Here's what participants in the Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad Program have to say about their experiences in the program:

“Being a participant in the Fulbright Program to Poland was the most incredible experience I have had as an educator. I had participated in foreign study in Europe while in college, but this program was the most organized and comprehensive one I have encountered. We traveled to every part of Poland and really got to see how people live. The speakers and professors who worked with us were excellent, and the cultural programs offered to us were enlightening and entertaining.”
– Kristi Boroff Ferguson, Poland Program Participant

“Our five-week study tour to Vietnam significantly altered several false ‘understandings’ about the country and allowed us to correct numerous ‘professional biases and misconceptions.’ The Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad program has also allowed us to build bridges with Vietnamese academicians and other professionals for future collaboration and exchanges that will be mutually beneficial for many years to come!”
– Theo Sypris, Vietnam Program Participant

“I was able to visit places that my students can only experience in a textbook. Bringing a firsthand account to the classroom is crucial to being an effective teacher.”
– James Klugh, Poland Program Participant

“I feel very lucky to have participated in this program. This is an opportunity of a lifetime. My oral Swahili skills have improved 10 times and for the first time I feel comfortable speaking the language to native speakers.”
– Jessica Beard, Tanzania Program Participant
The mission of the International Education Programs Service (IEPS) is to meet the national needs for expertise and competence in foreign languages and area or international studies. IEPS administers 14 international education programs. These programs are complementary in nature and designed to benefit a variety of audiences through training programs, research, start-up or enhancement projects, and fellowships.

Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad Program

This program provides grants to support overseas projects in training, research, and curriculum development in modern foreign languages and area studies by teachers, undergraduate and graduate students, and faculty engaged in a common endeavor. Projects may include short-term seminars, curriculum development, group research or study, or advanced intensive language programs that focus on the humanities, social sciences, or languages. This program holds an annual competition, except the language projects, which compete every three years.

Eligible Applicants

Institutions of higher education, state departments of education, and private, nonprofit educational organizations.

A participant in the group must be a citizen, national, or permanent resident of the United States and also:

- A faculty member in modern foreign languages or area studies; or
- A teacher in an elementary or secondary school; or
- An experienced education administrator responsible for planning, conducting, or supervising programs in modern foreign languages or area studies at the elementary, secondary, or postsecondary level; or
- A graduate student, or a junior or senior in an institution of higher education, who plans a teaching career in modern foreign languages or area studies.

Project Types

Short-Term Seminars—Each seminar is designed to help integrate international studies into an institution's or school system's general curriculum. Seminars are normally four to six weeks in length and focus on a particular aspect of area studies, such as the culture, history, or politics of a region.

Curriculum Development Teams—Each team is composed of several faculty members, teachers, or administrators who may spend four to eight weeks in a foreign country or region acquiring resource materials for curriculum development in modern foreign languages or area studies programs.

Group Research or Study Projects—Each project enables a group of faculty from institutions of higher education and graduate and undergraduate students to undertake research or study overseas for three to 12 months.

Advanced Overseas Intensive Language Projects—Each overseas project provides intensive advanced foreign language training. Project activities may be carried out during a full year, an academic year, a semester, a trimester, a quarter, or a summer.

Expenses Covered by the Award

Grant funds may be used for the following:

- A maintenance stipend.
- International travel.
- Local travel allowance.
- Rent for instructional facilities in the country of study.
- Administrative and professional services performed by resident personnel in the country of study.
- Purchase of artifacts, books, and teaching materials in the country of study.

For more information

E-mail questions to ope_iegps@ed.gov or visit the IEPS Web site at www.ed.gov/programs/iegpsgpa for information, including: application deadline, application package, project abstracts, technical assistance, program statute and regulations.

Under the Fulbright-Hays Act, IEPS administers four overseas programs that provide a variety of grants to individuals and institutions of higher education for projects in foreign languages and area studies.

These include:

- Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad Program
- Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Program
- Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad Program
- Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad Program and Special Bilateral Projects

If you would like more information about Fulbright-Hays programs, please visit the IEPS Web site at www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/iegps.