



## **Fulbright Teaching Excellence and Achievement (Fulbright TEA) Program**

A program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), with funding provided by the U.S. Government and administered by IREX

### **2019-2020 PROGRAM OVERVIEW FOR INTERNATIONAL TEACHERS**

#### **Program Overview**

The Fulbright Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program (Fulbright TEA) is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The Fulbright program was established in 1946 under legislation introduced by former United States Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas. Fulbright grants are awarded to students, scholars, teachers and other professionals from the United States and to foreign nationals to study, teach, or conduct research. Since its inception in 1946, more than 370,000 "Fulbrighters" have participated in the Fulbright program.

The 2019-2020 program will mark the twenty-third year of the Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program (formerly the Teaching Excellence Awards program) and the second year the program will be known as the Fulbright Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program. This year the program will feature two tracks: general pedagogy or media literacy. Eligible countries for the Fulbright TEA Program, Media Literacy track are Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Czech Republic, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan. Eligible countries for the Fulbright TEA Program, General Pedagogy track are Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Turkey, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan (plus approximately 60 countries in other world regions).

Teachers are nominated to participate in the Fulbright TEA Program based on their educational experience, academic training, leadership and professional experience. Final selection of Fulbright TEA teachers is made by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board (FFSB). The FFSB is an independent, presidentially appointed board that has oversight responsibility for all Fulbright academic exchange programs.

#### **Program Components**

Teachers who are selected to participate in both tracks of the Fulbright TEA Program will:

- 1) Participate in advanced undergraduate or graduate level classes at a U.S. host university.
- 2) Observe classes, co-teach, and share their expertise with U.S. colleagues in U.S. secondary schools.

- 3) Participate in an online professional learning community with other participants to share best practices and other elements of host and home country educational systems; and
- 4) Take part in other education and cultural activities while on program in the United States.

Upon returning home, teachers will be expected to share the knowledge and experience gained on the program with teachers and students in their home schools and within their communities.

### **University Coursework:**

**Weekly Seminars:** Teachers will participate in weekly seminars at their host university featuring presentations and discussions led by university staff, faculty members, and invited educational experts. The academic seminars will focus on new teaching methodologies, content-based instruction, project-based learning, infusing thematic topics into curriculum, lesson planning, and instructional technology training for teachers. The program's Media Literacy track will also include content-specific coursework with a focus on 21st century classroom media literacy. Topics of seminars for this track may include recognizing bias/propaganda, stereotypes, and misinformation; strategies for improving students' critical thinking, analytical, and communication skills; how media literacy promotes civic engagement / the role of media in democratic societies; and fostering cyber safety and digital citizenship in the classroom.

**U.S. School Placements:** Teachers in both tracks of the program will be placed in a U.S. secondary school during the U.S. program, where they will observe classes, co-teach, and share their expertise and information about their home countries and schools. Each Fulbright teacher will be paired with a U.S. partner educator at their assigned school to facilitate sharing of best practices between the teachers. Host university staff will identify schools and partner teachers near the university campus that are appropriate to each grantee's teaching discipline(s).

**Online Professional Learning Community:** Each Fulbright teacher will participate in a virtual community with other international educators to collaborate and share best practices about education and leadership in the participating countries.

### **How to Apply**

Country Application deadline:

A paper application is available by contacting:

The online application is available at: <https://www.irex.org/fulbright-tea>

## Program Dates

### MEDIA LITERACY TRACK

#### *Fall 2019*

**July-August 2019:** Pre-Departure Orientation: Prior to arrival in the United States, the U.S. Embassy or Fulbright Commission will conduct a Pre-Departure Orientation for Fall 2019 teachers.

**September-late October 2019:** Fulbright teachers begin their program in the United States.

#### *Spring 2020*

**November-December 2019:** Pre-Program Departure Orientation: Prior to arrival in the United States, the U.S. Embassy or Fulbright Commission will conduct a Pre-Departure Orientation for Spring 2020 teachers.

**Late January-mid-March 2020:** Fulbright teachers begin their program in the United States.

### GENERAL PEDAGOGY TRACK

#### *Spring 2020*

**November-December 2019:** Pre-Departure Orientation: Prior to arrival in the United States, the U.S. Embassy or Fulbright Commission will conduct a Pre-Departure Orientation for Spring 2020 teachers.

**Late-January-mid-March 2020:** Fulbright teachers begin their program in the United States.

#### *Fall 2020*

**July 2020:** Pre-Program Departure Orientation: Prior to arrival in the United States, the U.S. Embassy or Fulbright Commission will conduct a Pre-Departure Orientation for Fall 2020 teachers.

**September-late October 2020:** Fulbright teachers begin their program in the United States.

### Logistical Information

**Travel:** IREX will make international travel arrangements and provide all teachers with an international airline ticket. Fulbright teachers will also be reimbursed for round-trip travel expenses between their home city and the point of departure for the United States; however, participants (or U.S. Embassies and Fulbright Commissions) are responsible for making these domestic travel arrangements to and from the international airport. Fulbright teachers may travel after the end of their program during the thirty-day

grace period of the J-1 visa, provided that all conditions in the Terms and Conditions are met.

**Housing:** Participants will live on or near the host university campus in housing that is arranged for them. Dependents are not permitted to accompany the teachers on the program.

**Finances:** Each Fulbright teacher will receive a maintenance allowance during the program to cover expenses such as supplies for classes, household items, personal items, medical co-payments, and cultural and other activities. Also included in this total is a daily stipend to purchase groceries, meals at local restaurants, or food from on-campus dining services. Costs associated with housing, required program activities, and other program-related expenses are paid in advance by the Fulbright TEA Program and may vary by host university.

### **Fulbright Program Partner Information**

For more information, contact the U.S. Embassy or Fulbright Commission in your home country. Contact information is on the program website at <https://www.irex.org/fulbright-tea>.