

FULBRIGHT FINLAND FOUNDATION SERVICES AND RESOURCES FOR HOSTS AND U.S. FULBRIGHTERS 2019

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This presentation will go through Fulbright Finland Foundation services and resources for hosts and U.S. Fulbrighters. Many of these services are mainly for the grantees but hosts can also utilize these materials and services and as a host, it is good to know what kind of services the grantees get from the Fulbright Finland Foundation.

First of all, Fulbright Finland organizes a pre-arrival webinar for grantees in spring, usually in April, that includes information about practical arrangements before arrival, such as applying for a residence permit, securing accommodation, some practical program information and general information about Finland. The online guide on the Fulbright Finland website includes also a lot of information about similar topics and a lot more. The online guide is available for the grantees throughout their stay. The Orientation guide also includes a check-list for grantees on what to do before arrival, after arrival and before departure back to the U.S.

The Fulbright Finland Foundation program partners in the U.S., Institute of International Education IIE and World Learning Organization, also provide some pre-arrival materials for the grantees.



Every grantee has a named Fulbright Finland Program Coordinator who will support the grantee throughout the preparations and stay in Finland.

The host is the main contact person in matters related to the host city and work at the university but the Fulbright Finland Foundation program coordinators help grantees in Fulbright program related issues and some pre-arrival preparations and are an extra support net in any questions.

The hosts can also utilize Fulbright Finland advising services if you have any questions on the Fulbright program or issues related to hosting a Fulbright grantee.



When the grantees have arrived to Finland, Fulbright Finland Foundation organizes 2 annual orientations for grantees, one in August and one in January.

These orientations are mandatory for grantees, so if they arrive for the fall term, they need to participate in the August orientation and spring arrivals participate in the January orientation. The main purpose of the orientation is to introduce the grantees to the important local networks such as the Fulbright Finland team, alumni network and other Fulbrighters. The purpose of the orientation is to also give to an opportunity to meet Fulbright Finland key partners and sponsors.

The orientations include information about the Fulbright program in Finland, Fulbright Finland services and events, Finnish higher education system, cross-cultural communication and Finnish culture/language in general. In addition to this, the program also includes informal cultural program such as visiting museums, sightseeing tour and Finnish sauna experience.



In addition to the orientations, Fulbright Finland organizes other annual events such as the American Voices Seminar in Turku in October. In the American Voices seminar, the grantees talk about topics related to American culture and society. Fulbright Finland organizes program for grantees also on Thanksgiving in November. In March Fulbright Finland organizes the Fulbright Forum (in Helsinki) in which the grantees will talk about their Fulbright project/research in Finland. Depending on the year, other optional events are available for the scholars and students.

The ASLA-Fulbright Alumni Association has a roster of alumni volunteers who serve as buddies for arriving U.S. grantees. Every grantee has a named Fulbright buddy here in Finland.



After the grant period, the grantees can utilize the wide and active alumni network in Finland and in the U.S.

The alumni network also offers some opportunities for host institutions and scholars to continue their collaboration such as the <u>Friends of Fulbright Finland Alumni Enrichment Award</u>. The award is meant for a former grantee to return to Finland to continue the cooperation with the grant hosts.



Here are some other examples of the Fulbright Finland Foundation grant programs that can be used to continue and develop cooperation.

Through the <u>Fulbright Specialist program</u> Finnish institutions can invite U.S. academics or U.S. professionals to collaborate with their organization. These specialists can be invited to Finland for 2-6 weeks assignments and is a great opportunity to continue working with the grantee and his/her university.

Fulbright Finland also offers <u>short-term travel grants for Finnish faculty and staff</u> to travel to the U.S. One travel grant program is meant for research collaboration and one is meant for institutional partnership building.

In addition to these programs, it is good to keep in mind the various Fulbright programs for both Finnish and U.S. scholars and professionals that are available.