

# **U.S. Fulbright Core Scholar Awards Guidelines**

**Office of the Senior Vice President and Provost  
Iowa State University**

## **Overview:**

The [Fulbright Core Scholar Program](#) is a collection of country and regional programs with an array of lecturing and/or research opportunities abroad. About 800 lecturer/research awards in over 140 countries are available. The awards are distributed by region and country and vary in amount of financial support and length of stay. Some awards are tied to specific appointments, while most are unrestricted. In some cases, a competitive Fulbright proposal requires previous contact with the receiving university.

Fulbright awards are normally granted for periods ranging from three to twelve months. Dates of most awards coincide with the academic year of the host institution: September/October to June/July in the Northern Hemisphere, February/March to November/December in the Southern Hemisphere.

Each spring, the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES) publishes a pamphlet indicating the openings for each country, and eligible fields. The deadline for award applications is **September 15**.

Iowa State University views the Fulbright Scholar Award as an exceptional opportunity for international collaboration, continuing faculty professional development, and a significant honor for those selected. Faculty members are strongly encouraged to consider participation in the program.

## **Guidelines for Salary and Benefits for Fulbright Awards Abroad**

The Fulbright Core Scholars Award is a prestigious recognition of faculty accomplishment and potential for international impact. The University seeks to ensure that faculty and staff are supported in their pursuit of Fulbright Award opportunities and are not penalized in any way for their participation. The type of financial support provided to awardees by Fulbright varies from country to country and from program to program, so each awardee should work closely with their department chair and dean to develop a plan that fits their particular situation.

Fulbright awards do not provide salary. What they typically provide is a housing allowance, a stipend for daily needs (food, transportation, and non-housing living expenses), and as appropriate, a modest budget for research and teaching supplies.

### **Planning:**

Faculty shall discuss their Fulbright plans and appropriate leave options with their department chair as soon as possible to ensure the greatest range of options and flexibility. The department chair should then discuss the plan with the dean(s). Ideally these discussions would occur prior to the faculty member applying for the award. The department/college should maximize the resources available to support faculty for this prestigious program, recognizing that departmental resources will be needed to meet all instructional responsibilities.

Whenever possible, faculty are encouraged to coordinate their planning for a Fulbright Award with other faculty leave options, e.g., an FPDA or other type of professional development leave.

Any tenured/tenure-eligible faculty member who receives a Fulbright award will have this award period count towards tenure and/or promotion unless otherwise negotiated. For tenure-eligible faculty, the probationary period will not be impacted unless an extension of the probationary period is requested/approved. While participating in a Fulbright experience the faculty member will receive an annual performance evaluation and consideration for regular merit salary increases.

### **Salary:**

Departments are encouraged to maintain the faculty member's compensation level during the Fulbright Scholar award period through a combination of ISU (reduced) salary and the Fulbright stipend. In other words, the faculty member should not be penalized for accepting the Fulbright award, and instead should be "made whole" for the period of the award.

The instruction normally provided by the Fulbright Scholar will need to be met in their absence. Most often this will be accomplished through temporary reallocation of departmental/college resources to meet instructional need. Because of the long term benefit to the professional development of the individual, and to the quality of department, college, and ISU programs, it is expected that departments and colleges will make every effort to provide resources to enable recipients to participate in the Fulbright program.

**Payment:**

Most Fulbright scholars are eager to know how they will receive their Fulbright stipends while living abroad. Normally, the first stipend check is sent directly to the faculty member about four weeks prior to their departure date; subsequent electronic transfers of funds are made monthly to the individual's U.S. or foreign bank. Checks cannot be mailed overseas, so if you receive your funding via check, direct deposit of checks to your U.S. bank account is the recommended alternative.

**Benefits:**

During the period of the Fulbright Scholar award, the ISU faculty member's medical/dental benefits will remain unchanged. However, faculty members approved for a Fulbright award should check their benefit plan or with the benefit provider regarding coverage outside the U.S.

**Other:**

During the Fulbright award period, ISU professional development monies normally available to a faculty member remain available.

***For additional information regarding these guidelines, contact:***

Kaela Black [kblack@iastate.edu, 294-8236] or Dawn Bratsch-Prince ([deprince@iastate.edu](mailto:deprince@iastate.edu), 294-6410) in the Office of the Senior Vice President and Provost.

***For additional information regarding the Fulbright program, contact:*****Council for International Exchange of Scholars**

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