Welcome to the Fulbright Finland Foundation’s Applicant Event

Technical Instructions
• Your microphones are muted to prevent background noise.
• To ask questions, please type your questions in the Q&A.
• Please use at least your first name.
• This webinar will be recorded. You will receive the recording next week.

Program
15:30 What’s the Fulbright Program About?
15:45 Introduction to Master’s and Doctoral Studies in the U.S. and Fulbright Finland Grant Programs for Graduate Studies and Research
16:05 Introduction and Tips for the U.S. Graduate School Application Process
16:20 Q&A
16:30 Panel Discussion: U.S. Professors’ Insights on Graduate Admission and Visiting Student Researcher Placement - Tips for Finnish Candidates
17:00 Event Ends
WHAT’S THE FULBRIGHT PROGRAM ABOUT?

March 7, 2024

WWW.FULBRIGHT.FI
FULBRIGHT FINLAND FOUNDATION

Cultural Exchange Between Finland and North America

Internationalization Services

Advising, Training and Information Services for Students, Researchers, and Working Professionals

Grant Programs (approximately 90 grantees per year)

Cultural Ambassadors and Change Makers

www.fulbright.fi
The global Fulbright Grant Program: Over 160 countries

EXPLORE FULBRIGHT PROGRAMS BY COUNTRY:
http://eca.state.gov/fulbright
WHAT MAKES FULBRIGHT FINLAND GRANT PROGRAMS UNIQUE?

• Fulbright grantees are citizen ambassadors of their home country, the program, and the institute they represent

• A flagship program for changemakers

• Valuable benefits and services

www.fulbright.fi
ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

- Personal university placement and university funding search service
- Extensive orientation trainings
- Free-of-charge U.S. visa for the grantee and accompanying family members
- Support and guidance services in Finland and the U.S.
- Designated contact person to help in official matters and when needing any advice
- Support from a program partner organization and alumni in the U.S.
- The opportunity to develop professional and international networks
ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES AND FINNISH FULBRIGHT WELCOME NETWORK

New connections and unique experiences with other grantees and Fulbright Finland alumni in the U.S.

Hiking in Colorado  Reggae Concert in Topanga Canyon, CA  Hiking in Seattle area  Exploring NYC  Visiting ice-breaker
BENEFITS CONTINUED...

Additional value to your career development

Alumni activities and network
WHY APPLY TO THE FULBRIGHT FINLAND PROGRAMS?
GRADUATE STUDIES IN THE U.S. & FULBRIGHT FINLAND GRANT PROGRAMS
U.S. HIGHER EDUCATION

• Around 4000 higher education institutions, about 1000 provide graduate degrees

• Public and private

• Colleges, Universities, and Institutions
UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES IN THE U.S.

➢ Funding from universities for degree students
➢ Quality education and academic excellence
➢ Variety of educational opportunities
➢ Support services for international students
➢ Unique campus culture - special experience
ACADEMIC PLACEMENT & UNIVERSITY FUNDING SEARCH SERVICE

Provided by a U.S. program partner for degree students particularly

- Strong university relationships with histories of supporting Fulbright grantees, for example
  - Possible tuition waivers

- Help in finding universities that provide a good academic fit

- Review application materials

- Cover university application costs, incl. application fees, required test fees, and credential evaluations

- Negotiate significant levels of university support for grantees
GRANTS FOR

MASTER’S AND DOCTORAL STUDIES

• Fulbright-Idman Grant
  • For master’s degree studies

• Fulbright-Technology Industries of Finland Grants
  • For master’s and doctoral degree studies/research

• Fulbright-KAUTE Foundation Award
  • For doctoral degree studies/research

• ASLA-Fulbright Graduate Grant TBC
  • For master’s and doctoral degree studies/research

Application period for 2025-26 ends May 19, 2024
OTHER GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Master’s students:
• Fulbright Finnish Language and Culture Teaching Assistant Program (FLTA)

Doctoral students
• ASLA-Fulbright Pre-Doctoral Research Fellows Program TBC
• Study of the U.S. Institutes for Scholars and Professionals
**EVALUATION CRITERIA**

- Motivation for applying to the Fulbright Finland Foundation programs
- Strength of the proposal
- Potential outcomes and impact
- Academic and professional merit
- The interview
THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE IN A U.S. UNIVERSITY
HOW TO SELECT A SUITABLE UNIVERSITY?

1. Start with you
   - What will you do after your Fulbright?
   - Personal goals and future career plans

2. Academic qualities
   - Degree, major, program structure & type, course selection
   - Faculty - supervisor/mentor - WHO DO YOU WANT TO WORK WITH?
   - Research focus – RIGHT FIT/MATCH FOR YOU!
   - Access to research material, facilities
   - Institutional type and size (e.g. Carnegie Classification)
   - Accreditation
   - Non-degree options?
HOW TO SELECT A SUITABLE UNIVERSITY?

3. University Placement Service

4. University costs and funding + cost of living
   • Recommended amount for living costs
     ➢ USD 2 800 to 4 300 per month

5. Name recognition/ranking?
U.S. GRADUATE SCHOOL APPLICATION PROCESS

INTRODUCTION & TIPS
BALANCED APPLICATION PLAN

• Narrow down your prospective schools

• Apply to 4-8 universities
  • Master’s students to at least 4
  • Doctoral students to at least 5

• Include safer options
The complete application typically includes:

- Application
- Transcripts and diplomas
- Application essay (personal/research statement)
- Recommendations
- Test scores (GRE, GMAT, TOEFL)
- Medical documents
- Funding plan (if needed)
- Portfolio or other field specific materials
- Application fees
  - *not for Fulbrighters using the Placement Service*
TOEFL

www.ets.org/toefl

• Register for the test
• Free practise test

• 320 USD (free for placement service participants)

• U.S. Institutions normally accept only the official test score reports sent directly from ETS

• Reading, listening, writing, speaking

• TOEFL practice books available at the Fulbright Finland Foundation
GRE

• General test ja subject test

• [www.ets.org/gre](http://www.ets.org/gre)

• 220 USD (free for placement service participants)

• U.S. Institutions normally accept only the official test score reports received directly from ETS

• GRE practice books available at Fulbright Finland Foundation
GMAT

**Analytical Writing Assessment**—measures your ability to think critically and to communicate your ideas

**Integrated Reasoning**—measures your ability to analyze data and evaluate information presented in multiple formats

**Quantitative Reasoning**—measures your ability to analyze data and draw conclusions using reasoning skills

**Verbal Reasoning**—measures your ability to read and understand written material, to evaluate arguments and to correct written material to conform to standard written English

- 275 USD (free for placement service participants)
- GMAT practice books available at Fulbright Finland Foundation
TIPS FOR THE APPLICATION PROCESS
IT’S TIME FOR
QUESTIONS
CONNECT WITH GRANTEES AND ALUMNI

Check CV catalog of Fulbright grantees and Outreach Ambassadors

Photo: University of Turku
Do you want to create connections with U.S. Fulbright scholars, teachers, and graduate students?

Join the Fulbright Forum!
March through April, starting at 16:30

Next sessions:
• Social Sciences– March 14
• Education– March 18
• Interdisciplinary– March 27
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