator J. William Fulbright in 1946, and is considered a program, competitively selected American citizens include receive scholarships or grants to study, conduct research, or teach in other countries. The program grants to U.S. students, 1,200 to U.S. scholars, 4,000 to teachers and professionals.

ships managed by commissions for each country. It provides funding for the Fulbright Program, including the Fulbright-Hays Program, Teacher Exchange Program, and Fulbright-Hays Program. The Fulbright Program, including the Fulbright-Hays Program, is a U.S. government program with the goal of improving intercultural relations, cultural diplomacy, and other countries through the mutual exchange of persons. It was created by Senator J. William Fulbright in 1946, and is considered a program, competitively selected American citizens include receive scholarships or grants to study, conduct research, or teach in other countries. The program grants to U.S. students, 1,200 to U.S. scholars, 4,000 to teachers and professionals.

In this screen grab from a dummy application in the actual IIE portal, you see the paragraphs do not have white space between them; they end on one line, but the next line begins a new paragraph.

This is because in the original Word document, the author was using an automatic setting that added a space after paragraph breaks, but copying and pasting from Word into the text box did NOT preserve that formatting, leaving the SGP here looking a bit squished.

4 characters remaining

**FULBRIGHT**

Fulbright U.S. Student Program

Statement of Grant Purpose

The Fulbright Program, including the Fulbright-Hays Program, is one of several United States cultural exchange programs with the goal of improving intercultural relations, cultural diplomacy, and intercultural competence between the people of the United States and other countries through the mutual exchange of persons, knowledge, and skills. The program was founded by United States Senator J. William Fulbright in 1946, and is considered as one of the most prestigious scholarships in the United States. Via the program, competitively selected American citizens including students, scholars, teachers, professionals, scientists, and artists may receive scholarships or grants to study, conduct research, teach, or exercise their talents abroad; and citizens of other countries may qualify to do the same in the United States. The program provides approximately 8,000 grants annually, comprising roughly 1,600 grants to U.S. students, 1,200 to U.S. scholars, 4,000 to foreign students, 900 to foreign visiting scholars, and several hundred to teachers and professionals.

The Fulbright Program is administered by cooperating organizations such as the Institute of International Education and operates in over 160 countries around the world. The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State sponsors the Fulbright Program and receives funding from the United States Congress via annual appropriation bills. Additional direct and in-kind support comes from partner governments, foundations, corporations, and host institutions both in and outside the U.S. In 49 countries, a bi-national Fulbright Commission administers and oversees the Fulbright Program. In countries that have an active program but no Fulbright Commission, the Public Affairs Section of the U.S. embassy oversees the Fulbright Program. More than 370,000 people have participated in the program since it began; 62 Fulbright alumni have been awarded for a Nobel Prize; 88 have won Pulitzer Prizes.

In 1945, Senator J. William Fulbright proposed a bill to use the proceeds from selling surplus U.S. government war property to fund international exchange between the U.S. and other countries. With the crucial timing of the aftermath of WWII and with the pressing establishment of the United Nations, the Fulbright Program was an attempt to promote peace and understanding through educational exchange. The bill devised a plan to forgo the debts foreign countries amassed during the war in return for funding an international educational program. It was through the belief that this program would be an essential vehicle to promote peace and mutual understanding between individuals, institutions and future leaders wherever they may be.

In August 1946, Congress created the Fulbright Program in what became the largest education exchange program in history. The program was expanded by the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, introduced by Representative Wayne Hays and known as Fulbright-Hays Act. It made possible participation in international fairs and expositions, including trade and industrial fairs; translations; funding for American studies programs; funds to promote medical, scientific, cultural, and educational research and development; and modern foreign language training.

The program operates on a bi-national basis; each country has entered into an agreement with the U.S. government. The first countries to sign agreements were China in 1947 and Burma, the Philippines, and Greece in 1948. In March 2024, the Russian government declared the Institute of International Education (IIE) and Cultural Vistas as "undesirable" in Russia. This decision effectively ended the Fulbright Program, which had been established in the USSR during the 1973-74 academic year. In February 2025, the Trump administration initiated a funding freeze on State Department programs, including the Fulbright Program, disrupting financial support for thousands of scholars. On June 11, 2025, eleven of the

**FULBRIGHT**

Fulbright U.S. Student Program

Statement of Grant Purpose Continued

twelve members of the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board resigned in protest, citing what they described as "unlawful" political interference by the administration. The board, which provides oversight for the international Fulbright exchange program, alleged that political appointees at the U.S. Department of State blocked or delayed awards for the 2025-26 academic year and subjected more than 1,200 foreign finalists to unauthorized ideological screening. The board's open letter stated that review criteria were improperly influenced by applicants' positions on topics such as climate change, race, and gender. The resignations prompted concern from higher education leaders and U.S. lawmakers. Senator Jeanne Shaheen stated that the alleged interference "politicizes one of our most respected international education programs" and could harm the U.S.'s global academic credibility. The Fulbright Program exchanges scholars and students with numerous countries in bilateral partnerships managed by commissions for each country. It provides funding for U.S. persons to visit other countries in the U.S. Student Program, U.S. Scholar Program, Teacher Exchange Program, and others, and enables foreign nationals to visit the United States in programs such as the Foreign Student Program, Visiting Scholar Program, Teacher Exchange Program. Candidates recommended for Fulbright grants have high academic achievement, a compelling project proposal or statement of purpose, demonstrated leadership potential, and flexibility and adaptability to interact successfully with the host community. Fulbright grants are awarded in almost all academic disciplines, except clinical medical research involving patient contact. Fulbright grantees' fields of study span the fine arts, humanities, social sciences, mathematics, natural and physical sciences, and professional and applied sciences. All of this information was copied from Wikipedia in 2025 for demonstrative purposes.

Reader View:

This screen grab shows the reviewer PDF of the essay on the prior page. As in the text field, the paragraphs are still squished together, making it hard to read.

Note that there is an odd line break at the bottom of the page, cutting a sentence off and continuing it on the second page. This is not related to the line breaks. It is happening on most applications and there doesn't seem to be a workaround. ^\(_ツ)_/

Statement of Grant Purpose *

The Fulbright Program, including the Fulbright-Hays Program, has the goal of improving intercultural relations, cultural diplomacy, and other countries through the mutual exchange of persons. Senator J. William Fulbright in 1946, and is considered as a program, competitively selected American citizens including receive scholarships or grants to study, conduct research, or qualify to do the same in the United States. The program provides grants to U.S. students, 1,200 to U.S. scholars, 4,000 to foreign teachers and professionals.

The Fulbright Program is administered by cooperating organizations over 160 countries around the world. The Bureau of Educational Fulbright Program and receives funding from the United States support comes from partner governments, foundations, corporations, countries, a bi-national Fulbright Commission administers the program but no Fulbright Commission, the Public Affairs Service. 370,000 people have participated in the program since it began; 62 Fulbright alumni have been awarded for a Nobel Prize; 88 have won Pulitzer Prizes.

In 1945, Senator J. William Fulbright proposed a bill to use the proceeds from selling surplus U.S. government war property to fund international exchange between the U.S. and other countries. With the crucial timing of the aftermath of WWII and with the pressing establishment of the United Nations, the Fulbright Program was an attempt to promote peace and understanding through educational exchange. The bill devised a plan to forgo the debts foreign countries amassed during the war in return for funding an international educational program. It was through the belief that this program would be an essential vehicle to promote peace and mutual understanding between individuals, institutions and future leaders wherever they may be.

In August 1946, Congress created the Fulbright Program in what became the largest education exchange program in history. The program was expanded by the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, introduced by Representative Wayne Hays and known as Fulbright-Hays Act. It made possible participation in international fairs and expositions, including trade and industrial fairs; translations; funding for American studies programs; funds to promote medical, scientific, cultural, and educational research and development; and modern foreign language training.

The program operates on a bi-national basis; each country has entered into an agreement with the U.S. government. The first countries to sign agreements were China in 1947 and Burma, the Philippines, and Greece in 1948. In March 2024, the Russian government declared the Institute of International Education (IIE) and Cultural Vistas as "undesirable" in Russia. This decision effectively ended the Fulbright Program, which had been established in the USSR during the 1973-74 academic year. In February 2025, the Trump administration initiated a funding freeze on State Department programs, including the Fulbright Program, disrupting financial support for thousands of scholars. On June 11, 2025, eleven of the twelve members of the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board resigned in protest, citing what they described as "unlawful" political interference by the administration. The board, which provides oversight for the international Fulbright exchange program, alleged that political appointees at the U.S. Department of State blocked or delayed awards for the 2025-26 academic year, leaving more than 1,200 foreign finalists to unauthorized ideological screening. The board's actions, by applicants' positions on topics such as climate change, race, and gender, have caused concern among leaders and U.S. lawmakers. The program's future in international education remains uncertain.

The Fulbright Program exchanges scholars for each country. It provides funding for the Teacher Exchange Program, and the Student Program, Visiting Scholar Program, academic achievement, a compelling adaptability to interact successfully in clinical medical research involving mathematics, natural and physical sciences in 2025 for demonstrative purpose.

Applicant view:

In this screen grab from a dummy application in the actual IIE portal, you see the paragraphs have white space between them.

This is because in the original Word document, the author manually added line breaks by hitting "enter" between paragraphs; copying and pasting from Word into the portal's text box preserved that formatting, leaving some nice white space in this SGP.

1 characters remaining

**FULBRIGHT**

Fulbright U.S. Student Program

Statement of Grant Purpose

The Fulbright Program, including the Fulbright-Hays Program, is one of several United States cultural exchange programs with the goal of improving intercultural relations, cultural diplomacy, and intercultural competence between the people of the United States and other countries through the mutual exchange of persons, knowledge, and skills. The program was founded by United States Senator J. William Fulbright in 1946, and is considered as one of the most prestigious scholarships in the United States. Via the program, competitively selected American citizens including students, scholars, teachers, professionals, scientists, and artists may receive scholarships or grants to study, conduct research, teach, or exercise their talents abroad; and citizens of other countries may qualify to do the same in the United States. The program provides approximately 8,000 grants annually, comprising roughly 1,600 grants to U.S. students, 1,200 to U.S. scholars, 4,000 to foreign students, 900 to foreign visiting scholars, and several hundred to teachers and professionals.

The Fulbright Program is administered by cooperating organizations such as the Institute of International Education and operates in over 160 countries around the world. The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State sponsors the Fulbright Program and receives funding from the United States Congress via annual appropriation bills. Additional direct and in-kind support comes from partner governments, foundations, corporations, and host institutions both in and outside the U.S. In 49 countries, a bi-national Fulbright Commission administers and oversees the Fulbright Program. In countries that have an active program but no Fulbright Commission, the Public Affairs Section of the U.S. embassy oversees the Fulbright Program. More than 370,000 people have participated in the program since it began; 62 Fulbright alumni have been awarded a Nobel Prize; 88 have won Pulitzer Prizes.

In 1945, Senator J. William Fulbright proposed a bill to use the proceeds from selling surplus U.S. government war property to fund international exchange between the U.S. and other countries. With the crucial timing of the aftermath of WWII and with the pressing establishment of the United Nations, the Fulbright Program was an attempt to promote peace and understanding through educational exchange. The bill devised a plan to forgo the debts foreign countries amassed during the war in return for funding an international educational program. It was through the belief that this program would be an essential vehicle to promote peace and mutual understanding between individuals, institutions and future leaders wherever they may be.

In August 1946, Congress created the Fulbright Program in what became the largest education exchange program in history. The program was expanded by the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, introduced by Representative Wayne Hays and known as Fulbright-Hays Act. It made possible participation in international fairs and expositions, including trade and industrial fairs; translations; funding for American studies programs; funds to promote medical, scientific, cultural, and educational research and development; and modern foreign language training.

The program operates on a bi-national basis; each country has entered into an agreement with the U.S. government. The first countries to sign agreements were China in 1947 and Burma, the Philippines, and Greece in 1948. In March 2024, the Russian government declared the Institute of International Education (IIE) and Cultural Vistas as "undesirable" in Russia. This decision effectively ended the Fulbright Program, which had been established in the USSR during the 1973-74 academic year. In February 2025, the Trump administration initiated a funding freeze on State Department programs, including the Fulbright Program, disrupting financial support for thousands of scholars. On June 11, 2025, eleven of

**FULBRIGHT**

Fulbright U.S. Student Program

Statement of Grant Purpose Continued

the twelve members of the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board resigned in protest, citing what they described as "unlawful" political interference by the administration. The board, which provides oversight for the international Fulbright exchange program, alleged that political appointees at the U.S. Department of State blocked or delayed awards for the 2025-26 academic year and subjected more than 1,200 foreign finalists to unauthorized ideological screening. The board's open letter stated that review criteria were improperly influenced by applicants' positions on topics such as climate change, race, and gender. The resignations prompted concern from higher education leaders and U.S. lawmakers. Senator Jeanne Shaheen stated that the alleged interference "politicizes one of our most respected international education programs" and could harm the U.S.'s global academic credibility.

The Fulbright Program exchanges scholars and students with numerous countries in bilateral partnerships managed by commissions for each country. It provides funding for U.S. persons to visit other countries in the U.S. Student Program, U.S. Scholar Program, Teacher Exchange Program, and others, and enables foreign nationals to visit the United States in programs such as the Foreign Student Program, Visiting Scholar Program, Teacher Exchange Program. Candidates recommended for Fulbright grants have high academic achievement, a compelling project proposal or statement of purpose, demonstrated leadership potential, and flexibility and adaptability to interact successfully with the host community. Fulbright grants are awarded in almost all academic disciplines, except clinical medical research involving patient contact. Fulbright grantees' fields of study span the fine arts, humanities, social sciences, mathematics, natural and physical sciences, and professional and applied sciences. All of this information was copied from Wikipedia in 2025 for demonstrative purposes.

Reader View:

This screen grab shows the reviewer PDF of the essay on the prior page. The white space/line breaks are maintained here even when converted to PDF.

There is still an odd line break at the bottom of the page, cutting a sentence off and continuing it on the second page. “\(\ツ)/”

No National Screening Committee reviewers were harmed in the making of this handout.