



Situation as of April 22, 2026

## 2026-27 Fulbright Finland Foundation Grantees to the U.S.

### **ASLA-Fulbright Research Grants for Junior Scholars**

*for post-doctoral research*

#### **Kannisto, Tarna**

Social and Moral Philosophy

Reflective Equilibrium in Test: Philosophical Discussion as Inquiry and Research Method in Educational Ethics

University of Helsinki

Stanford University, CA

*Cost-shared with the University of Helsinki*

3 months, beginning January 2027

#### **Leinonen, Tapio**

Theology

Masculinity in Martin Luther's Thought and Early Lutheran Theology

University of Eastern Finland, Joensuu

Yale University, CT

*Cost-shared with the University of Eastern Finland*

6 months, beginning September 2026

Total grantees for ASLA-Fulbright Research Grants for Junior Scholars Program: 2

### **Fulbright Research Grant for a Junior Scholar in Partnership with the Nokia Foundation**

#### **Akpinar, Ugur**

Signal Processing

Accommodation-Invariant Near-Eye Displays With Wide Field-of-View

Tampere University

University of Utah, UT

3 months, beginning November 2026

Total grantees for the Fulbright Research Grant for a Junior Scholar in Partnership with the Nokia Foundation: 1

## **Fulbright Finland Travel Grants for Research Collaboration**

*for a short research visit in the U.S.*

### **Soldano, Caterina**

*Ambassadors' Circle Scholarship*

Organic Electronics

Organic and 2D Materials for Next-Generation Electronics: AI-Driven Discovery Meets

Advanced Characterization

Aalto University, Espoo

Northeastern University, MA

4 weeks, beginning July 2026

### **Varfolomeeva, Anna**

Environmental Humanities

Data Centres in the Afterlives of Arctic Industries

University of Oulu

University of Alaska Fairbanks, AK

2 weeks, beginning March 2027

Total grantees for Fulbright Finland Travel Grants for Research Collaboration Program: 2

## **The Fulbright Finland Foundation Fellowship for Pre-Doctoral Research**

*for pre-doctoral research*

### **Heikkinen, Juulia**

Sociology of Digital Culture and Democracy

Formats of Valuation on Social Media

University of Helsinki

University of California, Berkeley, CA

*Cost-shared with the University of Helsinki*

5 months, beginning August 2026

Total grantees for The Fulbright Finland Foundation Fellowship for Pre-Doctoral Research: 1

## **Fulbright-KAUTE Foundation Award**

*for doctoral students and post-doctoral scholars in the fields of Business, Economics, and Technology. Program in cooperation with KAUTE Foundation*

### **Tarpola, Milla**

Economics

Selling the Future: Why Breakthrough Firms Choose Acquisition Over Growth?

Paris School of Economics

Yale University, CT; Stanford University, CA

9 months, beginning September 2026

Total grantees for Fulbright-KAUTE Foundation Award: 1

**The Fulbright Finland Foundation and Idman Foundation Graduate Fellowship**  
*for senior secondary school graduates from the Tampere City Region to complete a master's degree in a U.S. university*

**Lu, Haiying**

Finance

Completing a master's degree in Finance

Graduate of Aalto University, Espoo

Massachusetts Institute of Technology MIT, MA

Program term: August 2025 - December 2026

Total grantees for The Fulbright Finland Foundation and Idman Foundation Graduate Fellowship: 1

**Fulbright-Idman Grant**

*for senior secondary school graduates from the Tampere City Region to complete a master's degree in a U.S. university*

**Saleva, Marja**

Photo-Based Visual Art

Completing a master's degree in Fine Arts

Graduate of Turku University of Applied Sciences

Pratt Institute, NY

Program term: August 2025 - May 2027

**Viitasalo, Eveliina**

Forensic Chemistry

Completing a master's degree in Forensic Chemistry

Graduate of the University of Jyväskylä

University of Central Oklahoma, OK

9 months, beginning August 2026

Total grantees for the Fulbright-Idman Grant Program: 2

**ASLA-Fulbright Graduate Grants**

*for graduate studies and doctoral research*

**Laaksonen, Rose**

Sustainability and Environmental Management

Completing a master's degree in Environmental Sustainability

Graduate of Tampere University of Applied Sciences

Host Institution TBC

9 months, beginning August 2026

Total grantees for the ASLA-Fulbright Graduate Grant Program: 1

### **Fulbright-Technology Industries of Finland Grant (Graduate)**

*for graduate study and research in projects with relevance to the fields represented by the technology industries. Program in cooperation with Technology Industries of Finland Centennial Foundation.*

#### **Hellman, Fredrik**

Information Technology

Data Management for Automated Life Cycle Assessment

Åbo Akademi University, Vaasa

Host Institution TBC

9 months, beginning August 2026

Total grantees for the Fulbright-Technology Industries of Finland Grant (Graduate): 1

### **Fulbright Finnish Language and Culture Teaching Assistants**

*for teaching Finnish and graduate studies*

#### **Hanski, Sara**

Class Teacher Education

Finnish Language Teaching Assistant

Graduate of the University of Turku

University of Washington, WA

9 months, beginning September 2026

Total grantees for Fulbright Finnish Language and Culture Teaching Assistant Program: 1

### **Fulbright Finland Undergraduate Program**

*for undergraduate exchange or degree studies. Funded by the Finland-America Educational Trust Fund.*

*Information on awarded grants will be updated after selections have been made.*

Total grantees for Fulbright Finland Undergraduate Program:

### **Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching**

*semester-long program for primary and secondary level educators*

#### **Aaltonen, Anna**

Science and Language Education

Supporting Language Acquisition and Teaching Communication Skills in the Science Classroom

Lauttasaaren yhteiskoulu, Helsinki

Host Institution TBC

4 months, beginning August 2026

**Paunonen, Eveliina**

Business and Marketing Education  
Experiential Learning and Storytelling in Marketing Education  
Mercuria Business College, Vantaa  
Host Institution TBC  
4 months, beginning August 2026

Total grantees for Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Program: 2

**Fulbright Finland Travel Grants for Institutional Partnership Building**  
*for a short visit in the U.S.***Laes, Tuulikki**

Music Education  
Building and Extending Research Partnerships, Policy and Curricular Development  
University of the Arts, Helsinki  
Columbia University, NY  
2 weeks, beginning September 2026

Total grantees for Fulbright Finland Travel Grants for Institutional Partnership Building: 1

**ASLA-Fulbright Mid-Career Professional Development Grant (MCPD)**  
*for professional development projects***Lounasmaa, Jouni**

Innovations in Healthcare  
Fostering Innovations at Children's Hospitals – Developing Practices of Innovation for 21st Century Pediatrics  
New Children's Hospital Foundation, Helsinki  
Boston Children's Hospital, MA; Harvard Medical School, MA  
*Cost-shared with the New Children's Hospital Foundation*  
3 months, beginning September 2026

**Rosenström, Heidi**

Non-Formal Education  
Designing Futures for Science Engagement: Co-Creation as a Tool for Empowering Audiences and Preparing Organizations for Change  
Heureka, the Finnish Science Center, Vantaa  
Arizona State University, AZ  
*Cost-shared with Heureka, the Finnish Science Center*  
4,5 months, beginning March 2027

Total grantees for the ASLA-Fulbright Mid-Career Professional Development Grant (MCPD):  
2

**Fulbright Finland Renewal Grants**

*for continuing studies after the initial grant year*

*Information on awarded grants will be updated after selections have been made.*

Total grantees for Fulbright Finland Renewal Grants:

### **Study of the U.S. Institutes for Scholars and Professionals**

*short-term programs for scholars and professionals*

*Information on awarded grants will be updated after selections have been made.*

Total grantees for the Study of the U.S. Institutes for Scholars and Professionals:

### **Study of the U.S. Institutes for Secondary School Educators**

*short-term programs for secondary school educators*

*Information on awarded grants will be updated after selections have been made.*

Total grantees for the Study of the U.S. Institutes for Secondary School Educators:

## **TOTAL NUMBER OF GRANTEES**

As of April 13, 2026

Finnish grantees: 18

Total: 18

*The selections of U.S. Fulbright Finland Foundation grantees will be published here later in the spring.*

## Fulbright Finland Foundation

The Fulbright Finland Foundation is an independent not-for-profit based in Helsinki, Finland. With the purpose of promoting a wider exchange of knowledge and professional talents through educational contacts between Finland and the United States, the Foundation collaborates with a range of government, foundation, university, and corporate partners on both sides of the Atlantic to design and manage study and research scholarships, leadership development programs, and internationalization services.

The Foundation supports the internationalization of education and research in Finland, and helps U.S. and Finnish institutions create linkages. Under its Internationalization Services the Foundation organizes themed study tours to the U.S. for Finnish higher education experts, runs the highly popular Fulbright Speaker Program, the Fulbright Dialogues series, and the Transatlantic Roundtables, as well as organizes several national Fulbright Seminars every year.

The Foundation is funded by the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture, the U.S. Department of State, the Finland-America Educational Trust Fund, private foundations, Finnish and U.S. higher education institutions, alumni of the Fulbright Finland Foundation programs, and private donors. Nearly 80 % of the Foundation's core funding originates from Finland, and advancement, fundraising and sponsored grants are a central part of the operation. A key strength of the Foundation is the consistent strategic engagement of the alumni. Since 1949, over 6 400 students, scholars, teachers, artists, and professionals have participated in our exchange programs – over 4 100 from Finland and over 2 300 from the U.S. Representing all fields in the arts, sciences, and the society at large, grantees and alumni are vital to the Foundation's vision: *empowering minds to find global solutions to tomorrow's challenges*.

The Board of Directors of the Fulbright Finland Foundation consists of eight members appointed by the Finnish Ministry of Education and the U.S. Embassy in Finland. The U.S. Ambassador to Finland serves as the Honorary Chair of the Board. The Foundation office is located in Helsinki. The Foundation is managed by the CEO together with seven full-time staff members.

Further information:

Fulbright Finland Foundation

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