

2013-2014 SIERRA LEONE COUNTRY GUIDELINES FOR U.S. FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS AND STUDENTS

The Fulbright Program is sponsored and administered by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the United States Department of State, and awards scholarships to lecture, conduct research, and study abroad. The program is managed in country by the Public Affairs Section (PAS) at U.S. Embassy Freetown.

Country guidelines contain **summary** information about the Fulbright award, and logistical and program support provided through ECA, contact information for PAS or the U.S. embassy, and advisory information about your host country. These guidelines are an important resource, and should be reviewed prior to departing for your host country. This document may be supplemented by PAS during your arrival orientation at post. Please note that this information is subject to change.

THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION OF U.S. EMBASSY FREETOWN

The Public Affairs Section (PAS) is responsible for managing Fulbright in Sierra Leone. PAS offices are located at the U.S. embassy. Embassy hours are 8:00 a.m.-5:15 p.m. Monday-Thursday, and 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. on Friday. The Embassy website is: <http://freetown.usembassy.gov>.

Below is contact information for PAS staff who are your points of contact while in country.

Boa Lee, Public Affairs Officer:	LeeB1@state.gov
John Kamah Kargbo, Cultural Affairs Assistant:	KargboJK@state.gov
Rhoda Scott, Administrative Assistant:	ScottRD@state.gov

PAS via Embassy switchboard:	(011-232) 76 515 000
PAS direct line:	(011-232) 76 515 362
PAS fax line:	(011-232) 76 515 355
Embassy after-hours number:	(011-232) 76 912 708

NB – When dialing the above phone numbers from within Sierra Leone, drop the numerals in parentheses and add a -0- prefix, e.g., 0 76 515 000 for Embassy switchboard.

Fulbright scholars/students in the U.S. may write to PAS at:
Public Affairs Officer
2160 Freetown Place
Dulles, VA 20189-2160.

All Fulbright grantees must register with the embassy in case of emergency. This can be done on this website at any time: <http://www.travel.state.gov/>

YOUR FULBRIGHT GRANT AND THE BINATIONAL NATURE OF THE PROGRAM

The Fulbright Program is administered in accordance with regulations established by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board (FSB). The Board has ruled that Fulbright grant funds cannot duplicate benefits received under other auspices. Therefore, grantees who receive host government or host institution financial contributions (for example, international travel, per diem/subsistence/housing allowance) in cash or kind do not receive allowances for these grant benefits. Grantees who receive a concurrent grant to the same country under other auspices may have their Fulbright grants reduced if Fulbright grant benefits are duplicated by the other grant.

Host country governments and institutions support the exchange program through two ways: (a) *monetary contributions*, which result in a sharing of program costs, or (b) *non-monetary assistance* to enhance the exchange experience for the guest scholar.

WHAT THE FULBRIGHT GRANT PROVIDES

For Student Grantees

Fulbright student grants have two components: (1) a base amount, and (2) a monthly maintenance allowance. Additional funds may be included in your grant as allowances and are described separately. Benefits authorized by ECA are paid in U.S. dollars through the Institute of International Education (IIE).

1. The base amount is provided to cover initial or one-time start-up expenses such as:
 - a. Unaccompanied and/or excess baggage.
 - b. Miscellaneous costs, such as visa fees, permits, medical exams, immunizations, etc. This is a fixed sum in each grant and may not reimburse all expenses completely.
2. A monthly maintenance allowance is provided to cover recurring subsistence needs such as housing, fuel, utilities, and food. The allowance is based upon the estimated standard living costs in the country of assignment.

For Scholar Grantees

Fulbright scholar grants have three components: (1) travel and relocation, (2) a monthly maintenance allowance, and (3) a monthly stipend. Additional funds may be included in your grant as special allowances and are described separately. Benefits are based upon the estimated standard living costs in the country of assignment, and are not intended to duplicate U.S. salary levels or the standard of living of U.S. diplomatic personnel. Benefits authorized by ECA are paid in U.S. dollars through the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES).

1. Travel and Relocation
 - a. Unaccompanied and/or excess baggage.
 - b. Relocation allowance for expenses such as visa fees, permits, medical exams, immunizations, etc. This is a fixed sum in each grant and may not reimburse all expenses completely.

2. A monthly maintenance allowance is provided to cover recurring subsistence needs such as housing, fuel, utilities, and food.

3. Monthly base stipend

Fulbright Reporting Requirements

The Fulbright award requires submission of two reports: 1) at the interim or mid-point of the grant, and 2) a final report prior to departing the host country. Grantees will receive instructions from CIES or IIE, as appropriate, on filing these reports on-line.

PRIOR TO YOUR ARRIVAL

Travel to Sierra Leone

Grantee air travel is coordinated by the travel agency, HRG Worldwide, which will bill IIE or CIES directly for the costs of your tickets. HRG staff will assist you with your reservation and then send your reservation to IIE or CIES for approval. You must book a round-trip ticket with a return date that corresponds to the grant end date. All air travel and all air shipments paid for with United States Government funds must conform to the Fly America Act, which requires that all such travel and shipments be on “U.S. flag” airlines where such service is available.

Visas and Residence/Work/Research Permits

Grantees should take copies of all identification certificates and documents, including marriage and birth certificates, driver's licenses, etc., to your assignment country. Make photocopies of the first two pages of your passport, which should be kept separate from your passport in case of loss or theft. Also bring extra passport photos for obtaining visas and conducting other business.

Visas

For American citizens, a passport and visa are required for entry and must be obtained in advance. The latest information can be obtained from the Embassy of Sierra Leone, 1701 19th Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20009, Tel: (202) 939-9261. Please discuss all permit issues with the Sierra Leone Embassy (research permit, work permit, long term residency). They will be able to tell you what papers, documents, or forms will be needed. Please work, as much as possible, with the Embassy in Washington. Also, you can speak with previous Fulbrighters who may assist you with details. Upon arrival, the U. S. Embassy in Freetown will assist with extensions of stay and other immigration issues, but visitors are strongly advised to do as much advance research and preparation as possible regarding host country requirements before departure.

The host university may also be able to assist with arrangements for extended visas, residence and work permits for Fulbright lecturers assigned to the university. Lecturers are advised to have a copy of the offer letter from the university on hand upon arrival at the airport.

Researchers and students make their own arrangements for extended visas and work and residence permits upon presentation of a research permit issued by the Government of Sierra Leone via the appropriate Ministry.

Research Permits and Research Clearance

The Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) regulations require ALL researchers to obtain a research clearance prior to conducting any field work. Grantees are encouraged to reconnect with affiliate organizations once the grant has been awarded. Research clearance and permits can take months to obtain, and grantees must begin the process as soon as possible.

Researchers/students who do not have research permits risk being denied entry. Obtaining a permit after arrival in country is a long and tedious process and may result in the grantee spending time that cannot be used on research, or in being denied a permit. It is also against government regulations for an individual to change visa status from that of a visitor to that of a researcher.

The GoSL encourages researchers/students to consult with a relevant Ministry/Department, research institution or another relevant body before submitting finalized funding proposals. A copy of the first correspondence outlining the research theme should be sent to the subject Ministry or the Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs.

To obtain a residence permit, a researcher or student should first contact the Embassy of Sierra Leone, 1701 19th Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20009, Tel: (202) 939-9261 for complete information on the proper procedures and requirements. Typical requirements include:

- a) Two completed application forms,
- b) Two recent color passport-size photos,
- c) Passport valid for at least one year, with at least one blank page,
- d) Fee (cash or postal orders only), and
- e) Letter of invitation or evidence of affiliation from the host institution. If the applicant is not affiliated to any institution, the endorsement should come from a person of professional standing in the field of the applicant's discipline, supporting the application and providing assurance that the research will conform to research guidelines.

Two copies of a completed research permit application form must be submitted to the relevant ministry at least four months before commencement of the study. Application forms may be obtained from any Government Ministry via the Sierra Leonean Embassy in Washington.

In cases where a research subject overlaps the portfolios of several Ministries, researchers are advised to submit their applications through the Ministry of Labour and Social Security.

For specific questions contact the Embassy of Sierra Leone, 1701 19th Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20009, Tel: (202) 939-9261. Questions concerning research permits and application forms may also be submitted via info@embassyofsierraleone.net.

You may also contact the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, tel. (011-232-77-200-001 or 011-232-76-602-546 or 011-232-33-767-037). Please note that government phone extensions change often, so it is advisable to check with the Embassy of Sierra Leone to confirm current numbers before phoning long distance.

Sending and Receiving Mail

Personal mail

As a courtesy, Embassy Freetown allows active Fulbright grantees access to the diplomatic pouch to receive first-class letter mail only (maximum of two pounds). Magazines, newspapers, DVDs, and package mail are not authorized. Take sufficient U.S. postage stamps with you for first-class mail to the U.S. The Department of State accepts no liability for loss or damage. First-class mail via the pouch can take up to two weeks or more for delivery. The address format for correspondence is as follows:

Your name (Fulbrighter)
C/o Public Affairs Section
2160 Freetown Place
Dulles, VA 20189-2160

Books and Educational Materials Sent by Diplomatic Pouch

Active Fulbrighters have access to the diplomatic pouch for sending a maximum of four 8.5"x11" copy paper-size boxes of books and other educational materials. These pouch privileges are provided by the U.S. Embassy on a one-time, one-way basis only; materials cannot be sent back to the U.S. by pouch at any time during your stay. Package mail in excess of the four permitted boxes will be returned to the U.S. at your expense. For additional information on the exact dimensions, address information, and recommendations, consult the *Instructions for Shipment of Books and Educational Materials by Fulbright Scholars* document included in your pre-departure orientation packet.

CAUTIONARY NOTE: In the past, abuse by several Fulbright scholars caused near revocation of privileges for all program participants. Anyone who violates pouch regulations will be barred from use and will have to make other arrangements for handling personal and professional correspondence.

Customs Restrictions on Professional and Personal Affects

Besides the limited pouch shipment and airline excess baggage, grantees may airmail materials addressed to themselves via international mail, but are subject to paying customs duty at the local post office before taking possession of the materials. All goods taken into the host country must be declared. There are no duties levied on equipment, such as computers, that are imported for personal use. Firearms may not be brought in without prior arrangements with the Department of Customs and the host country police department. Pets require a U.S.-issued export certificate before they can be boarded on international flights. Fulbrighters are not encouraged to bring pets, but those wishing to do so should contact the Embassy of Sierra Leone, 1701 19th Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20009, Tel: (202) 939-9261 for information concerning import procedures for live animals. Please be aware that additional transit stops may also require clearance when traveling with pets. The Community Liaison Office at the U.S. Embassy can provide additional information.

Schooling for Dependents

There are very few international-standard elementary schools in Freetown. Yearly tuition rates vary widely. PAS will provide Fulbrighters with the information on prospective schools. There

are also few secondary schools for expatriate children in the capital city; placements are limited and grantees will need to make arrangements in advance in order to be certain their children can be enrolled. Grantees should contact the school's principal or admissions officer. The Community Liaison Office at the U.S. Embassy can provide additional information.

PAS AND EMBASSY SUPPORT

In an effort to support U.S. Fulbright scholars/students and their families, the following services are provided by PAS and the Embassy:

Security

All Fulbright grantees will receive a security briefing by the Public Affairs Officer or Regional Security Officer upon arrival in the host country. Care should be taken in arranging for a secure apartment, with solid doors and bars on accessible windows. Street crime and residential burglaries are common in Africa. Fulbrighters are advised not to walk on the beaches after dark, as muggings occur frequently. As in any major U.S. city, people are cautioned to watch valuables at all times. Men should carry wallets in a front trousers pocket; women should carry tightly closed purses held securely to their sides. There are frequent reports of thieves snatching jewelry and other objects from open vehicle windows while stopped in heavy traffic. Carjackings are not uncommon but seem to come in spurts, so use caution, particularly when driving at night. Travelers' checks, passports and other valuables should not be left in a hotel room; check all important documents and valuables in a hotel safety deposit box. Better yet, leave non-essential jewelry and irreplaceable items at home in the U.S.

Use caution when traveling to national parks or nature preserves. Travelers should only use the services of reputable travel firms or knowledgeable guides when traveling on safaris or to nature preserves. Safaris are best undertaken with a minimum of two vehicles so that there is a back-up in case of mechanical failure.

Arrival and Temporary Lodging

For Fulbright lecturers, the Embassy will encourage the host university to have permanent housing ready for you when you arrive. If permanent housing is not ready for you when you arrive, the university may arrange temporary housing, or the Embassy can give you suggestions for temporary lodging and assist with reservations.

Fulbright students and researchers are expected to locate and make arrangements for their own temporary and permanent housing. The Embassy can give you suggestions for lodging in advance of your arrival, but can provide only limited assistance after you have arrived in country.

The University of Sierra Leone and other host institutions do not typically arrange to meet grantees upon arrival at the airport. Grantees are strongly encouraged to contact their host institution well in advance concerning details of their arrival and initial contact with their hosts. It is preferable for grantees to arrive on weekdays rather than weekends. Grantees must provide CIES or IIE with their final itineraries at least 3 weeks in advance.

All Fulbrighters are encouraged to contact the PAS prior to arrival to schedule Embassy briefings on services, security, and health concerns. As a precaution in case of emergencies, you are required to register with the Consular Section at the Embassy, which can be done in advance of arrival at <http://travel.state.gov>. Upon arrival you will need to provide the PAS and the Consular Section with your local contact information.

The Ambassador would appreciate an introductory meeting with you, which can be scheduled through PAS.

U.S. Embassy Access

Please arrange to visit the Embassy within one week of your arrival. Please note that you will need to be escorted by PAS staff while on Embassy grounds, so please schedule your visits in advance via phone or e-mail; turning up at the Embassy unannounced may result in your having to wait for an escort to become available.

Check Cashing and Local Banking Arrangements

Contingent upon the Ambassador's approval, the American Embassy allows Fulbrighters to cash U.S. personal checks for local currency subject to the same rules and regulations that apply to the Embassy's American officers. Check cashing is limited to the equivalent of \$500.00 per day. Fulbrighters should arrive in country with a sufficient supply of paper checks from their personal accounts in the U.S., because this is the **ONLY** way to access funds via the Embassy cashier; third party checks cannot be processed or deposited via the cashier. The Embassy is unable to offer any other banking services. You should consider establishing overdraft service with your U.S. bank to cover any overdrawn checks that may occur because of slow mail service for sending and receiving bank statements and deposits. For checks over \$500, the Embassy can assist in making arrangements with a local bank.

We also recommend that Fulbrighters carry cash, since U.S. dollar traveler's checks and major credit cards are not accepted in Sierra Leone. Traveler's checks and/or a credit card are useful only for travel outside Sierra Leone, so always have cash on you that can be converted to Leones. While credit cards are not accepted in Sierra Leone, Western Union and Money Gram are available. There are no reliable ATMs in Sierra Leone that accept international cards.

Local Health Services and Access to Embassy Health Facilities

Fulbright grantees should ensure you have current yellow fever vaccination and tetanus immunizations. Vaccines for hepatitis A, hepatitis B, typhoid, and current booster/vaccines against childhood diseases (tetanus diphtheria, polio, and measles/mumps/rubella) are also strongly recommended for adults, as well as children. For additional information, consult the Centers for Disease Control's website: <http://www.cdc.gov/travel/index.htm>.

Grantees should carry copies of complete medical records and basic information that will enable quick and efficient medical assistance, if necessary. Seek the guidance of your personal physician prior to departure from the U.S. in selecting basic health information records to bring with you. Grantees should carry a good supply of aspirin, vitamins, band-aids, and preferred over the counter medications. Grantees should bring enough prescription medications to last through their assignment.

Fulbright grantees have health care benefits under the Department of State Group Accident and Sickness Program for Exchanges (ASPE). ASPE is a health benefits program; it is not an all purpose health insurance, and it is subject to limitations. Grantees should review the *Accident and Sickness Program for Exchange Participants in Programs Sponsored by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs*. Traveler's medical insurance, particularly emergency evacuation coverage is strongly recommended, especially for grantees based outside the capital city. The Fulbright grant provides limited medical and medical evacuation (medevac) coverage for the grantee only. The cost of medical insurance and medevac insurance for dependents must be paid by the Fulbrighter. Fulbrighters based outside the capital should explore membership in a local medical evacuation service that transports injured or ill members from rural areas to the capital or another city; these may be less expensive than worldwide services. Fulbrighters are strongly encouraged to provide copies of their medical evacuation coverage documents with PAS in the event of an emergency.

Medical facilities in Sierra Leone fall critically short of U.S. standards. Unfortunately, Embassy Freetown is not able to extend use of its Health Unit facilities to Fulbrighters or their dependents. The Embassy may, however, be able to provide advice on finding local medical care at no cost to the United States Government. Visitors should begin taking malaria prophylaxis two weeks prior to arrival and bring enough supply to last the entire period of their stay (or until they will have an opportunity to replenish their supply in a country with reliable health services). Please bring your yellow immunization record (WHO card) with you. Fulbrighters on long-term medications are advised to bring enough supplies for the length of their stay, as well as copies of all prescriptions.

Malaria is a serious problem in Sub-Saharan Africa, especially for grantees traveling outside urban areas. Take precautions and be familiar with the symptoms so that you seek treatment early. Proper precautions, such as malaria prophylaxis, boiling and filtering water, washing fruits and vegetables, etc., should be taken. Please bring insect repellent and an insecticide treated bed net (available via online retailers). Note that effective malaria prophylaxis medication is not readily available on the local market, and when available is very expensive. Plan on bringing enough malaria prophylaxis for the length of your stay. Grantees are advised to check with their physicians to ensure that these medications are compatible with other medications that they might be taking.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Permanent Housing and Household Goods

For Fulbright lecturers, the Embassy will encourage the host university to have permanent housing ready for you when you arrive. If permanent housing is not ready for you when you arrive, the university may arrange temporary housing, or the Embassy can give you suggestions for temporary lodging and assist with reservations.

Fulbright researchers and students are responsible for finding their own housing. Western-style housing that meets minimum standards of comfort and safety can be very expensive. The Embassy can give you suggestions for lodging in advance of your arrival, but can provide only

limited assistance after you have arrived in country.

Basic household items (cooking implements, plates, utensils, basic furnishings) are available on the local market, but often do not meet international standards and may be relatively expensive. Food is not expensive by U.S. standards, and there are several reasonably well-stocked grocery stores with most basic food items. A small selection of U.S. brands and specialty/gourmet items are sometimes available but tend to be relatively expensive. Tap water does not meet international standards for purity and safety; visitors should use bottled or purified water for drinking and cooking.

The television system used is PAL. Because the U.S. uses the NTSC system, DVDs brought from the U.S. will not be viewable on locally-acquired TV sets, unless they are multi-system. Satellite television service costs about US \$100 per month for a package that includes news, sports and movie channels.

Computers and Other Electronic Equipment

Fulbrighters do not have duty-free privileges, so all computers and electronic equipment brought into the country must be taken out of the country when the grant is completed or duty must be paid. Previous Fulbrighters have donated computer equipment to host universities at the end of their stay in exchange for the university's obtaining duty-free entry. Do not send computers as unaccompanied baggage. Cameras intended for personal use are allowed into the country duty-free.

Power outages and power fluctuations are common and can destroy a computer. The best solution is to bring a laptop which does not require a transformer and can easily convert from 120 to 220 volts. Another option is to purchase a transformer to convert your computer from 110 to 220 volts, and a heavy-duty surge protector and a voltage regulator. All can be purchased in-country. A previous Fulbrighter also advised that by bringing his own laser printer on his grant, he was able to avoid the tedious process of getting copies made at the university.

The capital and other large towns offer a variety of internet cafés with reasonable rates, but the service is often very slow and unreliable by Western standards (on a par with dial-up service). Direct Internet access at homes and offices is very rare, although it is increasing in the NGO and business communities. Unlike the U.S. where the universities were in the forefront of providing Internet service, universities in Sierra Leone lag behind in both e-mail and Internet access. Recent estimates rank Sierra Leone as having one of the lowest rates of internet penetration in Africa: 0.03%.

Academic Life

The University of Sierra Leone (USL) is the country's national institution of higher learning with an enrollment of more than 12,000 students at the undergraduate and graduate levels. The university's website address is <http://www.tusol.org/>.

Academic Calendar

The academic year runs from August through May. There are two semesters: August-December and January-May. Fulbright lecturers should plan to arrive in early or mid August. While

classes may not actually start on dates scheduled, course assignments are often decided during the last semester of the previous academic year. Given this, lecturers must be present before classes are scheduled to start.

Teaching Requirements, Attendance, and Staff hours

Lecturers may be assigned up to four courses, due to staff shortages in various departments. As stated in the Fulbright grant, PAS expects all lecturers to fulfill their professional responsibilities, including class attendance, faculty meetings, special projects, etc. Lecturers should communicate with their department heads as soon as possible to get an idea of classes to be assigned; however, Fulbright lecturers should also take note of workload assigned to them, and advise PAS if the host department is unbalanced in assignments.

Phoning Home and Mobile Phones

1-800 numbers cannot be accessed from Sierra Leone. Use of international long-distance calling cards is very limited. International calling rates are quite high - approximately US \$2.00 to \$2.50 per minute to the U.S. Many Americans subscribe to various call-back services to obtain cheaper rates - approximately US \$1.09 per minute.

Most Fulbrighters find it impossible to live without a mobile phone. There are several companies - Airtel and Comium are most common - and mobile networks are expanding. American phones, unless compatible with the GSM900 system, will not be compatible with the host country system. Mobile phones purchased in Europe should work.

Local Transportation and the Used Car Market

Fulbrighters who plan to drive may wish to obtain an international driver's license from the American Automobile Association (AAA) before leaving the U.S., although there is no guarantee that local authorities will recognize such a license. The U.S. Embassy can assist Fulbrighters to obtain a local license, but this must be paid for by the grantee; total cost is approximately USD 90. Japanese vehicles are common here, and therefore spare parts are easily available. Excessive speed, unpredictable local driving habits, poor vehicle maintenance, and the lack of basic safety equipment on many vehicles are daily hazards. Vehicle travel outside major cities at night should be avoided due to the poor condition of the roads and the threat of banditry. High clearance or four-wheel drive vehicles are essential for driving, even in certain areas of the capital, but especially outside major towns and in tourist areas. During the rainy season, many roads are passable only with four-wheel drive vehicles.

Fulbrighters are not granted duty-free privileges to purchase or import vehicles. For that reason, Fulbrighters are advised not to import vehicles, as import duty is very expensive and delays are common in clearing vehicles through customs. The Embassy and PAS cannot assist with customs clearance.

Scholars who plan to drive are advised to look for a used vehicle upon their arrival in the host country. Prices are comparable to American standards (\$7,000 or more depending on the type of car), but most grantees can sell the vehicle for approximately the same amount upon departure. Car rental is possible but also expensive. PAS cannot provide official vehicles for personal use.

Depending upon where you live, it may be possible to call for a taxi by phone, especially if you can identify a reliable driver. Public transportation is not considered to be safe. Even long distance travel in modern buses can be unsafe, both because of criminal activity aboard the buses and because of hazardous driving conditions.

Roads are generally poorly maintained, with numerous potholes even on major thoroughfares. As of this writing, there is no reliable passenger service on Sierra Leone's limited rail network.

Public Holidays

In addition to observing U.S. holiday, the U.S. Embassy also observes Sierra Leonean holidays, according to the following holiday schedule for 2013:

Date	Day	Holiday	Country
January 1	Tuesday	New Year's Day	A/SL
January 21	Monday	Martin Luther King's Birthday	A
January 24	Thursday (TBA)	Maoulid-Un-Nabi	SL
February 18	Monday	President's Day	A
March 29	Friday	Good Friday	SL
April 1	Monday	Easter Monday	SL
April 27*	Saturday	Independence Day	SL
May 27	Monday	Memorial Day	A
July 4	Thursday	Independence Day	A
August 8	Thursday (TBA)	Eid-UI-Fitr	SL
September 2	Monday	Labor Day	A
October 14	Monday	Columbus Day	A
October 15	Tuesday (TBA)	Tabaski	SL
November 11	Monday	Veteran's Day	A
November 28	Thursday	Thanksgiving Day	A
December 25	Wednesday	Christmas Day	A/SL
December 26	Thursday	Boxing Day	SL

Independence Day April 27, 2013 falls on a Saturday, Government of Sierra Leone will probably announce holiday on Monday, April 29.

Muslim holidays to be announced (TBA) depending on the appearance of the moon.

A = American / SL = Sierra Leone

Other Websites or Resource Material

Consular Information Sheet http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_1016.html
State Alumni <http://alumni.state.gov>
Fulbright Association <http://www.fulbright.org>

Major Newspapers or Country-Specific Resources

While there are over 50 registered “daily” newspapers in Freetown, most do not publish regularly. They are mainly circulated in Freetown, with few copies distributed upcountry. Prominent papers include: Awoko, Concord Times, Standard Times, Premier News, Politico, and Global Times.