

CHAPTER 400 - U.S. STUDENTS

Section 410 General Provisions 5

411 Definition and Classification

411.1 U.S. Students

Section 420 Selection Criteria 5

421 Personal Factors

421.1 Citizenship

421.2 Personal Factors

421.3 Adaptability

421.4 Availability

421.5 Veterans

422 Academic and Program Factors

422.1 Academic Excellence

422.2 Nature of Project

422.3 Educational Levels

422.4 Non-academic Candidates

422.5 Host Country Considerations

422.6 Change in Specific Project

423 Placement Factors

423.1 Placement

423.2 U.S.Citizen-Sponsored Schools Abroad

423.3 Change of Placement

424 Experience Abroad Factors

424.1 Previous Experience Abroad

425 Eligibility Factors

425.1 Members of Same Family

425.2 U.S. Government Employees

425.3 Candidates in the Field of Religion

	425.4	Second grants	
426		Ineligibility Factors	
	426.1	Concurrent Grants	
	426.2	Persons Associated with Specific Agencies and Organizations, and Members of their Families	
	426.3	Persons Arrested for, Indicted for, Charged with, or Convicted of a Felony or a Misdemeanor	
	426.4	Medical Studies	
427		Financial Factors	
	427.1	Financial Status	
	427.2	Recipients of Grants Under Other Auspices	
	427.3	Recipients of Partial Grants Under Other Auspices	
428		Competition and Recruitment	
429		Applications for Honorary Grants	
Section 430		General Terms of Grant	12
	431	Passport and Visas	
	432	Full-Time Nature of Grants	
	432.1	Restrictions	
	432.2	Supervision	
	433	Duration of Grants	
	433.1	Basic Grant Period	
	433.2	Extension of Grants	
	433.3	Renewal of Grants	
	434	Postponement of Grants	
	435	Remaining Abroad After Grant Expiration	
	436	Temporary Country Program Suspension	

- 437 Resignation From Grant
 - 437.1 Personal Factors
 - 437.2 Early Completion of Project
 - 437.3 Other Reasons
- 438 Revocation, Termination and Suspension of Grants
 - 438.1 Definitions
 - 438.2 Authority to Recommend Revocation or Termination
 - 438.3 Grounds for Revocation or Termination
 - 438.4 Procedure for Revocation or Termination
 - 438.5 Financial Issues Related to Revocation, Termination and Suspension
 - 438.6 Suspension
 - 438.7 Persons Arrested for, Indicted for, Charged with or Convicted of a Felony or a Misdemeanor
 - 438.8 Notification
- 439 Liability

Section 440 Financial Terms of Grant 18

- 441 Grant Benefits
 - 441.1 Basic Grant Package
 - 441.2 Dependent Supplements
 - 441.3 Maintenance Allowance
 - 441.4 Travel and Transportation
 - 441.5 Other Allowances
 - 441.6 Health and Accident Insurance
- 442 Grants to Two Members of Same Family
- 443 Duration of Benefits
 - 443.1 Maintenance Allowance
 - 443.2 Health and Accident Insurance
 - 443.3 Travel for Grantees Remaining Abroad after Expiration of Grant
 - 443.4 Early Departure of Grantee
- 444 Benefits From Other Sources

- 444.1 Other Grants
- 444.2 Honoraria or Other Fees
- 444.3 U.S. Government Employees
- 444.4 Veterans

Section 450	Income Tax Liability	23
Section 460	Responsibilities and Rights of Grantees	23
Section 470	Publications Resulting From Grant	23

400 U.S. STUDENTS

410 GENERAL PROVISIONS

411 *Definition and Classification*

411.1 U.S. Students

U.S. students are defined as candidates for grants to pursue academic study or research projects, in some cases combined with teaching assistantships or internships, at the post-baccalaureate level. Candidates may not hold a doctoral degree at the time of application.

420 SELECTION CRITERIA

421 *Personal Factors*

421.1 Citizenship

Candidates must be citizens or nationals of the United States of America.

421.2 Personal Factors

Candidates will be considered without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, gender or age. Although the physical and mental health of candidates must be adequate to allow them to fulfill the terms of their grant, no qualified disabled candidate will, on the basis of disability, be subjected to discrimination.

421.3 Adaptability

Candidates should demonstrate the dynamism and flexibility necessary for active involvement in the host culture. The cooperating agency is authorized to assess whether the candidate shows promise of being able to adjust successfully to life in the host country. The Board strongly encourages personal interviews with candidates to determine these qualities.

421.4 Availability

Candidates are solely responsible for obtaining any necessary leave of absence or making other arrangements to enable them to accept the grant. The awarding of a grant does not constitute

endorsement by the Board, the U.S. Department of State, or the cooperating agency of a leave of absence for the grantee.

421.5 Veterans

Candidates who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States will be given preference, provided their qualifications are approximately equivalent to those of other candidates.

422 Academic and Program Factors

422.1 Academic Excellence

Excellence of academic record in the United States and other qualifying educational or related professional experience will be significant factors in selection.

422.2 Nature of Project

Applications will be evaluated for purpose and feasibility. Proposals should reflect enduring concerns, emphasize basic subjects, demonstrate sound methodology, and avoid politicization of scholarly inquiry.

422.3 Educational Levels

Grants will be given to the best qualified students regardless of their level of study. Preference, however, will be given to candidates who, at the commencement of the grant period, will have recently received a baccalaureate degree. These candidates will not be restricted as to field of study nor will they be required to have formulated long-term specific educational or career goals beyond those necessary for a successful experience abroad.

Grants to degree candidates who are nominated before they receive the baccalaureate degree are contingent upon receipt of the degree.

Master's degree candidates, young professionals, and Ph.D. candidates will be expected to have fully developed programs of study or research that can be completed during the grant period.

Provided that the candidate's qualifications are approximately equivalent to those of other candidates, preference will be given to the candidate whose higher education was received primarily at colleges and universities in the United States.

422.4 Non-academic Candidates

The Board encourages applications from candidates who are not presently in an academic program and who intend to pursue a career outside the academy. This includes candidates in artistic and professional fields, such as artists, musicians, writers, journalists, and other professionals.

For these candidates, the following requirements apply:

- a. In the creative and performing arts, four years of professional study and/or experience are required;
- b. Candidates without a B.A. or equivalent degree, but with extensive years of professional study and/or experience in fields in which they wish to pursue a project, may be considered.

422.5 Host Country Considerations

- a. Candidates must be acceptable to the country in which they propose to pursue their study or research. Consideration will be given to any likely sensitivity in the host country to the candidate's proposed project.
- b. Candidates must meet the general language requirements considered necessary for study or research and for adjustment to life in the host country.
- c. Grants are usually for study or research in one country. A project which may involve more than one country must be approved by the Commission (or, in a non- Commission country, the post) in each country involved. One country will be designated for primary affiliation.

422.6 Change in Specific Project

The awarding of a grant does not necessarily imply approval of the grantee's project in the specific terms outlined in the application. Reasonable modifications of the project may be required, and the grantee is expected to accept such modifications as the Commission or post deems necessary or desirable in light of local conditions.

A grantee who wishes to change his or her project must obtain prior approval from the Commission or post, which shall consult with the cooperating agency and/or Bureau before making a decision.

423 Placement Factors

423.1 Placement

- a. Candidates must be acceptable to the institution in which they propose to pursue their projects.
- b. Preference will be given to candidates seeking placement or affiliation with institutions that are part of the educational system of the host country.
- c. In view of the essentially educational character of the Fulbright Program, the majority of grantees will be affiliated with educational institutions. However, in the case of certain projects that can best be carried out without academic affiliation, Commissions and posts

may recommend other appropriate placements for U.S. grantees, unless executive agreements specify to the contrary.

- d. To assure the effectiveness of placement, the Commission or post should maintain contact with U.S. student grantees, especially during the first two or three months of the grant.

423.2 U.S. Citizen-Sponsored Schools Abroad

Candidates may be placed at or affiliated with U.S. citizen-sponsored schools abroad if the faculty and student body of the school are primarily nationals of the host country, with courses and research opportunities primarily in non-U.S. subjects. (For a full statement of the Board's policy on this subject, see Section 212.5-3.)

423.3 Change of Placement

Grantees may not change their institutional placement without prior approval of the Commission or post.

424 *Experience Abroad Factors*

424.1 Previous Experience Abroad

Because an objective of the Fulbright Program is to provide an educational exchange experience to those not previously afforded such an opportunity, preference will usually be given to candidates who have not had extensive recent experience in the country to which they are applying.

Duty abroad in the Armed Forces of the United States is not considered disqualifying within the meaning of this section.

425 *Eligibility Factors*

425.1 Members of Same Family

Members of the same family are eligible to receive grants concurrently when both have applied for grants and have been selected through the usual competition.

425.2 U.S. Government Employees

Federal employees who meet other qualifications are eligible for grants. It is the applicant's responsibility to negotiate the terms of leave with the employing agency.

425.3 Candidates in the Field of Religion

criminal matter is resolved, or until such time that the Board is satisfied that the arrest or the charges do not represent an absence of the requisite moral and social attitude desired of grantees.

Similarly, a candidate who, at any time after becoming a grantee as defined in Section 438.1, is arrested for, indicted for, or charged with, a felony or a misdemeanor, must inform the cooperating agency, the Bureau, or the Board in writing of such fact. The grant may be suspended by the Board until the criminal matter is resolved, or until such time that the Board is satisfied that the arrest or the charges do not represent an absence of the requisite moral and social attitude desired of grantees. If a grantee is convicted, the Board may revoke the grant.

If an application, selection, or a grant is suspended on the basis of the criteria stated above, and the matter causing the suspension has not been resolved prior to the date set for the commencement of the grant activities, the Board may reject the application, rescind the selection, or revoke the grant, as applicable. Any funds disbursed to the grantee must be immediately returned to the source.

After a revocation, the grantee is considered as not having received the grant and will not be an alumnus or alumna of the Fulbright Program.

Grants are also subject to revocation, termination and suspension as provided in Section 438.

426.4 Medical Studies

Candidates who wish to pursue studies as medical students are not eligible. Candidates with medical degrees may receive grants for advanced academic study, but not for internships or residencies.

427 Financial Factors

427.1 Financial Status

A candidate's financial need is not a factor in the selection process.

427.2 Recipients of Grants Under Other Auspices

Except as provided in Section 427.3, grants will not be awarded to persons who are concurrently recipients of benefits under established international programs which offer scholarships or fellowships designed to cover all expenses in connection with an educational project abroad.

427.3 Recipients of Partial Grants Under Other Auspices

A recipient of a partial grant from other sources may also receive a partial Fulbright grant, including a travel grant, under the following conditions:

437.1 Personal Factors

When compelling reasons, such as personal illness, death of an immediate member of family, or other personal situation, make it impossible for a grantee to complete the grant period, the grantee will be permitted to resign from the grant with the concurrence of the Commission or post, which should report such cases to the Bureau. The Board recommends that a flexible policy on return travel benefits be followed so that grantees will not be penalized for circumstances beyond their control.

437.2 Early Completion of Project

Commissions may act at their discretion on requests by grantees for early departure from the host country upon satisfactory completion of their project or assignment. In non-Commission countries, early departure must be approved by the Bureau.>

437.3 Other Reasons

Resignation requests for causes other than those identified in Sections 437.1 and 437.2 above will be reported by Commissions or posts to the Bureau for referral to the Board, which will decide on eligibility for return travel.

438 *Revocation, Termination, and Suspension of Grants*

438.1 Definitions

- a. For the purpose of Section 426.3 and this Section 438, a “grantee” is defined as a selected candidate who has signed the grant document (including all terms and conditions thereof) without qualification and has returned a signed copy to the corresponding cooperating agency.

A candidate who has been selected, but who has not so signed and returned the grant document, is defined as a “selected candidate”.

In the event a selected candidate fails to sign and return a copy of the grant document within a reasonable time after it has been received by the selected candidate, the selection may be withdrawn by the Board, the Commission or post, or the corresponding cooperating agency by notice of such withdrawal delivered to the selected candidate.

- b. A grant may be revoked, terminated, or suspended. After a revocation, the grantee is considered as not having received the grant and will not be an alumnus or alumna of the Fulbright Program; after a termination, unless otherwise stated, the grant will be considered to have ended when the Board announces its decision to terminate; and after a

suspension, the grant will be considered inoperative until a decision is made to reinstate, revoke or terminate the grant.

438.2 Authority to Recommend Revocation or Termination

- a. A Commission or post, as applicable, has authority to recommend that the Board revoke or terminate the grant held by a grantee who has departed the United States for the host country.
- b. The cooperating agency has authority to recommend that the Board revoke or terminate a grant to a grantee who has not yet departed the United States for the host country.

438.3 Grounds for Revocation or Termination

In addition to the grounds specified in Section 426.3, grounds for revocation or termination include, but are not limited to: (1) violation of any law of the United States or the host country; (2) any act likely to give offense to the host country because it is contrary to the spirit of mutual understanding; (3) failure to observe satisfactory academic or professional standards; (4) physical or mental incapacitation; (5) engaging in any unauthorized income-producing activity; (6) failure to comply with the grant's terms and conditions; (7) material misrepresentation made by any grantee in a grant application form or grant document; (8) conduct which may have the effect of bringing the Department of State or the Fulbright Program into disrepute; (9) violation of the Policies of the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.

In addition, the Board may terminate a grant, unless prohibited by law, if (1) the grantee has exhausted all benefits of health and accident insurance provided by the U.S. Department of State in connection with the grant and continued medical treatment would lead to the grantee's becoming a public charge, or (2) the grantee requires such protracted medical treatment that successful completion of the grant is jeopardized. The procedure for any such termination shall be the same as that provided for the termination of grants generally, except that the recommendation for such termination, supported by the corresponding factual information, shall be made by the Bureau (not a host institution, Commission, post, or cooperating agency). In the event any such grounds occur during the period of a grant, it is the Board's policy that such a grant should not be renewed or extended.

438.4 Procedure for Revocation or Termination

The procedure for revoking or terminating a grant is:

1. The Commission, post, or cooperating agency consults initially with the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and the Staff Director of the Fulbright Scholarship Board;

2. The Commission, post, or cooperating agency prepares a Statement of Fact and Recommendations for Specific Action by the Board and forwards them to the Staff Director;
3. The Staff Director provides a copy of these documents to the grantee and obtains proof of delivery;
4. The grantee sends a written reply to the Staff Director within two weeks of receipt of the documents. The Board may grant additional time for reply if circumstances warrant. The Staff Director will inform the Board if the grantee does not reply within the specified time;
5. The Staff Director provides a copy of all documents to the Commission, post, or cooperating agency for review and to the Bureau for review, evaluation, and recommendation;
6. Following receipt of the Bureau's evaluation and recommended action, the Staff Director provides a copy of all relevant documents to the Board.

The Board will inform the grantee, the Commission or post, the relevant cooperating agency, and the Bureau, expeditiously and in writing, of the Board's decision and the reasons therefore.

438.5 Financial Issues Related to Revocation, Termination and Suspension

Unless otherwise specified by the Board, when a grant is suspended, revoked or terminated, disbursement of any allowances and benefits will cease, except for return travel, and medical benefits that may be authorized under the Bureau's accident and sickness program for exchanges; the grantee will also be required to immediately repay any advances in allowances or benefits disbursed for use in the period of time after the suspension, revocation or termination. Unless otherwise authorized by the Board, Bureau, Commission or post, no further claim for disbursements of allowances or benefits will be honored. This provision shall not apply to grants, which are suspended because conditions in the host country require the departure of grantees for reasons of personal safety; in such instances, Section 436 applies.

The Bureau, the Commission or post will inform the grantee whose grant has been suspended, terminated or revoked of the impact of the Board's decision on past and future allowances and benefits; the Bureau, the Commission or post will take the necessary measures to implement the Board's decision, and to collect any advances in allowances and benefits that must be repaid.

438.6 Suspension

a. The Board, at the recommendation of a Commission or post may suspend a grant pending the procedure for revocation or termination of the grant, or if the grantee is arrested for, indicted for, charged with, or convicted of commission of a crime, either before or after the grantee's departure from the United States, in accordance with Section 426.3.

b. The Commission or post may suspend a grant:

441.4 Travel and Transportation

- a. All grantees will receive round-trip transportation from their homes to the place within the host country where the project is to be carried out. Travel costs will be calculated on the basis of direct round-trip economy class airfare. All airline tickets purchased using U.S. Government money must comply with the Fly America Act. Unless the terms of grant specify otherwise, the grant does not provide for costs of passports, visas, immunizations or other costs incidental to travel abroad.
- b. Grantees may receive an excess baggage allowance to permit them to transport books, equipment, and other materials to and from their assignment as accompanied baggage.
- c. If grantees arrive in the host country before the beginning date of the grant as specified on the grant authorization, they will not be eligible for maintenance allowance until such beginning date, unless the Commission considers that the reason for early travel is valid. The same policy applies to grantees to non-Commission countries, except that the post and the Bureau must agree to the early arrival and approve any adjustment of grant benefits.
- d. Recipients of extensions or renewals will not be entitled to international travel beyond that provided in the original grant, except for any increases in cost of return travel.

441.5 Other Allowances

Allowances for research or other expenses related to the grantee's project may be provided. These allowances may be used for such items as books, journals, computer equipment, limited translation services, limited publishing costs, and local travel essential to the completion of the project.

Nonexpendable equipment and materials purchased by the grantee with such allowances should remain with the host institution upon completion of the project, unless it is determined by the Commission or post that such items are essential to the grantee for completion of the project after the grant has expired.

441.6 Health and Accident Insurance

- a. The Bureau provides grantees with supplemental health and accident insurance during direct travel time to the host country, while participating in grant activities abroad, and while directly en route back to the United States. This insurance is not intended to replace the grantee's normal insurance policy, which should be maintained during the grant period.
- b. In the case of an extreme medical emergency, the Commission, post or cooperating agency may request special emergency assistance for the grantee for costs not covered by the health and accident insurance policy.
- c. Grantees must provide medical insurance for accompanying dependents at their own expense.

- f. The maintenance allowance will terminate on the date of the grantee's departure from the host country or on completion of the project, whichever is earlier.

443.2 Health and Accident Insurance

The supplemental health and accident insurance described in Section 441.6 will terminate upon the grantee's arrival back in the United States, or on completion of the project, whichever is earlier.

443.3 Travel for Grantees Remaining Abroad after Expiration of Grant

If a grantee requests and receives permission from a Commission or post to remain abroad after the grant has expired, return transportation may be extended, but any increases in cost of travel after the initial period of the grant must be borne by the grantee.

443.4 Early Departure of Grantee

If the Commission or post permits early departure of a grantee, provision of return transportation is at the discretion of the Commission or post, except as specified under Section 437.

444 *Benefits from Other Sources*

444.1 Other Grants

A grantee must report to the sponsoring Commission or, in non-Commission countries, to the cooperating agency, all scholarships, fellowships, grants, or salaries from other sources, in dollars or in foreign currency, received by the grantee during or with respect to the period covered by the grantee's grant under the Fulbright Program. Adjustments to the Fulbright grant package may be made if benefits received from other sources duplicate benefits provided by the Fulbright grant.

444.2 Honoraria or Other Fees

Any honoraria or other fees received abroad for special lectures or similar events during the grant period may be accepted by the grantee, subject to the concurrence of the sponsoring Commission or post. The grantee should inform the Commission or post of any such offer.

444.3 U.S. Government Employees

A grantee on leave without pay from U.S. government employment may receive all benefits normally provided to grantees.

If the grantee continues to receive compensation from the employer agency, allowances and benefits under the Fulbright grant may be adjusted accordingly.

444.4 Veterans

No deduction will be made from grants because of funds received by the grantee as educational benefits under Title 38, United States Code.

450 INCOME TAX LIABILITY

Grantees will be responsible for determining their individual United States income tax liability resulting from their grant. The extent of liability is set forth in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

460 RESPONSIBILITIES AND RIGHTS OF GRANTEES

As provided in U.S. law, all recipients of Fulbright academic exchange grants will have full academic and artistic freedom, including freedom to write, publish, and create, and no grant made by the Board may be revoked or diminished on account of the political views expressed by the recipient or on account of any scholarly or artistic activity that would be subject to the protections of academic and artistic freedom normally observed in universities in the United States. It is the policy of the Board to ensure that the academic and artistic freedoms of all persons receiving grants are protected.

Grantees are responsible for observing satisfactory academic and professional standards and for maintaining a standard of conduct and integrity that is in keeping with the spirit and intent of the Fulbright Program and that will contribute positively to the promotion of mutual understanding between the peoples of the United States and those of other countries. Grant recipients are expected to obey the laws of the United States.

A person accepting a grant is not by virtue thereof an official or employee of the U.S. Department of State or other agency of the Government of the United States of America, or of an agency of the government home country.

470 PUBLICATIONS RESULTING FROM GRANT

The Board welcomes the publication and dissemination through the usual channels of the results of research and other educational activities financed under the Fulbright Program. Authors should take care to avoid any impression that the Government of the United States or any agency representing it has endorsed the conclusions or approved the contents of the publication.