

Fulbright Scholar Programs

2010–2011 AFRICA REGIONAL RESEARCH PROGRAM

Information and Instructions for Africa Regional Research Program Applicants

For inquiries regarding this program, contact:

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See www.cies.org for application form and guidelines
Application Deadline for 2010–2011 Awards: August 1, 2009

PURPOSE

The goal of the Fulbright Program is to increase mutual understanding between the peoples of the United States and other countries. Toward this end, the African Regional Research Program has two overall objectives: (1) to increase or develop new contacts and intellectual ties between U.S. and African communities and (2) to contribute to scholarship on Africa. The most competitive proposals will be those that describe a significant and achievable research project and that demonstrate commitment to developing scholarly relationships with African faculty. Grantees are expected to give occasional lectures and seminars in consultation with host universities and U.S. Embassies and provide copies of their research findings to their host colleagues or institutions.

AWARDS

#0040 All Disciplines: Applications are welcome in any discipline.

#0041 AIDS and AIDS-Related Research: Proposals should focus on AIDS and AIDS-related issues as they impact Sub-Saharan Africa.

Applications can be accepted to conduct research in one country for three to nine months or in two or three countries for five to nine months. One continuous period of research is preferred. With approved justification, two grant segments can be funded, each of at least two months in the same academic year or the same calendar year. Only one travel allowance is provided in the grant.

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

The African Regional Research Program encompasses most Sub-Saharan African countries except for South Africa. If a Sub-Saharan African country in which you are interested is not listed in the 2010–2011 Catalogue of Awards, please contact CIES before proposing a research project that includes it. Applications for some unlisted Sub-Saharan African countries will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Applications cannot be accepted for projects in countries with which the United

States has no formal diplomatic relations nor in the following countries: Burundi, Central African Republic, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Somalia or Sudan. Those interested in conducting research in North Africa (Egypt, Morocco or Tunisia) should apply for award #0417, the Middle East and North Africa Regional Research Program.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Eligibility requirements include:

- U.S. citizenship
- Doctoral degree or professional equivalent in the proposed field of research
- Evidence of a scholarly research record after having obtained the terminal degree in the field
- Appropriate language facility necessary for interviewing or investigating research materials

Applications are encouraged from scholars who have not had an opportunity to undertake research or to teach in Africa within the last several years and from those who believe that experience in Africa will enrich their professional development.

Please see the full eligibility requirements in the award description and application guidelines. The complete awards book, application instructions, guidelines and application form can be found on the CIES Web site at: www.cies.org.

PREPARING THE PROJECT STATEMENT

In the Project Statement, articulate clearly all the information requested below. Proposals should be no more than five single spaced, typed pages. Attach a select bibliography, not to exceed three pages:

- Describe the project, your objectives and methodology, indicating whether the proposed research is quantitative or qualitative.
- Place your project in academic context by referring to leading scholarship on the topic.
- Explain how your teaching and professional experience is relevant to the specific award for which you are applying.
- Discuss the significance of the project for the field, your own professional development and the host country.
- Explain why residence in the host country or countries named is needed for accomplishment of the project. Comment on the adequacy of research facilities and resources to be found in the host country, including any equipment and laboratories required for the project, if applicable. Identify specific sources to be used.
- Describe arrangements you have made for affiliation or collaboration. For each country listed in the project statement, applicants are required to submit a letter (not an e-mail text) of evidence of local support for the project and/or interest in collaboration. Letter(s) of invitation or those that express interest in the research can be from someone at an African institution, such as a university, non-governmental organization, government office or archive. Letters must be on the African institution's letterhead and signed. They can be mailed, faxed or sent as a scanned email attachment to the applicant. The applicant should attach a scanned letter of invitation when applying online. If the letter arrives after the application is submitted, it should be sent separately to CIES. It is required to be received at CIES for the U.S. review of the application.

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- Show how your project can be completed within the proposed time period.
- Discuss your competence in the language(s) required for conducting the proposed research and your plans for handling language-related issues.
- Discuss any experiences you may have had in the United States or abroad that demonstrate your collegiality, adaptability, cultural sensitivity and ability to serve as a cultural ambassador.
- Indicate how you will disseminate results of your research both in the United States and abroad.
- List topics on which you are willing to lecture or give informal talks. If you have made plans to conduct a class, explain the arrangements.

REVIEW TIMELINE

August 1, 2009: Complete application materials, including references, must be received at CIES by this date. Letters of invitation should be sent to CIES with the application; letters sent after the application has been submitted can be forwarded to CIES from the host institution directly or through the applicant. They will be added to the review process at the point received.

August through November 2009: U.S. application review will be conducted through CIES.

November 2009: CIES will notify applicants whether their proposals were recommended or not recommended by the U.S. review committees. Recommended applications will be forwarded to the United States Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) for transmittal to the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board and to U.S. Embassies in Africa for further consideration.

December 2009 through March 2010: The U.S. Embassy in each country of proposed research will review recommended applications for feasibility of proposals and will advise ECA of local conditions that may affect the project.

April 2010: Recommended applicants will receive a letter from the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board to officially notify them if their application is selected for funding. If designated as an alternate and or not selected for funding, candidates will receive a letter from CIES to inform them of their status. A few applicants may be notified earlier, a few later, depending on when information is available. Alternates will receive another notification later of either selection or non-selection.

June 2010 through January 2011: Grants can begin as early as June 2010, but not later than January 2011.

CLEARANCES REQUIRED

If selected, you must provide the following before a grant is awarded and before grant payments can begin:

- medical clearance for applicant and any accompanying dependents
- written evidence of research clearance from host government or appropriate official research council, if applicable

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You are responsible for obtaining your own research clearance(s) and visa(s). In planning your itinerary, you should bear in mind that research clearance procedures for some countries are extremely time consuming and approval can be difficult to obtain. Specific information on procedures should be requested from colleagues in Africa well in advance of application so that you may plan accordingly.

For example, the Nigerian Embassy requires evidence of affiliation with a Nigerian institution before issuing a visa. Botswana, Mali, and Zimbabwe each have government-mandated research clearance procedures that must be completed before scholars can enter the country. For Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Namibia, Niger, Senegal, Swaziland, Tanzania and Uganda, the host government research clearance process should be started in advance, with follow up needed after arrival in-country for authorization. Please note that for Tanzania all researchers in the field of HIV/AIDS dealing with human subjects are required to obtain an ethics clearance from the National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR) in addition to a research clearance. Other countries, including Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mauritius and Zambia, have research clearance steps that need to be handled after entry in the country. You need to give careful attention and follow up to any necessary research clearance issues for these and for all other Sub-Saharan African countries, if required.

SUBMISSION OF REPORTS

A final report is required from all grantees promptly at the conclusion of the grant period. In addition, an interim report midway through the project is required for grants of six months or more. Grantees submit reports to CIES online.

The Fulbright Program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, is the U.S. government's flagship international exchange program and is supported by the people of the United States and partner countries around the world. For more information, visit fulbright.state.gov.

The Fulbright Scholar Program is administered by CIES. CIES is a division of the Institute of International Education.

E-mail: scholars@cies.iie.org Telephone: 202.686.7877 Web site: www.cies.org

