

FULBRIGHT CORE AND SPECIALIST PROGRAM COMPARISON

A comparison of opportunities available via the Fulbright Scholar Program and the Fulbright Specialist Program.

Fulbright Scholar Program		Fulbright Specialist Program
U.S. Department of State - Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES)	Administrator	U.S. Department of State - World Learning
More than 800 teaching, research or combination teaching/research awards for college and university faculty and administrators as well as professionals, artists, journalists, scientists, lawyers, independent scholars and many others. International Education Administrator (IEA) seminars are also available for senior higher education professionals.	Purpose	The program pairs highly qualified U.S. academics and professionals with host institutions abroad to share their expertise, strengthen institutional linkages, hone their skills, gain international experience, and learn about other cultures while building capacity at their overseas host institutions. Over 400 Specialists travel abroad annually.
U.S. citizenship. Recipients of a Fulbright Scholar grant are eligible to apply for another Scholar grant two (2) years after the date of completion of the previous grant.	Eligibility	U.S. citizenship. Must have significant experience in their field. May have previously received or be currently applying for a Fulbright Scholar award. Individuals are eligible to receive a Fulbright Specialist grant and another Fulbright grant (e.g. Scholar) the same year.
Over 135 countries worldwide. Multi-country and regional awards are available.	Geographic Area	Over 150 countries worldwide.
Most fields. Clinical medical research involving patient contact is not permitted.	Fields	Most fields. Clinical medical research involving patient contact is not permitted.
Awards are two- to 12-months, often with Flex options to split up time abroad. International Education Administrator (IEA) seminars are two weeks.	Fellowship Length	Two-to six-week consultancies.
Foreign language requirement varies by award, but typically applies when necessary to conduct research.	Language Requirement	No language requirement to join the roster, but a limited number of projects do have a language requirement or preference.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application form • Project statement • Curriculum Vitae • Two references • Course syllabi for teaching awards • Letter of invitation if specified • Language evaluation if necessary 	Application Components	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application form • Two essays • Curriculum Vitae • Two References • Optional regional and country preferences • Optional language record
Award amounts vary by country, project length, and activity. Dependent allowance available for some awards.	Amount	Award amount varies by country and project length, but include airfare, health benefits, transit allowance, in-country travel, lodging, meals, and a daily honorarium.
Catalog of awards is released February 1 or March 1, and individuals apply by September 15. Applications are first reviewed by a Discipline Peer Review Committee, then by a Regional Peer Review Committee in Washington D.C. In November-December, CIES notifies applicants if moving on for consideration by the host country. In Dec-May, overseas Fulbright Commissions or U.S. Embassies review applications and make final selections. Candidates notified by June at the latest.	Application Process	Individuals apply to join the Fulbright Specialist Roster. If selected, individuals join roster for three years. Host institutions submit project proposals to their Fulbright Commission or U.S. Embassy. If a host country proposal is approved, a Fulbright Specialist from the roster is matched to the project. There is no guarantee to be matched, and individuals on the roster must be matched and complete an exchange to be considered a Fulbright Specialist.
September 15 each year. IEA seminar deadlines vary by country.	Deadline	May apply at any time, and applications are reviewed seven times per calendar year.

