

WELCOME TO
THE FULBRIGHT FINLAND FOUNDATION'S

APPLICANT EVENT

TECHNICAL INSTRUCTIONS

- Your microphones are muted to prevent background noise.
- To ask questions, please type your questions in the Q&A.
- Please use at least your first name.
- This webinar will be recorded. You will receive the recording next week.

PROGRAM

- 15:30 What's the Fulbright Program About?
- 15:45 Introduction to Master's and Doctoral Studies in the U.S. and Fulbright Finland Grant Programs for Graduate Studies and Research
- 16:05 Introduction and Tips for the U.S. Graduate School Application Process
- 16:20 Q&A
- 16:30 Panel Discussion: U.S. Professors' Insights on Graduate Admission and Visiting Student Researcher Placement - Tips for Finnish Candidates
- 17:00 Event Ends



FULBRIGHT FINLAND
FOUNDATION



**FULBRIGHT FINLAND
FOUNDATION**

WHAT'S THE FULBRIGHT PROGRAM ABOUT?

March 7, 2024

WWW.FULBRIGHT.FI

FULBRIGHT FINLAND FOUNDATION



Cultural Exchange Between Finland and North America



Internationalization Services



Advising, Training and Information Services for Students, Researchers, and Working Professionals



Grant Programs (approximately 90 grantees per year)



Cultural Ambassadors and Change Makers

The global Fulbright Grant Program: Over 160 countries



**EXPLORE FULBRIGHT
PROGRAMS BY COUNTRY:**

<http://eca.state.gov/fulbright>



WHAT MAKES FULBRIGHT FINLAND GRANT PROGRAMS UNIQUE?

- Fulbright grantees are **citizen ambassadors** of their home country, the program, and the institute they represent
- A flagship program for **changemakers**
- Valuable **benefits** and **services**

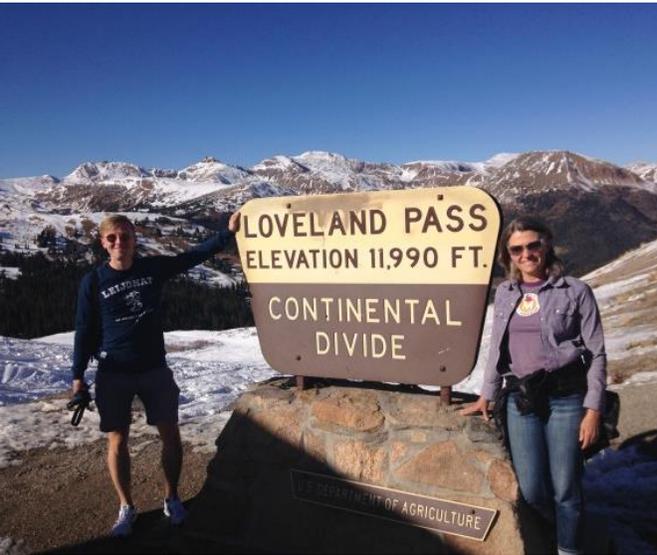


ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

- Personal university placement and university funding search service
- Extensive orientation trainings
- Free-of-charge U.S. visa for the grantee and accompanying family members
- Support and guidance services in Finland and the U.S.
- Designated contact person to help in official matters and when needing any advice
- Support from a program partner organization and alumni in the U.S.
- The opportunity to develop professional and international networks

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES AND FINNISH FULBRIGHT WELCOME NETWORK

New connections and unique experiences with other grantees and Fulbright Finland alumni in the U.S.



Hiking in Colorado



**Reggae Concert in
Topanga Canyon, CA**



**Hiking in
Seattle area**



Exploring NYC



**Visiting
ice-breaker**



BENEFITS CONTINUED...

**Additional value
to your career
development**

**Alumni activities
and network**

**WHY APPLY TO THE
FULBRIGHT
FINLAND
PROGRAMS?**





GRADUATE STUDIES IN THE U.S. & FULBRIGHT FINLAND GRANT PROGRAMS





U.S. HIGHER EDUCATION

- Around 4000 higher education institutions, about 1000 provide graduate degrees
- Public and private
- Colleges, Universities, and Institutions



UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES IN THE U.S.

- **Funding from universities for degree students**
- **Quality education and academic excellence**
- **Variety of educational opportunities**
- **Support services for international students**
- **Unique campus culture - special experience**

ACADEMIC PLACEMENT & UNIVERSITY FUNDING SEARCH SERVICE

Provided by a U.S. program partner **for degree students** particularly

- Strong university relationships with histories of supporting Fulbright grantees, for example
 - Possible tuition waivers
- Help in finding universities that provide a good academic fit
- Review application materials
- Cover university application costs, incl. application fees, required test fees, and credential evaluations
- Negotiate significant levels of university support for grantees

GRANTS FOR

MASTER'S AND DOCTORAL STUDIES

- **Fulbright-Idman Grant**
 - For master's degree studies
- **Fulbright-Technology Industries of Finland Grants**
 - For master's and doctoral degree studies/research
- **Fulbright-KAUTE Foundation Award**
 - For doctoral degree studies/research
- **ASLA-Fulbright Graduate Grant TBC**
 - For master's and doctoral degree studies/research

Application period for 2025-26 ends May 19, 2024

OTHER GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Master's students:

- Fulbright Finnish Language and Culture Teaching Assistant Program (FLTA)

Doctoral students

- ASLA-Fulbright Pre-Doctoral Research Fellows Program TBC
- Study of the U.S. Institutes for Scholars and Professionals



EVALUATION CRITERIA



MOTIVATION



PROPOSAL



POTENTIAL



MERIT

Motivation for applying to the Fulbright Finland Foundation programs

Strength of the proposal

Potential outcomes and impact

Academic and professional merit

+ The interview

THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE IN A U.S. UNIVERSITY



HOW TO SELECT A SUITABLE UNIVERSITY?

1. Start with you

- What will you do after your Fulbright?
- Personal goals and future career plans

2. Academic qualities

- Degree, major, program structure & type, course selection
- Faculty - supervisor/mentor - **WHO DO YOU WANT TO WORK WITH?**
- Research focus – **RIGHT FIT/MATCH FOR YOU!**
- Access to research material, facilities
- Institutional *type* and *size* (e.g. Carnegie Classification)
- Accreditation
- Non-degree options?

HOW TO SELECT A SUITABLE UNIVERSITY?

3. University Placement Service

4. University costs and funding + cost of living

- Recommended amount for living costs
 - USD 2 800 to 4 300 per month

5. Name recognition/ranking?





U.S. GRADUATE SCHOOL APPLICATION PROCESS

INTRODUCTION & TIPS



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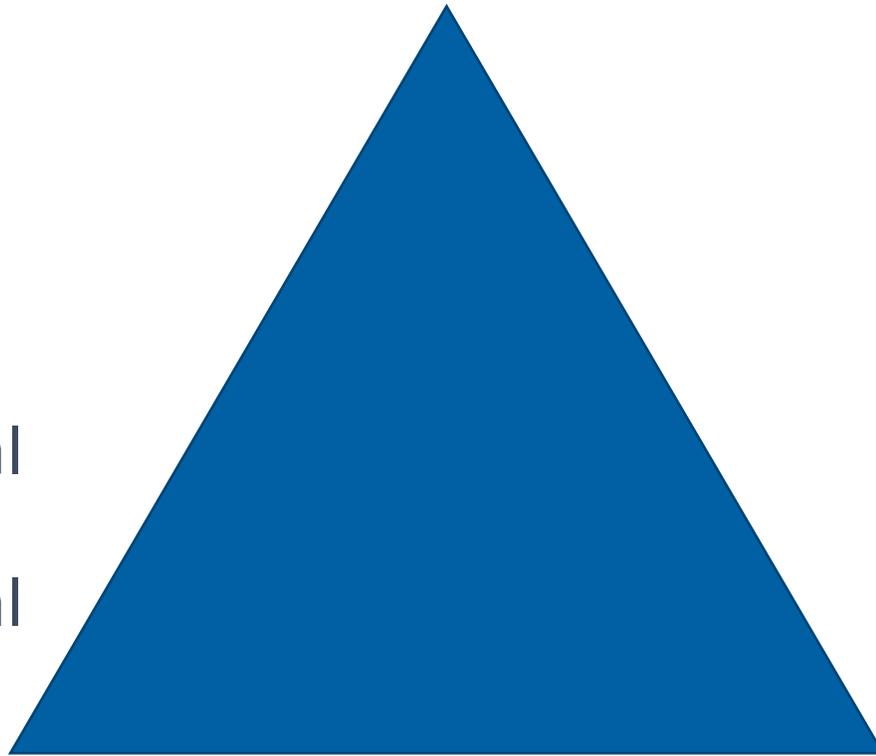
BALANCED APPLICATION PLAN

- **Narrow down your prospective schools**
- **Apply to 4-8 universities**
 - Master's students to at least 4
 - Doctoral students to at least 5
- **Include safer options**

GRADUATE ADMISSION

Graduate School

International
Office/
International
Student &
Scholar
Services



Department

GRADUATE ADMISSION

The complete application typically includes:

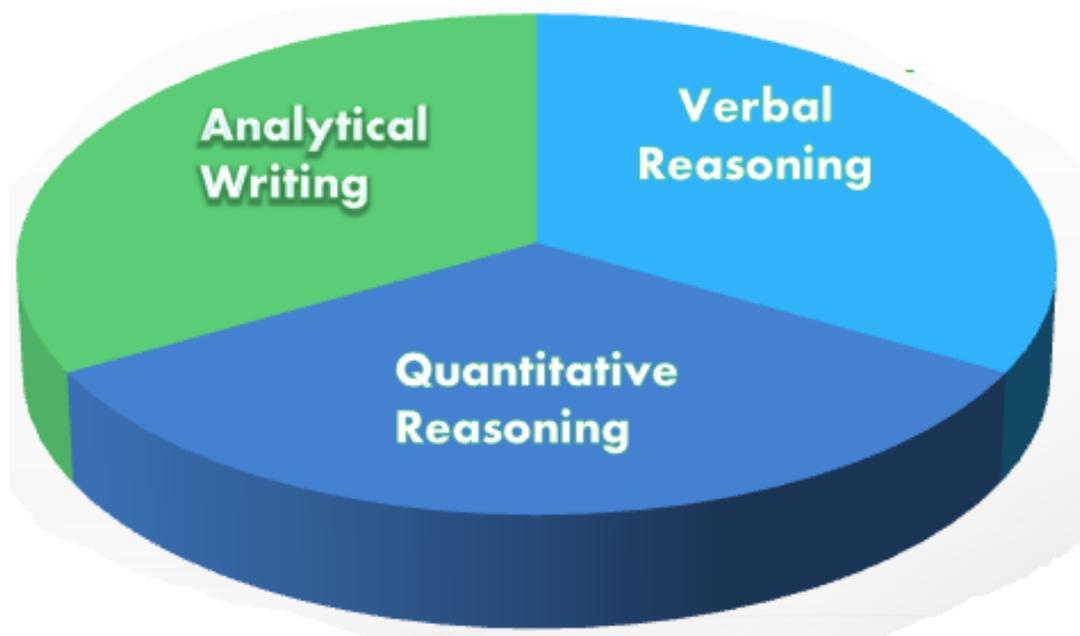
- Application
- Transcripts and diplomas
- Application essay (personal/research statement)
- Recommendations
- Test scores (GRE, GMAT, TOEFL)
- Medical documents
- Funding plan (if needed)
- Portfolio or other field specific materials
- Application fees
 - *not for Fulbrighters using the Placement Service*

TOEFL

www.ets.org/toefl

- Register for the test
- Free practise test
- 320 USD (free for placement service participants)
- U.S. Institutions normally accept only the official test score reports sent directly from ETS
- Reading, listening, writing, speaking
- TOEFL practice books available at the Fulbright Finland Foundation





GRE

- General test ja subject test
- www.ets.org/gre
- 220 USD (free for placement service participants)
- U.S. Institutions normally accept only the official test score reports received directly from ETS
- GRE practice books available at Fulbright Finland Foundation

GMAT

Analytical Writing Assessment—measures your ability to think critically and to communicate your ideas

Integrated Reasoning—measures your ability to analyze data and evaluate information presented in multiple formats

Quantitative Reasoning—measures your ability to analyze data and draw conclusions using reasoning skills

Verbal Reasoning—measures your ability to read and understand written material, to evaluate arguments and to correct written material to conform to standard written English

- 275 USD (free for placement service participants)
- GMAT practice books available at Fulbright Finland Foundation



TIPS FOR THE APPLICATION PROCESS





IT'S TIME FOR
QUESTIONS

CONNECT WITH GRANTEES AND ALUMNI

Check [CV catalog](#) of
Fulbright grantees and
[Outreach Ambassadors](#)

Photo: University of Turku

www.fulbright.fi

**FULBRIGHT
FORUM** EDUCATION
INNOVATION
SCIENCE
AND
ART

**Do you want to create connections
with U.S. Fulbright scholars,
teachers, and graduate students?**

Join the Fulbright Forum!

March through April, starting at 16:30

Next sessions:

- Social Sciences– March 14
- Education– March 18
- Interdisciplinary– March 27

FULBRIGHT FINLAND ONLINE

Stay Connected!



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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Fulbright Finland Update
Utiskirje.fulbright.fi