

Tips for Fulbright Application

Eligibility:

- U.S. citizenship required.
- Most programs mandate at least a bachelor's degree.
- Language proficiency may be necessary, depending on the program and location.

Best Practices for Your Application:

Tailor your application to the specific award you're applying for, focusing on relevant experiences, skills, and achievements that align with the award's objectives. Showcase your unique strengths, experiences, and passions. Show qualifications and attributes that align with the Fulbright mission of advancing mutual understanding between the people of the U.S. and other countries. Highlight community engagement and future goals, emphasizing diversity, equity, and inclusion principles.

More Tips:

You are trying to show the Fulbright review committees who you are and how you represent their mission. We need to highlight our qualifications and attributes as they relate to expressing the Fulbright mission and project purpose. Pay particular attention to ways you are engaging with the host country community and how this experience in Fulbright enhances your future goals. You will be sharing this information (“your story”) through the Statement of Grant Purpose and Personal Statement

Everything you share about yourself should be focused through the lens of the Fulbright mission

Advance mutual understanding between the people of the U.S and other countries. Achieving this goal through research/study in the host country, but also through active engagement in the host community

Two main areas to focus on when sharing your story through Statement of Grant Purpose and Personal Statement

Attributes:

- Motivations, drive, characteristics, adaptability
- Future Plans or Career Goals
- Your purpose/mission (“Why Statement”)
- How you see Diversity, Equity, Inclusion
- Community engagement (host country)
- “Gray stuff” about you outside of skills/knowledge

Qualifications:

- Academic background
- Work, research, internship experience
- Trainings & development
- Extracurricular activities
- Accomplishments and awards
- “Black/white stuff” about you

Questions to ask yourself:

- How does your project express the Fulbright mission?
- In what specific ways will you engage and connect with the host country community?
- How does this project with Fulbright further diversity, equity, and inclusion principles?
- What experiences (all types) will enhance your project, make it a success, and engage you in the host country community?
- What stories from your life demonstrate your characteristics, motivation, abilities, overcoming adversity, and your Why Statement?
- In what ways have you grown from your experiences and how does this growth connect to your goals or interest in the Fulbright Program.
- How will this experience in Fulbright support your career goals or future plans (e.g., how do you want to impact the world)?

Why Statement

Fill in each line with the associate prompt in parentheses. Why statements show our values, motivation, attributes, and how we want to impact the world (e.g., future goals or career goals). Use this statement to talk about your attributes as they relate to the Fulbright mission and support your success in the program.

I seek to _____

(action verb)

with _____

(who)

to _____

(do what? Desired impact or contribution)

Be sure to check out more information and guidelines on your Statement of Grant Purpose and Personal Statement, as well as other valuable information and application materials, on the Fulbright website (<https://us.fulbrightonline.org/applicants/application-components>)