Fulbright-Hays

Group Projects Abroad Program (GPA)

Advanced Overseas Intensive Language Training Program

Department of Education
International and Foreign Language Education (IFLE)

Michelle Guilfoil – Senior Program Officer
(202) 502-7625
michelle.guilfoil@ed.gov
What is the Fulbright Program?

- Originated with legislation sponsored by Senator J. William Fulbright in 1946 to promote mutual understanding between people of the United States and those of other countries.

- Under the Fulbright-Hays Act of 1961, the U.S. Dept. of Education receives an annual appropriation from the U.S. Congress.
2008 – 2012 Grant Cycle

Foreign Language Projects: 18

Number of Languages Studied: 25

Total Four Years of Funding: $10,963,675

Total Number of Participants: 1,577
GPA Languages Studied in 2008-2012 Cycle

Access to the World and Its Languages

- Arabic
- Bengali
- Chinese, Mandarin
- Filipino
- Georgian
- Hindi
- Indonesian
- Japanese
- Kannada
- Kazakh
- Khmer
- Malayalam
- Marathi

- Oriya
- Persian
- Punjabi
- Russian
- Swahili
- Tamil
- Thai
- Turkish
- Urdu
- Vietnamese
- Yoruba
- Zulu
GPA Host Countries in 2008-2012 Cycle

- Cambodia
- China/Taiwan
- Egypt
- Georgia
- India
- Indonesia
- Japan
- Nigeria
- Philippines

- Russia
- South Africa
- Syria
- Tajikistan
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- Turkey
- Vietnam
To provide institutional grants to support advanced overseas training in modern foreign languages
Eligible Applicants

- Institutions of higher education
- State departments of education
- Private nonprofit educational organizations
- Consortia of IHEs, departments, and organizations
Eligible Project Participants

- U.S. Citizen or permanent resident
  AND
- Elementary or secondary teacher
- Post secondary faculty
- Education administrator
- Undergraduate/graduate student planning a teaching career or will use foreign language in future career in areas important to U.S. security
Eligible Project Participants (cont’d)

All participants must be teaching/studying in the following disciplines or interdisciplinary areas:

- Humanities, social sciences, foreign languages and/or area studies;
- Business, health, social work, math, science, counseling, engineering, the environment and technology; or
- Area studies - including the study of geography, history, culture, economy, politics, international relations, or languages of a world region.
GPA Project Requirements

- Language indigenous to host country; maximum use of local institutions and personnel;

- Training must be at advanced level (equivalent to completion of at least two academic years of language training); and

- Project must take advantage of advanced language training opportunities present in host country & not available in U.S.
Time Frame & Participant Numbers

- **Project activities:** full year, academic year, semester, trimester, quarter, and/or summer in host country (6 weeks minimum).
- **Contact hours:** Minimum of 120
- **Project length:** Four Years (consists of four 12-month performance periods)
- **Participant Number:** At least 10 participants + Resident Director = 11 minimum for each cohort

**Maximum Grant Award:** $375,000/year  
**Average Grant Award:** $150,000/year
GPA – Advanced Overseas Intensive Language Training

Financial Provisions
GPA Allowable Expenses

- International travel; and

- Within host country:
  - Lodging and meals
  - Local travel
  - Educational materials
  - Honoraria
  - Meeting room space
  - Host country instructors
  - Pre and Post language assessment (REQUIRED)
  - Host country evaluators
  - Local administrative services

*Restrictions: No expenses within the U.S allowed*
Funding Restrictions

*Restrictions: The grant does not provide funds for project related expenses within the U.S., including pre-departure orientation and follow-up activities.
Program Priorities

- **Absolute** (requirement)
- **Competitive Preference** (for additional points)
- **Invitational** (special invitation from the Secretary, but no points assigned)
GPA Foreign Language Absolute Priority

- Study in non-western European countries
- U.S. must have official diplomatic relationship with host country
GPA Competition Highlights

- Well-developed evaluation plans, data collection, participant tracking
- Innovative plans to showcase strength and importance of advanced language learning through data collection and reporting
- Longer and more intense time abroad
- Higher numbers of students
- Same application package as for GPA short-term: be sure to indicate applying for GPA Foreign Language 84.021B
Components of the Application
A/ Introduction

➢ Profile of Applicant
➢ Need for the Project
➢ Selection of the Language to be Studied
➢ Selection of the Host Country
➢ Objectives of Project
B/ Pre-Departure Phase

- **Pre-departure preparation**
  - Lectures on the country of study
  - Advanced reading materials
  - Group Dynamics

- **Pre-departure orientation**
  - Guidelines on conduct
  - Discussions on daily living/traveling in host country/security issues
  - Team building
  - Team assignments & individual proposed projects
  - Cross cultural training
  - Minimum of 16 hours
C/ Overseas Phase

1. Description of language program including assessment, placement, and instructional content and format

2. Information on Faculty, Instructors, Tutors including qualifications and experience

3. Cultural immersion experience including excursions, field work, internships, etc.

4. Special learning projects

5. Travel arrangements and accommodations

6. Debriefings/evaluations
Follow-Up Phase

- Program evaluation: results and impact
- Reporting (project & participant)
- Staff professional development and training
- Dissemination and outreach plans
- Publicizing and recruiting for next group of students
- Possible future activities (collaboration, cooperation & networking)
Evaluation Criteria

1. Plan of Operation (20 points)
2. Key Personnel (10 points)
3. Budget and Cost Effectiveness (10 points)
4. Evaluation (20 points)
5. Adequacy of Resources (5 points)
6. Impact (15 points)
7. Relevance to Institutional Dev. (5 points)
8. Need for Overseas Experience (10 points)
9. Program Priorities (15 points)

TOTAL 110 points
THANK YOU

Questions and Discussion

Michelle Guilfoil – Senior Program Officer
(202) 502-7625
michelle.guilfoil@ed.gov