Applying for a Fulbright Scholarship

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**FIRST STEPS:**

1. Consider what country you would want to explore and what you would study there.
2. Develop professional contacts in your area of study within that country.
3. Talk to those people about your research goals and interests (specifically about the feasibility of doing research on that topic in that country).
   a. Talk to your current departmental chair about your interest in pursuing a Fulbright Scholarship and the timing of it for your career.
   b. Calculate the financial impact going on Fulbright would have for you and your family; and plan accordingly. Begin to consider your needs for “gap coverage.”
   c. Begin sketching out a research project proposal.
4. Seek out a well-placed scholar in the prospective host country who would provide a letter of invitation to you on the basis of your intended project.

**SECOND STEPS:** [http://www.cies.org/us_scholars/us_awards/Tips.htm](http://www.cies.org/us_scholars/us_awards/Tips.htm)

1. Explore CIES website for information about the host country. [http://www.cies.org/country/](http://www.cies.org/country/)
2. Consider what kind of Fulbright Scholarship to pursue and prepare your proposal according to the website’s instructions (paying careful attention to the language proficiency requirement of the Fulbright program in your prospective host country).
3. Your proposal must follow the content guidelines provided:
      i. This includes samples for your use
   b. [http://www.cies.org/us_scholars/us_awards/ProjectStatement.htm](http://www.cies.org/us_scholars/us_awards/ProjectStatement.htm)
      i. This includes a one hour webinar on how to prepare a project statement
4. Follow the deadlines; exceptions are not permitted. Don’t wait to the last minute to prepare your project statement – this is not a situation where procrastination will be rewarded.

**THIRD STEPS:** WAIT FOR RESULTS

1. The US review committee will rank their applicants for “finalists” in two categories: top tier and second tier.
2. Those finalists will be forwarded to the review committee in the host country, who will review them and decide who will be awarded the Fulbright Scholarships from within that pool of applicants. They are not obliged to award scholarships. They are not obliged to keep the top tier rankings of the US-based committee.
3. Award letters will be distributed to awardees who will then have to indicate their acceptance of the award, or if their plans/circumstances have changed decline or defer the award.
4. Negotiate with your Dean for “gap coverage” for your Fulbright period.