

Fulbright Questions and Answers

Q. Which programs are excluded from the Fulbright Foreign Student Program?

A. Only Master's degree, in any discipline not longer than 2 years, can be pursued with this Fulbright scholarship. You must have an undergraduate degree, equivalent of 4 years of study to be eligible.

Q. Can I submit my application in person at the Embassy?

A. No. All applications are to be submitted online using this link <https://apply.iie.org/ffsp2022>

Q. What is the deadline for submission?

A. Deadline for submission is May 15, 2021.

Q. How many candidates will be selected to participate in the program for Eswatini?

A. Only five candidates will be nominated (3 principal and 2 alternates)

Q. Who should apply?

A. Anyone qualifies is welcome to apply. However, please note: if you are a non-Swati national living in Eswatini without Eswatini citizenship/permanent residency, you do not qualify for a US-Eswatini Fulbright Award.

Q. I only have just received my bachelor's degree and do not have work experience, do I qualify?

A. Yes. We generally encourage applicants to have some work experience, but it is not required. Also, please know that if you have done any kind of work (paid or voluntary) which is relevant to the subject you propose to study, you should include it. You should also check the requirements of the university program you are applying to, as they may require or give preference to candidates with a specified amount of work experience.

Q. If I obtained my degree outside of Eswatini, do I qualify?

A. Yes. As long as you received the equivalent of a four-year undergraduate degree/your first degree (for postgraduate grants only), from an accredited university outside of the U.S, you are eligible.

Q. If I am currently enrolled in a Bachelor's degree program and would not have completed by the deadline, can I apply?

A. Yes, you may apply only for a Master's degree. Final transcripts should be received in the year of application. Successful candidates are expected to commence their studies in the U.S. about 16 months after application. All successful applicants need to ensure that they have a plan for that interim period.

Q. Is preference given to specific fields of study?

A. No preference is given to any one field of study, however, the Fulbright selection committee does seek to select a cohort which is diverse in terms of discipline. The competition is tough—particularly in journalism, communication, business administration, and the STEM fields. High GRE/TOEFL test scores in any field are crucial.

Q. Can I defer the scholarship to the following year?

A. No. Fulbright Awards are offered for a specific academic year. They are not deferrable, even if you defer your place at university. You will have to reapply for the scholarship. The results of your prior applications will have no influence on your future applications.

Q. Can I submit supporting documents after the deadline?

A. No. Application deadlines are strictly adhered to and incomplete applications will not be considered. No late applications or supporting documents will be accepted after the closing date.

Q. When will I hear if I am selected for the Fulbright program?

A. Only short-listed applicants will be contacted. Due to the large number of applications we receive, we cannot contact each person individually. If you do not hear from us within 30 days of the closing date, please assume that your application was unsuccessful.

Q. What happens after I submit my application?

A. Your application is first reviewed for completeness and eligibility. It is then passed on to reading panels for further review. The Fulbright Office will contact you a couple of weeks before the

interview date to let you know that your application has been shortlisted, and invite you to an interview.

Q. If I was unsuccessful in the past, can I apply again?

A. Yes. If you choose to apply again, your application will be evaluated against the pool of applicants in the new cohort year. You will have to register a new profile with a different email on the application site and submit a revised application.