

A photograph of a desert landscape featuring several large, white, mushroom-shaped rock formations. A man in a dark shirt and pants is walking on the right side of the frame, looking towards the left. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The text is overlaid in yellow on the top left and bottom left of the image.

2016-17 U.S. Student Fulbright Program Middle East and North Africa Grant Administration

"The essence of intercultural education is the acquisition of empathy—the ability to see the world as others see it, and to allow for the possibility that others may see something that we have failed to see."

-Senator J. William Fulbright in *The Price of Empire*

Fulbright Program Background

- ❖ In September 1945 Senator Fulbright proposed using the proceeds from the sales of surplus war property to fund the "promotion of international good will through the exchange of students in the fields of education, culture and science." On August 1, 1946 the Fulbright Act signed by President Truman.
- ❖ Program Objective (as written into the authorizing legislation): "To enable the government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries...and thus to assist in the development of friendly, sympathetic, and peaceful relations between the United States and other countries of the world."
- ❖ U.S. Student Fulbrighters serve as Cultural Ambassadors for the United States.

Program Administration

Presidentially-appointed J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board (FFSB)

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA)

Administered by the Institute of International Education (IIE)

Host country support provided by the U.S. Embassy



Fulbright Award Benefits

- ❖ Round-trip Air Transportation
- ❖ Monthly maintenance allowances (for housing, food, utilities, etc.)
- ❖ One-time research allowance
- ❖ One-time Base allowance to cover settling-in expenses, baggage fees, visa applications, airport transportation etc.
- ❖ Accident & Sickness Coverage

Required Documentation

- Medical clearance
- Award authorization form (+ Financial Terms)
- Terms and Conditions of Award (+ Supplemental Terms for ETAs)
- Approved round-trip itinerary
- Proof of U.S. citizenship (copy of passport photopage)
- Distribution of Grant Funds Form + “VOID”ed check
- Host Country Contact and Affiliation Information Form
- Official (hard copy) transcript verifying conferral of your Bachelor’s degree

PLEASE SUBMIT TO I.I.E. AT LEAST FOUR WEEKS PRIOR TO GRANT START DATE.

Travel Arrangements

- ❖ Tickets cannot be booked until IIE has received all required Fulbright documents and the grantee has received medical clearance from the State Department.
- ❖ All travel arrangements must be booked through IIE's travel provider, HRG.
- ❖ Travel itineraries must be Fly-America (or Open Skies) compliant.
- ❖ Fulbrighters will be given instructions for contacting HRG once all required documents have been received, but not more than 6 weeks prior to the departure date.

Grant Payments

- ❖ All grant payments are made via Electronic Funds Transfer, are paid in U.S.\$, and are deposited into a U.S. bank account or credit union as designated by the grantee.
- ❖ No payments will be made until all required Fulbright documents have been submitted.
- ❖ The first grant payment cannot be made more than 4 weeks prior to the grant start date.
 - ❖ First payment comprised of research allowance, base allowance, and maintenance allowances for months 1-3 of grant.
- ❖ The 2nd and 3rd payments go out in the 3rd and 6th months of the grant, respectively.
 - ❖ Second payment comprised of maintenance allowances for months 4-6 of grant.
 - ❖ Third payment comprised of maintenance allowances for months 7-9 of grant.
- ❖ The last payment will not be released until Final Report has been submitted.
 - ❖ The last payment is the maintenance allowance for the ninth/final month of the grant.

Health Benefits

- ❖ Fulbrighters are covered only while in their host countries during their grant terms.
- ❖ Full details of the coverage are available in the *Current Fulbrighters* section of the Fulbright website.
- ❖ Fulbrighters who seek medical treatment while on their grants will pay for the treatment and then submit reimbursement claims to the health benefits administrator, Seven Corners, Inc.
- ❖ The ID number needed to submit claims is just the grantee's ID number.



Health Benefits

Accident & Sickness (ASPE) coverage valid only **while in host country** and only **during grant term**

- Full details of the coverage is available on the Fulbright website in the section for *Current Fulbrighters*
- Benefits paid on reimbursement basis
- Grantee ID number for claims with Seven Corners
- Print ASPE ID from the Seven Corners website



Seven Corners/ASPE Health Benefits

Available Services

- Medical referrals for doctors and hospitals
- Medical and prescription claims
- Medical evacuations
- Assistance with questions on ASPE coverage and medical bills

Questions regarding ASPE benefits should be addressed to Seven Corners.

Other Pre-Departure Tips

- ❖ Reconnect with your affiliate institutions, so that they're aware you've been awarded the Fulbright.
- ❖ Make sure your passport will be valid for at least six months beyond end date of your grant.
- ❖ Notify your bank and credit card company of your extended time overseas.
- ❖ Share your travel/arrival information with U.S. Embassy at least 3 weeks prior to arrival in host country.
- ❖ Send "Thank You" letters to your U.S. Congress person and U.S. Senators.
- ❖ Student loan deferments.
- ❖ Bookmark PDO and Fulbright U.S. Program website for future reference.

Basic Grant Requirements

- ❖ Check in with Embassy during first 3 days in country for security briefing.
- ❖ Carry out Fulbright project full-time as written in the application.
- ❖ Remain in-country for the duration of the grant period (excluding approved leave).
- ❖ Outside funding must be reported to ensure no duplication of funds.
- ❖ Mid-term & Final Reports.

Out-of-Country Leave

- ❖ Up to 14 days of out-of-country leave to be taken.
- ❖ When requesting leave, email the U.S. Embassy and IIE with exact dates & destination.
- ❖ Make sure that your host institution approves of the leave.
- ❖ Wait for approval before booking travel.

Do not leave the host country without written permission from the embassy.

Other Things to do During Grant Term

- ❖ Notify Embassy of changes in address/ phone.
- ❖ Notify Embassy/IIE in the event of an emergency.
- ❖ Inform Embassy of any in-country travel away from home area.
- ❖ Embassy/IIE approval required for:
 - ❖ Out-of-country travel
 - ❖ Significant project changes
- ❖ Share photos of you interacting with people in the host country, or otherwise involved in your project.



Fulbright Assist 24/7 Support

**A benefit for all grantees in the Fulbright U.S.
Student Program
while on grants in their host countries
Administered by the ANVIL Group**

Online and phone assistance available for the following urgent situations:

- Mental health crisis support
- Sexual assault response
- Violent Crime response
- Providing advice to grantees when they feel at risk or vulnerable

Non-Urgent Case Services:

- Medical advice (provided by licensed intensive care nurses)
- Travel health information
- Personal security advice

Fulbright US Student Website

Visit the **Current Fulbrighters** section of the website:

www.us.fulbrightonline.org

FULBRIGHT Fulbright U.S. Student Program

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2010 Bangladesh Fulbrighter
Elizabeth D. Herman
I was based in Dhaka as a Fulbrighter and my research examined the ways in which political dynamics influenced the retellings of history, specifically focusing on the story of... [read more](#)

Program Updates
Tuesday April 30, 2013
India ETA: Fulbright-Nehru ETA Placements are in 3 cities in [India](#): New... [read more](#)

Fulbright Events
Thursday May 16, 2013
Webinar: Study/Research Award
Interested in the research/study award or an arts project? Join Fulbright staff as they discuss the... [details](#)

Fulbright News
Monday March 18, 2013
Watch 2012 China Fulbrighter Jesse Appell And His "Laowai Style" Video
2012 Fulbrighter Jesse Appell is in China to study XiangSheng 相声, literally "mutual... [read more](#)

Application Information
May 1, 2013
The 2014-2015 Fulbright U.S. Student Program is now open.

us.fulbrightonline.org/current-fulbrighters

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INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

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