The Fulbright U.S. Student Program awards scholarships to U.S. graduating seniors, graduate students, young professionals, scientists and artists selected through a national, merit-based competition for study and research abroad. Academic fields include the social sciences, humanities and the sciences. The Program emphasizes leadership development. Approximately 1,700 scholarships are awarded each year.

The Fulbright English Teaching Assistant (ETA) Program, a component of the Fulbright U.S. Student Program, places U.S. students, primarily new college graduates, as English teaching assistants in schools or universities overseas, where they increase foreign students’ English language abilities and knowledge of the United States. They are integrated in the host community, which improves their own foreign language skills and knowledge of the host country. ETAs also pursue individual study/research plans in addition to their teaching responsibilities.

The Fulbright Foreign Student Program brings foreign graduate students to the U.S. for study and/or research, including Master’s and Ph.D. programs, in addition to non-degree programs and academic training. This Program includes a wide range of fields, excluding clinical medicine. Approximately 4,000 new and renewal grants are awarded each year.

The Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Program, a component of the Fulbright Foreign Student Program, awards scholarships to young English teachers from overseas to refine their teaching skills, increase their English proficiency, and expand their knowledge of U.S. society and values while strengthening foreign language instruction at U.S. colleges and universities. Participants also share their country’s culture and values with Americans on and off campus.

A QUICK SNAPSHOT

- Selection for the Fulbright Student Program emphasizes leadership potential, academic and professional excellence, and commitment to mutual understanding.
- Over 5,700 students from more than 155 countries and the U.S. receive scholarships in the Fulbright Student Program annually.
- Fulbright awards are available in virtually all fields of study and reflect the bilateral priorities of the U.S. Government and partner governments.

The Critical Language Enhancement Award provides selective support for U.S. Fulbright students to complete intensive in-country training in critical need languages for up to 6 months prior to the start of Fulbright grants or, in some cases, concurrent with their Fulbright projects.

The Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program supports study abroad by talented American undergraduates with financial need who represent the full diversity of our country. The Program emphasizes non-traditional language study as well as study in non-traditional foreign destinations.

The Critical Language Scholarships for Intensive Summer Institutes provide awards to American undergraduate and graduate students for overseas intensive summer study of 13 critical need foreign languages.

The Study of the U.S. Institutes for Undergraduate Student Leaders bring undergraduate student leaders from diverse sectors in other countries to participate in intensive academic seminars that provide participants with leadership training as well as a deeper understanding of U.S. society, culture, and institutions.

The Global Undergraduate Student Exchange Programs provide semester and academic-year scholarships to student leaders from underrepresented sectors in the Americas, Eurasia, Asia, North Africa and the Middle East to participate in exchanges at U.S. colleges or universities.

Educational and Cultural Programs

Participants in these undergraduate and graduate exchanges are among the more than 40,000 academic and professional exchange program participants supported annually by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.