



FY 2015 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Webinar

**United States Department of Education
International and Foreign Language Education Programs
(IFLE)
International Studies Division**

**Dr. Pamela J. Maimer, Senior Program Officer
Tanyelle Richardson, Acting Director, International Studies Division
Mohamed Abdel-Kader, Deputy Assistant Secretary, IFLE**

Slides are for informational purposes only



Objectives of Today's Session

- Overview of DDRA Program
- Description of Pre-Award Process
- Description of Application Review Process
- Application Tips
- Q&A Session

Slides are for informational purposes only



History of Fulbright Programs and IFLE

- History of Fulbright-Hays Programs
- IFLE Programs

Slides are for informational purposes only



About the DDRA Fellowship

The Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship Program is designed to contribute to the development and improvement of the study of modern foreign languages and area studies in the United States by providing opportunities for scholars to conduct research abroad.

- Who is eligible applicant = Institutions of Higher Education
- Who is eligible for a fellowship = U.S. citizens or nationals/permanent residents; Is a graduate student in good standing at a U.S. institution of higher education
- Institutional project period = 18 months
- Research period = minimum 6 months to maximum 12 months (must be consecutive months)

Slides are for informational purposes only



FY 2015 Competition Priorities

Absolute Priority

- Geographic area
- 34 CFR 75.105 (c)(3)

Competitive Preference Priorities

1. Geographic Region – sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, Southeast Asia
2. Less Commonly Taught Languages (LCTLs)
3. Multi-disciplinary fields of study
-34 CFR 75 (c)(2)(i)

FY 2015 Invitational Priority

Applications from minority-serving institutions as well as other institutions that promote the participation of students from minority backgrounds in research abroad projects in foreign languages and international studies.

Slides are for informational purposes only



FY 2015 Funds and Awards

- Estimated Available Funds: **\$3,011,692**
- Estimated Range of Fellowship Awards: **\$15,000 to \$60,000**
- Estimated Average Size of Fellowship Awards: **\$33,463**
- Estimated Number of Fellowship Awards: **90**

NOTE: The Department of Education is not bound by any estimates.

Slides are for informational purposes only



Eligibility for Grant Funding

- ❖ Only Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) are eligible to submit an application
- ❖ Each Institutional Applicant must appoint a DDRA Project Director, who assumes the responsibility to:
 - ✓ Register as the Project Director for his/her university in the G5 e-Application system;
 - ✓ Advise and guide individual student applications;
 - ✓ Submit the entire application to the U.S. Department of Education;
 - ✓ Administer the grant and disburse funds, if awarded the grant; and
 - ✓ Serve as the point of contact for all of that institution's fellows, regardless of research topic or discipline.

Slides are for informational purposes only



Eligibility for DDRA Fellowship

A student is eligible to receive a DDRA Fellowship if the student:

- is a citizen or national of the United States or is a permanent resident of the United States;
- is a graduate student in good standing at an eligible institution of higher education and, when the fellowship period begins, is admitted to candidacy in a doctoral degree program in modern foreign languages and area studies at that institution;
- plans a teaching career in the United States upon graduate, or who plans to apply language skills in world areas vital to U.S. national security and knowledge of these countries in the fields of government, international development, and various professions; and
- possesses adequate skills in the foreign language(s) necessary to carry out the dissertation research project.

Slides are for informational purposes only



DDRA and FUSP-IIE

- As stated in our DDRA Regulations under 662.22(b), No applicant for a fellowship may be awarded more than one graduate fellowship under the Fulbright-Hays Act from appropriations for a given fiscal year.
- An applicant to the DDRA Program must indicate on his/her application to the program if he/she has currently applied for a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program - Institute of International Education (FUSP-IIE) grant.
- Once a candidate has accepted an award from the FUSP-IIE program and FUSP has expended funds on a student, he/she is then ineligible for a DDRA grant. If, at any point, the candidate accepts the FUSP award prior to being notified of his/her status with the DDRA Program, the candidate must notify the DDRA office immediately.
- If after consultation with the FUSP program we determine that FUSP has expended funds on the student (e.g., the candidate has attended the pre-departure orientation or was issued grant funds), the candidate will be deemed ineligible for the DDRA award at that time.

Slides are for informational purposes only



Project Director Review of Applications

The Project Director must review the student's application transmittal in G5

1. Fulbright-Hays DDRA application form
2. Curriculum vita
3. Project description/application narrative (must comply with guidelines)
4. Application bibliography
5. One foreign language reference form
6. Three graduate student reference forms
7. Transcripts
8. Letters of affiliation/host country supporting materials
9. Institutional Review Board (IRB) narrative (if applicable)

Slides are for informational purposes only



Applicant Roles and Responsibilities

Institution

- Attend the DDRA technical assistance webinar
- Appointed Project Director registers in G5
- Makes fellowship application materials available to student
- Accepts and screens applications in accordance to its own technical and academic criteria
- Includes student applications with institutional application
- Administers the grant and disbursing funds

Fellows

- Contact Project Director for institutional information
- Register in G5
- Initiate emails to solicit references
- Submit complete application in G5
- Submit Institutional Review Board (IRB) narrative to Project Director for upload into G5
- Follow up with Project Director

Referee

- Receives reference forms from fellow
- Completes and submits reference form
- Send Project Director copy of reference and form

Slides are for informational purposes only



G5 e-Application System

www.G5.gov

- Students submit individual applications to Project Director using G5
- Language and academic references submit forms to Project Director using G5. References using servers overseas may not be able to submit forms in G5.
- **PLEASE DO NOT USE SPECIAL/NON ENGLISH CHARACTERS IN ANY FORM OR DOCUMENT FOR BOTH FELLOWSHIP APPLICANTS AND REFEREES (for example, %, *, /, etc.)**
- **DO NOT USE foreign characters or symbols such as words spelled with a non-English alphabet, (e.g., “Boğaziçi” or “Nizām al-Dīn Gīlānī”) or any word with an accent mark, tilde, umlaut, circumflex, or slash.**
- Students must select **NO** to the question “Are you registering as a Fellowship Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation or Faculty Abroad Director?”
- Students, please instruct the referee to print and send a copy of the reference letter and form to the project director.

Slides are for informational purposes only



G5 e-Application System

www.G5.gov

- DDRA reference forms--Fellowship Applicants need to at least save a draft of the DDRA form with their name, institution, country of research and language. After that, the reference forms will appear.
- Project Directors must REGISTER as “Applicant” and NOT Project Director in their G5 Profile.
- Project Director officially submits IHE and all eligible individual student applications, reference forms, IRB narratives, and other required forms, using G5
- MAKE SURE ALL APPLICANTS and REFEREES HIT **SUBMIT** to complete the application submission.

Slides are for informational purposes only



US/ED Eligibility Screening

The US/ED screens all applications for technical eligibility in accordance with the evaluation criteria published in the Notice Inviting Applications and the program-specific regulations of 34 CFR Part 662.

1. U.S. Institution Eligibility

- a) Registered Project Director
- b) Registered Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) and Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) Student Eligibility

2. U.S. Citizenship

- a) Good Academic Standing
- b) Careers in teaching or world areas vital to U.S. national security
- c) Other DDRA and federal grants/awards*
- d) Federal student loan status

Slides are for informational purposes only



G5 e-Application System

www.G5.gov

- DDRA reference forms--Fellowship Applicants need to at least save a draft of the DDRA form with their name, institution, country of research and language. After that, the reference forms will appear.
- Project Directors must REGISTER as “Applicant” and NOT Project Director in their G5 Profile
- Project Director officially submits IHE and all eligible individual student applications, reference forms, IRB narratives, and other required forms, using G5
- MAKE SURE ALL APPLICANTS and REFEREES HIT **SUBMIT** to complete the application submission



Financial Provisions

DDRA funds may include expenses such as:

- Maintenance allowance
- International travel
- Health and accident insurance for the student fellow
- Books
- Technology directly related to proposed research, i.e., flash drives, scanners, etc.
- Travel within host country(ies)
- Affiliation fees
- Dependents*

(married spouse and unmarried children under the age of 21)

Slides are for informational purposes only



Financial Provisions (continued)

The DDRA Fellowship award does **not** provide funds for:

- Research or related project activities conducted in the United States
- Reimbursement for travel not approved by U.S. Department of Education
- Any allowances for dependents not accompanying the fellow for the entire research period
- Travel for dependents
- Travel and expenses not directly related to the project
- All expenditures due to changes in the itinerary and/or grant agreement
- Passport, visas, photo, or other identifying documents for clearance
- Physical examinations, immunizations, or other medical expenses
- Tuition or other fees for study or projects conducted in the United States
- Obligations not incurred within the grant period
- Gifts, stipend, salary, or monetary honoraria for research subjects, research assistants, etc.

Slides are for informational purposes only



Academic Technical Review

Peer reviewers are world area specialists in foreign languages and area studies from higher education institutions, government agencies, and non-government organizations throughout the United States. Peer reviewers determine technical scores in accordance with the competitive preference priorities, quality of the proposed project, and the qualifications of the applicant.

Quality of Proposed Project
Qualifications of Applicants

(Maximum 60 points)
(Maximum 40 points)

SUBTOTAL: 100 Points maximum

Competitive Priority 1: Geographic Region

(3 points)

Competitive Priority 2: Language (2 points)

Competitive Priority 3: Field (5 points)

Invitational Priority: MSI

(0 points)

SUBTOTAL: 10 points

GRAND TOTAL: 110 points maximum

Slides are for informational purposes only



Technical Review

- **Quality of Proposed Project** (Maximum 60 points)
 - Hypothesis Statement/Research Questions (15 points)
 - Theoretical issues, originality, literature (10 points)
 - Preliminary research (10 points)
 - Justification for overseas research (10 points)
 - Dissemination plan (5 points)
 - Guidance and Supervision from advisor/committee (10 points)
- **Qualifications of Applicants** (Maximum 40 points)
 - Applicant's academic record (10 points)
 - Applicant's academic strength in area studies (10 points)
 - Applicant's language proficiency (15 points)
 - Applicant's ability to conduct research overseas (5 points)
- **Absolute and Competitive Priority Points** (Maximum 10 points)

TOTAL: Maximum 110 points

Slides are for informational purposes only



Technical Review

- **Quality of Proposed Project** (Maximum 60 points)
 - Hypothesis Statement/Research Questions (15 points)
 - Theoretical issues, originality, literature (10 points)
 - Preliminary research (10 points)
 - Justification for overseas research (10 points)
 - Dissemination plan (5 points)
 - Guidance and Supervision from advisor/committee (10 points)

Slides are for informational purposes only



Technical Review

- **Qualifications of Applicants** (Maximum 40 points)
 - Applicant's academic record (10 points)
 - Applicant's academic strength in area studies (10 points)
 - Applicant's language proficiency (15 points)
 - Applicant's ability to conduct research overseas (5 points)
- **Absolute and Competitive Priority Points TOTAL: up to 10 points**

TOTAL: up to 110 points

Slides are for informational purposes only



Technical Review

- **Absolute, Competitive, and Invitational Priorities** (Maximum 10 points)
- **Absolute Priority**—All applications must address the seven geographic regions—Africa, East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, Near East, Central and Eastern Europe and Eurasia, and Western Hemisphere
- **Competitive Priority 1 (3 points)** — A research project that focuses on one or more of the following geographic areas: Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and Southeast Asia

Slides are for informational purposes only



Technical Review

- **Absolute, Competitive, and Invitational Priorities—Continued** (Maximum 10 points)
- **Competitive Priority 2 (2 points)**— A research project that focuses on the 78 languages selected from the U.S. Department of Education’s list of Less Commonly Taught Languages (LCTLs)
- **Competitive Priority 3 (5 points)**— Research projects that are proposed by applicants using advanced language proficiency in one of the 78 priority languages selected from the U.S. Department of Education’s list of LCTLs in their research and focus in the fields of economics, engineering, international development, global education, mathematics, political science, public health, science, or technology.
- In Competitive Priority 3, the applicant must meet ALL components of the priority—Be advance proficiency, in a LCTL, and whose research is in one of the fields listed above.

Slides are for informational purposes only



Application Tips

Slides are for informational purposes only



Writing Your Proposal

- Address all Selection Criteria in the order listed in the application packet – don't make readers search for information
- Provide a detailed research plan
- Include sufficient details about your research goals
- Provide a specific and detailed budget using the correct maintenance amounts
- Avoid grammatical errors or specific professional jargon/acronyms
- Use persuasive descriptions of your research
- Remember: you must convince the panel so think from a panelist perspective as to what you would be looking for; be clear and concise

Slides are for informational purposes only



Submitting your Application

- Register on the www.G5.gov online system early to avoid any system issues
- Back up/save your documents to avoid any computer issues
- **PLEASE DO NOT USE SPECIAL/NON ENGLISH CHARACTERS IN ANY FORM OR DOCUMENT FOR BOTH FELLOWSHIP APPLICANTS AND REFEREES** (for example, %, *, /, etc.)
- **DO NOT USE Foreign characters or symbols such as words spelled with a non-English alphabet, such as “Boğaziçi” or “Nizām al-Dīn Gīlānī” or any word with an accent mark.**
- **DO NOT wait until the last minute to submit!**

Slides are for informational purposes only



Questions, Comments, Concerns?

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

DDRA program-related questions:

ddra@ed.gov

G5 Technical Assistance:

1-888-336-8930

Application Deadline:

April 28, 2015

4:30:00 p.m. Washington DC time

Online Training Module:

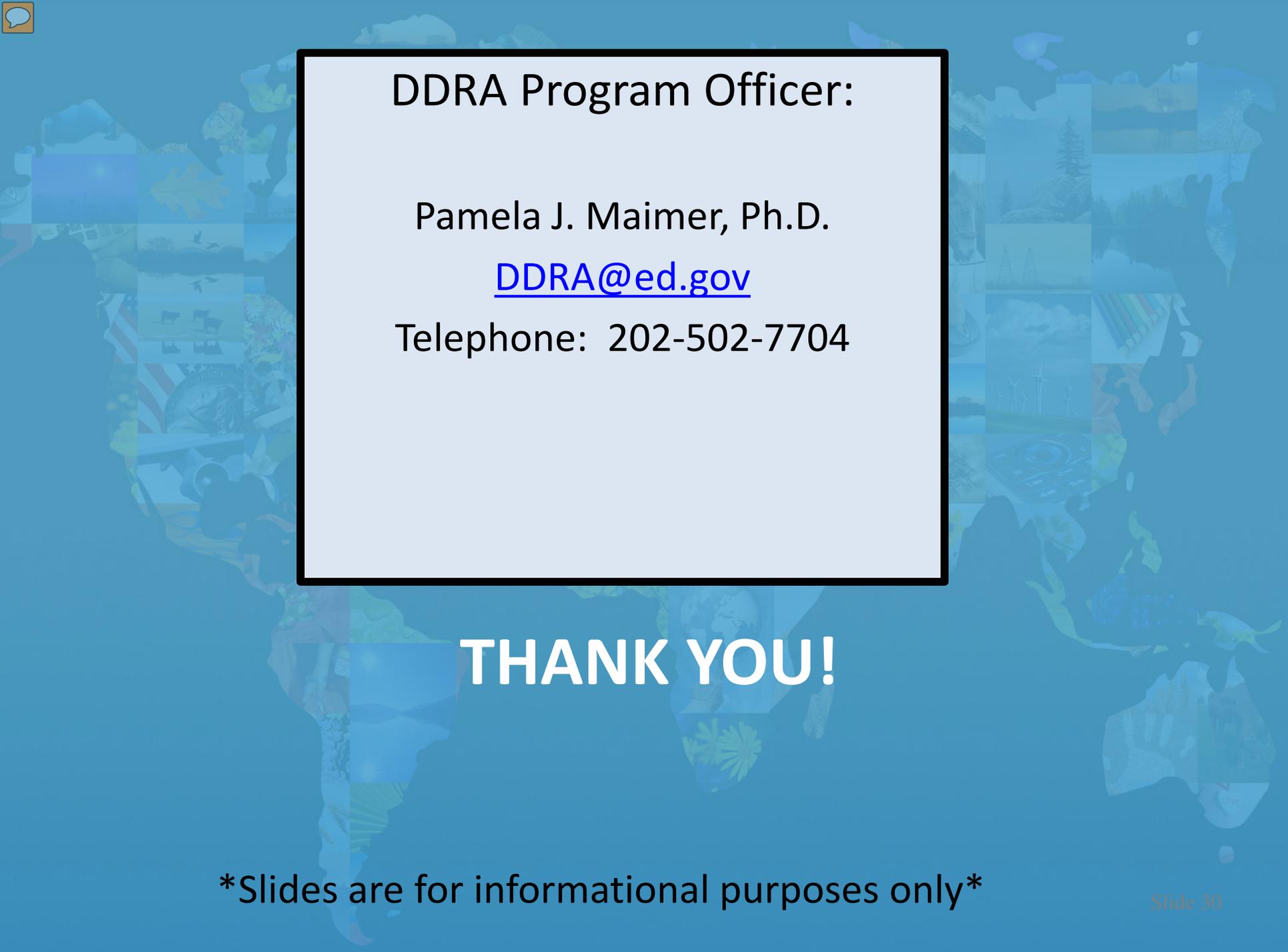
www.G5.gov

Slides are for informational purposes only



Questions and Answers

Slides are for informational purposes only



DDRA Program Officer:

Pamela J. Maimer, Ph.D.

DDRA@ed.gov

Telephone: 202-502-7704

THANK YOU!

Slides are for informational purposes only