

# FULBRIGHT PROGRAM FOR U.S. STUDENTS

## Hampshire College Applicant Instructions: 2016-2017 Competition

The 2016-2017 Fulbright U.S. Student Program competition opens in the spring of 2015, for grants beginning in late summer/fall 2016. Nomination by Hampshire College is required for current students. Alumni who wish to work with the Fulbright Program Advisors and receive endorsement by the Campus Committee **must** apply through Hampshire. It's worth noting that applicants who go through the campus process are generally more successful, so we encourage you to do so.

- If you wish to apply, have questions about the Fulbright or your application, (I think this is giving them the idea that we'll work around their not meeting the deadlines), please contact Fulbright Program Advisors Carin Rank ([crank@hampshire.edu](mailto:crank@hampshire.edu)) and Jena Schwartz ([jschwartz@hampshire.edu](mailto:jschwartz@hampshire.edu)) or [schedule an appointment](#). If you're requesting transcripts or letters of recommendation and/or affiliation from outside the College (particularly from outside the U.S.), please do so early. These materials may take several weeks to arrive. Allow two weeks for your Hampshire transcript.
- It is your responsibility to ensure that all portions of the application, including letters of affiliation and recommendations, are received by the appropriate deadline.
- Additional information is available on the [U.S. Fulbright website](http://us.fulbrightonline.org): <http://us.fulbrightonline.org>.

THESE DEADLINES & DETAILS ARE INTENDED TO GUIDE YOU THROUGH THE APPLICATION PROCESS. PLEASE PAY CLOSE ATTENTION!

DEADLINE	DATE	REQUIREMENTS & NOTES
Preparation	April-August	Requirements: - Design project - Secure affiliation - Prepare application materials - Be in touch with FPAs
Preliminary Deadline	Tuesday August 11, 2015 by 12 p.m.	Email <b>Word docs</b> to Jena & Carin: - Draft of Statement of Purpose - Draft of Personal Statement - Status of Affiliation or summary of contacts you've made and results thus far
Campus Application Deadline	Monday September 14, 2015 by 12 p.m.	Submit complete application materialsto the Campus Committee using the <a href="#">Embark Online Application System</a> ( <a href="https://apply.embark.com/student/fulbright/usa/27/">https://apply.embark.com/student/fulbright/usa/27/</a> ): - See checklist for detailed application components - Missing or incomplete application components will hinder the ability of the Campus Committee to write you the strongest evaluation possible.
Campus Committee Interviews	Late September and Early October 2015 (Days and Times TBD)	Committee members will offer each applicant feedback during the interview. However, the <b>Campus Committee Evaluation can't be as strong without your completed application.</b>
Revisions to Application	Between Campus Interview and Fulbright Deadline	You can make changes to your application before resubmitting for the final Fulbright deadline.
Fulbright Deadline	Tuesday October 13, 2015, 5 p.m.	Submit (or resubmit) completed, revised application electronically via embark.

National Screening Committees	November-December 2015; you'll learn in January/February if you've been referred on to your country's screening group.	n/a
Commissions/Embassies Foreign Scholarship Board	January-May 2016	n/a
Final Notifications	March-June 2016	n/a

## TYPES OF GRANTS

The Fulbright program is competitive. We encourage you to look closely at the types of grants, and to assess your strengths and weaknesses against the criteria for the award before deciding to apply. The primary types of grants are:

- Study/Research (in academic fields or visual, written, and performing arts)
- English Teaching Assistantships

## ADVICE & ASSISTANCE

### Faculty and Others in Your Field

- Your academic advisor and other faculty who know you and your work can help you determine whether you would be a strong candidate for this award.
- Most successful Study/Research applicants work with faculty to conceptualize and write their proposal.
- In addition to faculty, reach out to others in your field of study who can provide specialized advice about your proposal, suggest affiliations, and critique your application.

### Hampshire College Fulbright Program Advisors

- A Hampshire College Fulbright Program Advisor can provide insight into what Fulbright is looking for; editorial feedback on grant purpose and personal statements; assistance with questions; and guidance throughout the application process.

### Campus Fulbright Committee

- You will receive feedback on your application from the Hampshire College Campus Fulbright Committee before the Fulbright deadline. We encourage you to take the Committee's advice into account when completing the final version of your application.

## TIPS FOR CREATING A STRONG APPLICATION

In addition to the thorough instructions on the Fulbright website, here are some tips for creating a strong application:

- If you are considering applying for a Fulbright, we recommend starting your research on the Fulbright website. For a good idea of what you will need to qualify and be competitive, begin with the following sections:
  - About Fulbright
  - Program Overview
  - Country Summary (for the country you're considering)
  - **Take very seriously any action "recommended" in the Country Summary**

The primary aim of the Fulbright program is to further mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries. Make sure your application reflects that you would be an excellent cultural ambassador to that country and that you will be engaged with community in the host country.

– Preparing an Application: Pay special attention to the [application components](#) and the [tips](#) sections on the Fulbright website to get the most detailed advice on writing a Study/Research Proposal and the Personal Statement. To be competitive, the essays have to be excellent.

- **Open your Fulbright application on the IIE website as soon as possible.**
  - Opening the application is NOT a commitment to apply.
  - You can go in and out of the application to add, delete, or modify as many times as you like before you submit in September and again in October.
- In your Statement of Grant Purpose and Personal Statement, clearly describe why it is necessary to pursue your project in the country to which you are applying, and what will make you a strong U.S. Cultural Ambassador to that country.
- Carefully review your country’s language requirements. Even if your project does not require knowledge of the host country’s language, your application will be more competitive if you include Form 7: Language Self-Evaluation and indicate your plans for obtaining a “hospitality” level of the language to accomplish Fulbright’s goal of cultural exchange.
- The Campus Fulbright Committee’s evaluation, which will become part of your application, will be based on the materials you submit on September 15, plus your interview. Each committee member will evaluate you based on your completed application materials, and then will make subsequent additions and amendments based on your interview.
- **We want to write the strongest evaluation possible for you. Help us help you by submitting a complete application by the campus deadline!** Additionally, the interview can go into more depth if the committee does not have to spend time asking you about topics that should be addressed with a completed application.
- After the campus interview, you will have time to incorporate the Campus Committee’s feedback to revise your application before resubmitting everything for the final Fulbright deadline.

## APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Application Form
- Statement of Grant Purpose
- Personal Statement
- Letter(s) of Affiliation (if applicable). If letter has not been received, explain status.
- Language Report Forms  
You are required to complete Form 7: Language Self-Evaluation **and** Form 8: Foreign Language Evaluation (FLE), if any of the following apply:
  - The Country Summary indicates that proficiency in the host country language is required.
  - Language proficiency is needed for the successful completion of your proposed project.
  - You have proficiency beyond the basic level of the host country language.
- References: Three letters for Research/Study Grants, or three completed Reference Forms for ETA Grants.
- Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions that granted (or will grant) you a degree. If you are a transfer student, you will need to upload the transcript from your transfer institution IF at least a few of the courses will apply towards your Hampshire degree. Contact Jena and Carin with any questions you have about this.
- Creative and Performing Arts Supplementary Form and Materials (if applicable—for Arts Grants).