



Fulbright–Hays Seminars Abroad Program

Fiscal Year 2019 Informational Webinar

United States Department of Education
International and Foreign Language Education Office
International Studies Division



Maria Chang, Program Officer, Seminars Abroad Program
Mariam Motamedi, Intern

*SLIDES ARE FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.
PLEASE CONSULT THE APPLICATION PACKAGE FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION REGARDING THE
APPLICATION PROCESS.



Agenda

- Program Purpose
- Program Overviews
- Applicant Eligibility
- Selection Criteria
- Selection Process
- Application Tips
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- Financial Provisions
- Program Contact Info.
- Questions & Answers



Program Purpose

The Seminars Abroad program provides short-term study opportunities for U.S. educators (generally those in the humanities and social sciences) for the purpose of improving their understanding and knowledge of the peoples and cultures of other countries.



Program Purpose

Individual:

➤ Grants support short-term overseas study opportunities and curriculum development in the fields of humanities and social sciences.

Outcomes:

➤ Develop curriculum project due no later than 90 days following return to the U.S.

➤ Disseminate curriculum project and conduct outreach in school/district/community upon return to the U.S.



Overview of 2019 Seminar Programs



Czech Republic and Slovak Republic

Seminar Title: Exploring History, Cultural Heritage, and Contemporary Issues in Central Europe

Duration: Pre-departure orientation: July 5, 2019 – July 6, 2019 (subject to change) Program in-country: July 7, 2019 – August 4, 2019 (subject to change)

Participants: U.S. teachers, curriculum specialists, librarians, media resource specialists, and administrators (Grades 9 through 12)

Program Content:

During this four-week seminar, participants will be able to engage in dialogue with government officials, NGO representatives, educators, scholars and policy makers. The seminar will be split between the Slovak Republic and the cities of Brno and Prague in the Czech Republic. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of the history of these countries, as well as current challenges they face. During hands-on curriculum development training sessions, participants will be introduced to different teaching strategies to help expand and improve their current teaching practices and curriculum related to the history, culture, and contemporary issues found in these two central European countries.



Taiwan

Seminar Title: Global Issues Animating Taiwan

Duration: Pre-departure orientation: June 12, 2019 – June 13, 2019 (subject to change) Program in-country: June 14, 2019 – July 13, 2019 (subject to change)

Participants: U.S. faculty, curriculum specialists, librarians, media resource specialists, and administrators (Postsecondary)

Program Content:

This four-week seminar will introduce participants to Taiwan's rich cultural heritage through meetings with academic scholars, business leaders, and politically active citizens. Seminar participants will be introduced to the country's current and future priorities, such as innovation, education reform, immigration, and sustainability. Participants will travel around the island making stops in cities, such as Taipei, New Taipei, and Taichung. The program will allow participants to pursue their individual academic interests and develop their respective curriculum projects that they will with students and colleagues in the United States.



Uruguay

Seminar Title:	From the Switzerland of South America to the Silicon Valley of the South
Dates:	Pre-departure orientation: July 15, 2019 –July 16, 2019 (subject to change) Program in-country: July 17, 2019 – August 10, 2019 (subject to change)
Participants:	U.S. teachers, curriculum specialists, librarians, media resource specialists, and administrators (Grades K through 8)
Program Content:	Uruguay’s prosperity and full functioning democratic system with virtually no corruption earned the country its title of "The Switzerland of South America," while its global leadership in technology has earned it “The Silicon Valley of the South.” The seminar will begin in the capital city of Montevideo followed by visits to Colonia del Sacramento, Slato, and Paysandú. Each location will provide U.S. educators with a unique opportunity to gain a general understanding of the history, politics, economy, education system, and culture that led to the creation of modern Uruguay. Participants ⁸ will receive hands-on assistance with developing their respective



Note about FY 2019

“We are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process; however, the actual conducting of the various seminars is contingent upon many factors, such as the number or quality of applications received for a given location and travel alerts. The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.”



Applicant Eligibility



Applicant Eligibility

An individual is eligible to participate in the SA Program if he/she meets the following requirements:

- ✓ Citizenship – A U. S. citizen, national, or permanent resident of the United States
- ✓ Academic Preparation – must hold at least a bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university.



Applicant Eligibility

An individual is eligible to participate in the SA Program if he/she meets the following requirements:

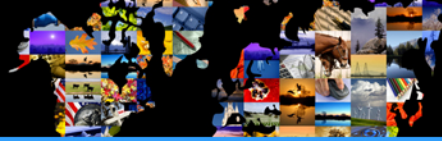
- ✓ Professional Experience – Eligible applicants meet the all of the following criteria:
 - ✓ Must have at least 3 years of full-time professional K-12 or Postsecondary experience by the time of departure for the seminar;
 - ✓ Must be currently employed full-time (or its equivalent) in a teaching or administrative position at the level for which the candidate is applying;
 - ✓ Must be currently employed full-time (or its equivalent) in a U.S. Institution of Higher Education, U.S. K-12 school system, Local Education Agency, State Education Agency, library, or museum



Applicant Eligibility

An individual is eligible to participate in the SA Program if he/she meets the following requirements:

- ✓ Good Health – The candidate must be physically and psychologically able to participate in all phases of the seminar. Award recipients must provide a physician’s statement that reflects participant’s readiness for travel
- ✓ Suitability and Adaptability – The applicant’s professional suitability and cross-cultural adaptability are assessed through the evaluation criteria, essay responses and letters of reference



Applicant Eligibility

Eligible Disciplines:

The purpose of the program is to provide short-term study opportunities for U.S. educators and administrators (generally those in the humanities and social sciences) to improve their understanding and knowledge of the peoples and cultures of other countries. Participants are expected to develop and disseminate a curriculum project upon return to share their broadened knowledge and understanding of the host country(ies) with students, colleagues, civic and professional organizations, and the public in their respective home communities. Please contact the program officer for details.



Applicant Eligibility

Specific Eligibility Requirements that are Only Applicable to Some Applicants:

50% Rule

- ✓ Applications are accepted from those who work in two half-time permanent positions in two different schools or organizations, teaching or working at the same or similar academic levels.
- ✓ Applicants should indicate in the Curricula Vitae (CVs) their full or part-time status, including % Full-Time Equivalent for each position.

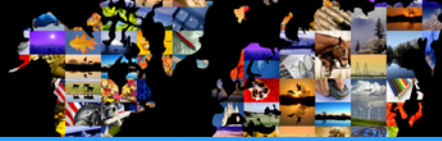


Applicant Eligibility

Competitive Preference Priority

Applications from any one of the following categories will receive **one point**:

- ✓ Kindergarten through 12th grade teachers or administrators who work at schools that meet the criteria identified in section 465(a)(2)(A) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (schools at which eligible teachers may obtain Perkins Loan Cancellation or Teacher Loan forgiveness), which includes schools eligible for assistance under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act; or



Applicant Eligibility

- ✓ Faculty members who teach at Minority-Serving Institutions (as defined in the application); or
- ✓ Faculty members who teach at Community Colleges (as defined in the application); or

Applicants who meet the following criterion will receive **three points**:

- ✓ New applicants (as defined in the application).



Applicant Eligibility

- Applicants can only receive point(s) in one of the four categories.
 - A total of no more than one point for meeting any of the first three categories or no more than three points if they're a new applicant, regardless of whether they also fall into the other categories.
- Examples:
 - Applicant will receive only one point if he/she teaches at a community college that is also a Minority-Serving Institution
 - Applicant will receive only three points if he/she is a new applicant and teaches at a Title I school



Selection Criteria



Overview of Selection Criteria

1. Curriculum Vitae (10 points)
2. International/Intercultural Experience (20 points)
3. Demonstrated Need (30 points)
4. Project Plan and Implementation (30 points)
5. References (10 points)
6. Competitive P. Priority (1 or 3 points)

TOTAL (Maximum of Possible Score) 103 points



Selection Criteria

Curriculum Vitae (10 Points)

- ❖ Please Include the Following:
 - ✓ Contact Information
 - ✓ Education
 - ✓ Employment History
 - ✓ Professional Qualifications
 - ✓ Awards and Honors
 - ✓ Professional Memberships
 - ✓ Other Interests
- ❖ It is recommended that the C.V. does not exceed three pages.



Selection Criteria

- ❖ For each of the following selection criteria, it is recommended that your essay be written in Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New, Arial, Calibri, Cambria, 12 point font or larger, and double-spaced. A page is 8.5” X 11” on one side only with one inch margins at the top, bottom, and both sides. It is recommended that the essay be in portrait orientation and not exceed three pages.



Selection Criteria

International/Intercultural Experience (20 Points)

- ❖ Please demonstrate the ability to learn from international and/or intercultural experiences, both at home and abroad.
 - ❖ Relevant background includes travel, formal study, and demonstrated ability to adapt to/with new cultures – does not have to be an overseas experience.

Demonstrated Need (30 Points)

- ❖ Please address the connection between the seminar and your current teaching and/or administrative responsibilities.



Selection Criteria

Project Plan and Implementation (30 Points)

- ❖ Please explain how you will incorporate the seminar experience into your professional work to enhance audience's international/intercultural understanding.
- ❖ A strong application will discuss the outline of a curriculum development project as well as classroom and outreach strategies.



Selection Criteria

References (10 Points)

- Knowledge of the field
- Ability to work with colleagues
- Ability to communicate effectively
- Adaptability
- Leadership
- Resourcefulness
- Impact in and beyond the classroom
- Ability to work and travel in a group setting
- Ability to give a good impression abroad as a U.S. citizen



Selection Criteria

Competitive Preference Priority (1 or 3 points)

In order to receive points under this competitive preference priority, the applicant must identify one category and provide documentation supporting his or her claim by uploading a document from one of the following categories:

- For a Title I school, please visit: <http://nces.ed.gov/ccd/schoolsearch/>. Please enter your school's information to search for the school. Once you find your school, please upload the document that contains your school's general information and Title I school status.



Selection Criteria

Competitive Preference Priority (1 or 3 points)

In order to receive points under this competitive preference priority, the applicant must identify one category and provide documentation supporting his or her claim by uploading a document from one of the following categories:

- For a school that is eligible to participate in Perkins and Stafford Loan Cancellation for Service in Low-Income Schools and Educational Service Agencies, please visit: <https://studentloans.gov/myDirectLoan/tcliDirectorySearch.action>. Please enter your school's information to search for the school. Once you find your school, please take a screenshot and upload the document that contains your school's general information and classification as a low-income school.



Selection Criteria

Competitive Preference Priority (1 or 3 points)

In order to receive points under this competitive preference priority, the applicant must identify one category and provide documentation supporting his or her claim by uploading a document from one of the following categories:

- For a **Minority-Serving Institution** or **Community College**, please visit: <https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>. Please enter your institution's information to search for the school. Once you find your school, please upload the document that contains your school's general information and designation as either a Minority-Serving Institution or Community College.



Selection Criteria

Competitive Preference Priority (1 or 3 points)

In order to receive points under this competitive preference priority, the applicant must identify one category and provide documentation supporting his or her claim by uploading a document from one of the following categories:

- For New Applicant, please upload a document indicating that you have not received a fellowship from the U.S. Department of Education or the U.S. Department of State under the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (Fulbright–Hays Act) or a discretionary grant from the U.S. Department of Education under Title VI of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended prior to the deadline date for applications under this program. *Program Authority 22 U.S.C. 2452(b)(6).*



Selection Process



Selection Process



1. Screen applications (eligibility requirements)
2. Review of applications by panels of academic specialists
3. Review of panel comments by program officers
4. Award recommendations made to Secretary of Education
5. Final approval of award recommendation from Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board



Application Tips



Get Organized

- The applicant should begin the application process by requesting letters of reference and following-up with individuals who are providing letters to ensure that they are submitted as soon as possible.
- The applicant should review FAQs in the application booklet.
- The applicant should make sure that he/she successfully submitted the application by checking for a confirmation message providing him/her with an application number.
- **The applicant should not wait until the last minute to submit his/her application!**
- It is recommended that the applicant has a valid passport for a period of at least 6 months after the end of the program.



Submitting Your Application

- Register on the www.g5.gov online system early to avoid any system issues
- Save your written narratives prior to uploading them in G5
- We encourage all applicants to work directly with their referees to ensure all references are submitted before the applicant submits his/her application and also prior to the application closing date.
- The letters of reference need to be submitted by referees before the applicant submits his/her application.
 - If a referee tries to submit his/her letter of reference after the applicant submits his/her application, the referee will receive an error message that his/her reference form is no longer valid.
- **DO NOT wait until the last minute to submit!**



For More Information

Electronic grant application submission

<http://www.g5.gov>

G5 Help Desk

1-888-336-8930

Panel reviewer application submission

<http://www.g5.gov>

Subscribe to IFLE listserv

www.ed.gov/ope/iegps, click on “Subscribe to IFLE Newsletter”

Grantmaking at ED

<http://www2.ed.gov/fund/grant/about/grantmaking/index.html>



Award Notification

- Emails will be sent to all applicants in Spring 2019
- Scores and comments sent to all applicants via mail
- Expected travel is in Summer 2019
- Successful participants should be prepared to “hit the ground running”



Financial Provisions

❖ Funds are provided for following items:

- Lodging & meals
- International flights
- Local travel (in country)
- Educational materials
- Honoraria/meeting room space
- Local administrative services



Financial Provisions

- ❖ Participants are responsible for the following items:
 - Participant fee (\$600)
 - Passport fee
 - Visa fee
 - Inoculations
 - Insurance coverage
 - Personal expenditures (gifts, phone calls, etc.)



Program Contact Information

Program Inquiries

Maria Chang, Program Officer

Maria.Chang@ed.gov

Seminars Abroad Program Website

<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/iegpssap/applicant.html>



Questions and Answers

Q: Who should write my reference letters?

A: One of your letters should be from an immediate supervisor, and the other should be from a current or previous colleague who is familiar with you and your work.



Questions and Answers

Q: Do letters of reference need to be submitted using the G-5 application system?

A: Yes. Only letters of reference submitted via the G5 e-application system are accepted. Letters sent via mail, fax, or e-mail are not accepted.



Questions and Answers

Q: How should references be submitted through the G-5 system?

A: In the G5 application system, after the applicant completes the OPE-84.018A Applicant Information Form and indicates a seminar preference, the appropriate reference forms will appear at the bottom of the page where all of the application forms are listed. The applicant will not see the referee questions or answers on his/her end. On those forms, the applicant enters the name and e-mail address of the individual that he/she would like to have write the letter of reference, mark the form complete, and save it. The act of saving the form sends an e-mail to the referee with a pin and instructions for accessing the reference form, and the applicant will notice on the application package screen that the status of the form changes to “Sent to Referee.” After the referee submits the letter on his/her end, the status of the form changes to “Complete.” “Sent to Referee” and “Complete” will appear for every reference form in the application package. **If a reference form shows as “Complete,” the applicant should NOT go back into that reference form and save it again because the referee’s submission will be deleted.**



Questions and Answers

Q: Do I upload anything for Criterion 5: References?

A: No. Applicants do not upload the letters into G5. Criterion 5: References is a placeholder in the system and is meant to be left blank. Referees will submit the letters using G5.



Questions and Answers

Q: My referees can't locate the automatically generated e-mail from the U.S. Department of Education (CIO/EDCAPS) with a link and PIN. What should they do?

A: If the e-mail is not in their inbox, it is recommended that the referees check their spam or junk mail folders. However, if referees still cannot locate the link with a pin from CIO in their folder, the applicant should delete the referees' previous email addresses in G5, and enter the referees' personal email addresses. It is possible that the schools'/employers' network have blocked the email for security purposes. Additionally, if the referees receive the email, but the system is not accepting the PIN, applicants should inform referees to save their work each time and try a different browser or computer.



Questions and Answers

Q: Is there a separate deadline for reference forms?

A: No. All letters of reference must be received by the application closing date. No exceptions will be made. Each applicant must take responsibility for ensuring that the individuals they have contacted to submit references on their behalf have completed and submitted their forms to the appropriate place by the closing date. If the application is missing one or more references, but is otherwise complete, it will be reviewed as is and points will be deducted accordingly. G5 will allow the applicant to submit regardless of whether the referees have completed the reference forms.



Questions and Answers

Q: Can a referee submit a reference after I have submitted my part of the application?

A: No. Referees cannot submit references after the applicant has submitted his/her application. Prior to the applicant submitting his/her application, the reference forms will have a "Sent to Referee" or Complete" if the referee has submitted his/her reference form before the applicant has submitted his/her application. We encourage all applicants to work directly with their referees to ensure all references are submitted before the application closing date. If a referee tries to submit his/her reference after the applicant submits his/her application, he/she will receive an error message that the reference form is no longer valid.



Questions and Answers

Q: I'm having trouble navigating the application and experiencing issues with my application. Who should I contact for assistance?

A: The G5 Help Desk team members have the ability and knowledge to help applicants. Applicants should contact the G5 Help Desk at 1-888-336-8930.



Thank You

This presentation will be made available on the Seminars Abroad Program website.