INFORMATION FOR FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE CANDIDATES

The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government and is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW: Through the Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Program, U.S. colleges and universities collaborate with scholars from other countries to assist in internationalizing U.S. campuses, curriculum and communities. Fulbright S-I-Rs teach primarily on the undergraduate level in their areas of expertise and provide a cross-cultural or international perspective to promote curriculum and program development. Their activities typically enhance the institution’s international/global studies programs, interdisciplinary course/program offerings and broaden international cooperation. In addition, Fulbright S-I-Rs are expected to engage in on-campus and community activities in various ways throughout the program’s duration. S-I-R grants are for either one semester or an academic year.

HOST INSTITUTION AND S-I-R SELECTION PROCESS: Institutional proposals from U.S. colleges and universities are reviewed and recommended for Fulbright S-I-R awards through a competitive process administered by the Institute of International Education/Council for International Exchange of Scholars in coordination with the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA). Any accredited U.S. institution of higher learning is eligible to apply, but particular encouragement is given to Minority-Serving Institutions, small liberal arts colleges, rural institutions, and community colleges. The strongest proposals are recommended to the U.S. Department of State and to binational Fulbright Commissions and U.S. Embassies. Fulbright Commissions or U.S. Embassies overseas then either recruit suitable candidates when recruitment is requested (or confirm suitability of scholars when scholars are specifically named in institutional proposals) for these awards. In the case of recruited scholars, credentials of prospective candidates for S-I-R awards are presented to U.S. institutions for final selection. All S-I-R candidates are subject to approval by the U.S. Department of State and the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.

GRANT ACTIVITIES: Candidates are sought for awards at U.S. institutions of higher learning to:

- Teach courses from a comparative or international perspective,
- Serve as a resource person in interdisciplinary courses or professional programs,
- Participate in special seminars or colloquia that will benefit from the scholar’s perspective, and
- Assist in developing new courses or programs, or in upgrading existing course materials.

In addition, candidates for S-I-R awards must be prepared to fulfill campus and community engagement activities. Examples include:

- Serving as a resource for faculty and students in various ways
- Participating in campus and community life
- Speaking at civic, professional, and cultural organizations and schools
- Engaging with local media

ELIGIBILITY: Fulbright S-I-R candidates must meet the following requirements: English language proficiency, minimal or no prior experience living in the United States, and the credentials to perform the program and activities described in an institution’s proposal.

GRANT BENEFITS: Fulbright S-I-Rs are provided by the U.S. Department of State with:

- A stipend ranging from $2,850 to $3,700 per month (depending on grant location),
- One-time allowances for materials ($250) settling-in expenses ($500 - $750) and professional development ($750 - $1,125) depending on grant length,
- A monthly dependent allowance; $200 per month for one qualifying dependent and $350 per month for two or more qualifying dependents (note that qualifying dependents include spouses and unmarried children under the age of 21 who accompany the scholar for at least 80% of the time in the United States),
- Round-trip international airfare for the S-I-R and one qualifying dependent (note that the grant must be for a full academic year and the dependent must accompany the scholar for at least 80% of the time in the United States),
- Accident and sickness health benefits for the S-I-R (scholars must purchase J-visa compliant insurance for all accompanying dependents),
- J-Visa sponsorship for the Scholar and accompanying spouse and unmarried children under the age of 21,
- In addition, many host institutions offer cost-sharing benefits (a salary supplement and/or other accommodations, which vary widely according to the resources available at the institutions).