Thank you for joining us! Please check-in via this QR code. This helps us track how successful our asynchronous materials are.







# THE FULBRIGHT PROGRAM

A general overview

### AGENDA

What is the Fulbright Program? Is it the right fit for you, & what is required to apply?

What are the major deadlines one should keep in mind when applying for Fulbright?

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## FULBRIGHT UPDATES

Due to the current political climate, any updates regarding Fulbright are forthcoming. At this time, Fulbright reports that they continue to review applications as of 4/15 and will communicate any updates via email before the October 7<sup>th</sup> deadline regarding potential funding freezes, etc.

Please continue to remain up-to-date on all Fulbright information on their <u>website</u>.



 A post-grad opportunity to study, research, or teach English abroad for one academic year

 Over 140 countries participate in the program

 You can apply with or without a W&M endorsement



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## AWARDTYPES

The Fulbright Program offers three awards:

- Graduate Degree Award pursuing a Master's degree at a university
- Open Study/Research Award (S/R) conducting original research at a
  university or other institute of higher ed
- English Teaching Assistantship (ETA) –
  assistant teaching English in a school,
  from kindergarten to college-level

# SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA FLT WGT B-532-678

### SHOULD YOU APPLY?

- Students from a wide variety of disciplinary backgrounds can apply for a Fulbright
- How does Fulbright, and this country fit into your overall aspirations, interests, &/or plans?
- Also consider how you are a good fit for this country/program
- For instance:
  - If applying for an ETA, how are you prepared to serve as a teaching assistant for English language learning in your host community?
  - If applying for a S/R, why is it important that your research happens in the country applied to, & how are you equipped to successfully complete that research?

### SHOULD YOU APPLY?

- Fulbright is first & foremost a cultural exchange program
- Must make a clear case for <u>why</u> this specific country,
   & community, are important for your plans
- Applicants who see Fulbright primarily as a study abroad opportunity are likely to find it difficult to prepare a competitive application
- The acceptance rate for Fulbright grants can range from 3% acceptance rate to greater than 25%
- W&M was a Fulbright top producing institution for 2024-2025



## BIGBIIY

- Must be a U.S. citizen & hold a Bachelor's degree before the start of their grant period
- There is no minimum GPA or required academic field to apply for a Fulbright
- The selection criteria are largely chosen by the host country, but they generally look for:
  - A demonstrated interest in another culture & the ability to be a "cultural ambassador"
  - Maturity, adaptability, & academic excellence
  - A strong, feasible, & informed proposal
- Consider other eligibility factors (e.g., dual citizenship or graduate student status)



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## ETAAPPLICATION COMPONENTS

#### • Applicants must submit:

- Biographical Information
- Program Information Mini Essays (3)
- Statement of Grant Purpose (1 page)
- Personal Statement
- Language Proficiency Forms (if required)
- 3 Letters of Recommendation
- Academic Transcript

## S/RAPPLICATION COMPONENTS

#### • Applicants must submit:

- Biographical Information
- Program Information Mini Essays (3)
- Statement of Grant Purpose (2 pages)
- Affiliation Letter
- Personal Statement
- Language Proficiency Forms (if required)
- 3 Letters of Recommendation
- Academic Transcript
- IRB Approval (if required)

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## THE STATEMENT OF GRANT PURPOSE (SGP)

• The SGP is unique to the Fulbright program & differs between the S/R and the ETA programs

#### • Study/Research:

 A 2-page document outlining either the details of your research project or why you want to attend a specific graduate program

#### • **ETA**:

 A 1-page document outlining your teaching pedagogy & ideas for teaching in-country







### DEADLINES DEMYSHED

 Fulbright applicants are not required to apply through W&M

 Doing so makes you eligible to participate in W&M's review & interview process which results in campus endorsement

To be eligible for campus review, applicants <u>must</u>
meet the June 30th intent to apply deadline as well
as the August 31st campus deadline

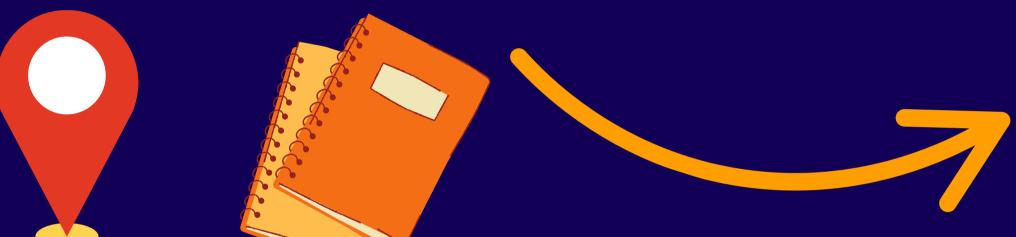
### INTENTO APPLY

- The intent to apply form is how W&M evaluates our needs for campus review committees
- The form will ask for general biographical & academic information as well as:
  - Which country you intend to apply to
  - Which program you intend to apply to
  - A short (800 characters max) description of your program
  - Contact info for 3 possible letter of recommendation writers
- The form is meant to be a <u>firm best guess</u> of your intended Fulbright application, but it is not set in stone



### FULBRIGHT INTENT TO APPLY DEADLDINE

Declare your intent to apply at this QR by Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup> 2025







Students & alum who declare their intent to apply for Fulbright will be eligible to participate in W&M's campus application review process

This process provides applicants with support, interview practice, & a letter of support from W&M to include in your Fulbright application

Reach out the OUAA Fellowships team (fellowships@wm.edu) with any questions!

