

The Department must acknowledge and confirm these periods of unavailability before granting you an extension. To request this extension or to confirm the Department's acknowledgement of any system unavailability, you may contact either (1) the person listed elsewhere in this notice under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** or (2) the e-GRANTS help desk at 1-888-336-8930.

You may access the electronic grant application for the Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad Fellowship Program at: <http://e-grants.ed.gov>.

Note: An applicant institution of higher education must submit all individual applications in electronic format unless the institution receives a waiver of this requirement. Individuals interested in funding under this program must check with the applicant institution to see if the institution is participating in e-Application, or has requested a waiver.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Eliza Washington or Amy Wilson, International Education and Graduate Programs Service, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, NW., Suite 6000, Washington, DC 20006-8521. Telephone: (202) 502-7700 or via Internet: fra@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, or computer diskette) on request to the program contact person listed under **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternative format by contacting that person. However, the Department is not able to reproduce in an alternative format the standard forms included in the application package.

Electronic Access to This Document

You may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister>.

To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC, area at (202) 512-1530.

You may also view this document in PDF at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/HEP/iegps>.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html>.

Program Authority: 22 U.S.C. 2452(b)(6).

Dated: August 21, 2003.

Sally L. Stroup,

Assistant Secretary, Office of Postsecondary Education.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No. 84.022A]

**Office of Postsecondary Education;
Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation
Research Abroad Fellowship Program;
Notice Inviting Applications for New
Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2004**

Purpose of Program: The Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship Program provides opportunities for graduate students to engage in full-time dissertation research abroad in modern foreign languages and area studies.

For FY 2004 the competition for new awards focuses on projects designed to meet the priority we describe in the PRIORITY section of this application notice.

Eligible Applicants: Institutions of higher education.

Applications Available: August 26, 2003.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: October 20, 2003.

Estimated Available Funds: The Administration has requested \$4,580,000 for Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship Program new awards for FY 2004. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final congressional action. However, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$15,000-\$60,000.

Estimated Average Size of Fellowship Awards: \$26,941.

Estimated Number of Awards: 170 fellowships.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: The institutional project period is 18 months beginning

July 1, 2004. Students may request funding for 6-12 months.

Page Limit: The application narrative is where the student applicant addresses the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate the application. The student must limit the narrative to the equivalent of no more than 10 pages, and the references to the equivalent of no more than 2 pages, using the following standards:

- A "page" is 8.5" x 11", on one side only, with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.

- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.

- Use a font that is either 12-point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).

The page limit does not apply to the cover sheet; the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; the assurances and certifications; or the bibliography. However, the student must include the complete response to the selection criteria in the application narrative.

We will reject an application if—

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 81, 82, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR part 662.

Priority

This competition focuses on projects designed to meet a priority in the regulations for this program (34 CFR 662.21(d)).

Absolute Priority: A research project that focuses on one or more of the following areas: Africa, East Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands, South Asia, the Near East, East Central Europe and Eurasia, and the Western Hemisphere (Canada, Central and South America, Mexico, and the Caribbean). Please note that applications that propose projects focused on Western Europe will not be funded.

Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3) we consider only applications that meet the priority.

Performance Measures: The effectiveness of the Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship Program will be measured by the improvement in the language proficiency of fellows. All grantees will