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 The Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program:
Postdoctoral and Early Career Opportunities Abroad for Chemists

JACLYN ASSARIAN, MA
Outreach and Recruitment Specialist, Fulbright Scholar Program, Institute of International Education

JOERG SCHLATTERER, PhD
Manager, Student & Postdoctoral Scholars Office, ACS Bridge Project Director, American Chemical Society

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This ACS Webinar® is co-produced with the ACS Graduate & Postdoctoral Scholars Office.
Postdoctoral and Early Career Scholars:
Fulbright U.S. Scholar Opportunities Abroad in 2023-24

May 19, 2022

Jaclyn Assarian
Outreach and Recruitment Specialist
Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program
Institute of International Education
Today’s Presentation

• Program Overview
• Why Fulbright?
• Eligibility
• Awards for Postdoctoral and Early Career Scholars
• Application Cycle and Tips
• Questions

How familiar are you with Fulbright?

• Very – I’ve applied in the past.
• Somewhat – I’ve heard of the program, considered it, but never applied.
• Slightly – I’ve heard of the program but never took the time to investigate it for myself.
• What is Fulbright, exactly?

* If your answer differs greatly from the choices above tell us in the chat!
Mission

• In partnership with 160 countries worldwide, Fulbright offers passionate and accomplished faculty, administrators, artists, journalists, lawyers, and other professionals from all backgrounds an unparalleled opportunity to study, teach, or conduct research.

• Our mission is to foster mutual understanding between nations, advance knowledge across communities, and improve lives around the world.

A Brief History

• Established in 1946 by Congress, Fulbright is the United States government’s flagship international educational and cultural exchange program.

• Fulbright is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and administered by the Institute of International Education.

Diversity & Inclusion

Fulbright strives to ensure that it reflects the diversity of U.S. society and societies abroad. We encourage the involvement of people from traditionally underrepresented audiences in all our grants, programs and other initiatives.

Opportunities are open to people regardless of their race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, geographic location, socioeconomic status, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity.
Fulbright by the Numbers

The Fulbright Program funds over 8,000 awards annually:

• 900 U.S. scholars and administrators
• 900 visiting scholars
• 2,200 U.S. students
• 4,000 foreign students
• 400+ language teaching assistants

Approximately 400,000 “Fulbrighters” have participated in the program since its inception in 1946.

Why Fulbright?

Fulbright is transformational.
• Foster relationships that are real and lasting
• Expand your publishing network
• Become more multicultural in the classroom
• Serve as an ambassador for international exchange
• Gain the professional recognition as being identified as a “Fulbright Scholar”
• Join a vibrant alumni network

Fulbright is family-friendly.
• Approximately 60% of our awards provide dependent support
• Many Fulbright dependents go on to have international careers

Fulbright is supportive.
• 70% of applicants engage with IIE staff
• Continued support while in country from IIE and host country staff
• Access to Fulbright alumni as a resource
Eligibility for U.S. Scholar Program

- U.S. citizenship
- Degree and experience, as required by award:
  - Ph.D. or other terminal degree
  - MA and higher education teaching or professional experience
  - Professional and/or artistic experience with substantial accomplishments
  - Teaching experience as required
- Compliance with policies on previous Fulbright Scholar awards and waiting periods between grants

Is there a country or region that interests you to pursue a Fulbright award abroad?

- Yes, I have a specific country in mind
- I would consider awards within a region
- I would consider awards anywhere!
- Unsure

* If your answer differs greatly from the choices above tell us in the chat!
Fulbright Scholar Awards – Which is for you?

**Postdoctoral awards**

Stronger focus on research, for those who have finished a PhD within **five years of the fellowship start date** (*Current PhD students are eligible!*)

**Postdoctoral awards open to Chemistry in:**
- Australia
- Czech Republic
- Israel
- Mexico
- Slovak Republic
- Spain

Fulbright Scholar Awards – Which is for you?

**Awards for Early Career Scholars**

- Fulbright defines “early career” as those that have been active as a scholar for **up to seven years**.
- 23 awards specifically request early career scholars in chemistry
- 194 **All Disciplines or Multiple Disciplines** awards across all world regions
- Many partner awards available
- Research, teaching and teaching/research options
- Visit the [Catalog of Awards](#) to view your options!

---

The Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program is managed by the U.S. Department of State and funded by the U.S. Government and administered by the Institute of International Education.
What activities interest you most when considering a fellowship abroad?

- Research
- Teaching
- Teaching and research concurrently
- A professional project

* If your answer differs greatly from the choices above tell us in the chat!

Selecting the Right Award

- Match country interest, expertise, career profile, and proposal to the award description
- Language ability (if applicable)
- Discipline preferences, when specified
- Project relevance to the host country and/or institution
- Benefits to you and your community

Remember: you can only apply for ONE AWARD per application cycle
Understanding the Awards

Visit awards.cies.org

Application Components

Requirements:

- Application Form
- Project Statement
- Curriculum Vitae or Resume
- 2 Letters of Recommendation
- Language Proficiency Report (if required)
- Letter of Invitation (if required)

Supplemental Materials:

- Course outlines or syllabi (for teaching)
- Select bibliography (for research)
- Portfolio submissions (for artists, architects, and journalists)
Tips to submit a strong application:

- Before you start, **read your award’s description carefully** to ensure you meet all requirements and your proposed project is possible.
- **Start your application and enter your referees’ information as soon as possible**. You can always save and return to it.
- **Take advantage of IIE resources**, including webinars, office hours and pointed application guidance on our website.

Remember: You only can receive an award if you **apply**!

### Application Cycle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FEBRUARY</strong></td>
<td>Catalog of Awards Opens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SEPTEMBER 15</strong></td>
<td>Application Deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
<td>Program staff conducts technical reviews for completeness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OCTOBER – NOVEMBER</strong></td>
<td>U.S. peer review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NOVEMBER – JANUARY</strong></td>
<td>Applicants notified of status. Recommended applications are sent to host countries and to the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>JANUARY – JUNE</strong></td>
<td>Final decisions are made</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>JUNE – ONWARD</strong></td>
<td>Participants prepare for departure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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