



## **Fulbright Teaching Excellence and Achievement (Fulbright TEA) Program**

A program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) and administered by IREX

### **2020-2021 PROGRAM OVERVIEW FOR INTERNATIONAL TEACHERS**

#### **Program Overview**

The Fulbright Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program (Fulbright TEA) is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The Fulbright program was established in 1946 under legislation introduced by former United States Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas. Fulbright grants are awarded to students, scholars, teachers and other professionals from the United States and to foreign nationals to study, teach, or conduct research. Since its inception in 1946, more than 370,000 "Fulbrighters" have participated in the Fulbright program.

The 2020-2021 program will mark the twenty-fourth year of the Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program (formerly the Teaching Excellence Awards program) and the third year the program will be known as the Fulbright Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program.

Teachers are nominated to participate in the Fulbright TEA Program based on their educational experience, academic training, leadership and professional experience. Final selection of Fulbright TEA teachers is made by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board (FFSB). The FFSB is an independent, presidentially appointed board that has oversight responsibility for all Fulbright academic exchange programs.

#### **Program Components**

Teachers who are selected to participate in the Fulbright TEA Program will:

- 1) Participate in advanced undergraduate or graduate level classes at a U.S. host university.
- 2) Observe classes, co-teach, and share their expertise with U.S. colleagues in U.S. secondary schools.
- 3) Participate in an online professional learning community with other participants to share best practices and other elements of host and home country educational systems; and
- 4) Take part in other education and cultural activities while on program in the United States.



Upon returning home, teachers will be expected to share the knowledge and experience gained on the program with teachers and students in their home schools and within their communities.

### **University Coursework:**

**Weekly Seminars:** Teachers will participate in weekly seminars at their host university featuring presentations and discussions led by university staff, faculty members, and invited educational experts. The academic seminars will focus on new teaching methodologies, content-based instruction, project-based learning, infusing thematic topics into curriculum, lesson planning, and instructional technology training for teachers.

**U.S. School Placements:** Teachers will be placed in a U.S. secondary school during the U.S. program, where they will observe classes, co-teach, and share their expertise and information about their home countries and schools. Each Fulbright teacher will be paired with a U.S. partner educator at their assigned school to facilitate sharing of best practices between the teachers. Host university staff will identify schools and partner teachers near the university campus that are best suited to each grantee's teaching discipline(s).

**Online Professional Learning Community:** Each Fulbright teacher will participate in a virtual community with other international educators to collaborate and share best practices about education and leadership in the participating countries.

### **How to Apply**

The online application is available at: [www.fulbrightteacherexchanges.org](http://www.fulbrightteacherexchanges.org) and <https://www.irex.org/fulbright-tea>.

Application deadline in Russia: March 1, 2020, 23:59 Moscow time.

### **Program Dates**

**January – February 2020:** Application open.

**March – April 2020:** Application review, semi-finalist interviews

**May 2020:** TOEFL testing for semi-finalists, Russian nominees submitted for U.S. review

**June – August 2020:** FTEA nominations submitted by all participating countries are reviewed by IREX and by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board (FFSB).

**September 2020:** Finalist and alternate nominees announced.

### ***Spring 2021 Cohort***

**November-December 2020:** Pre-Departure Orientation: Prior to arrival in the United States, the U.S. Embassy or Fulbright Commission will conduct a Pre-Departure Orientation for Spring 2020 teachers.

**Late-January-mid-March 2021:** Fulbright teachers take part in the program in the United States.

### ***Fall 2021***

**June- July 2021:** Pre-Program Departure Orientation: Prior to arrival in the United States, the U.S. Embassy or Fulbright Commission will conduct a Pre-Departure Orientation for Fall 2020 teachers.

**September-late October 2021:** Fulbright teachers take part in their program in the United States.

### **Logistical Information**

**Travel:** IREX will make international travel arrangements and provide all teachers with international airline tickets. Fulbright teachers may travel after the end of their program during the thirty-day grace period of the J-1 visa, provided that all conditions in the Terms and Conditions are met.

**Housing:** Participants will live on or near the host university campus in housing that is arranged for them. Dependents are not permitted to accompany the teachers on the program.

**Finances:** Each Fulbright teacher will receive a maintenance allowance during the program to cover expenses such as supplies for classes, household items, personal items, medical co-payments, and cultural and other activities. Also included in this total is a daily stipend to purchase groceries, meals at local restaurants, or food from on-campus dining services. Costs associated with housing, required program activities, and other program-related expenses are paid in advance by the Fulbright TEA Program and may vary by host university.

### **Fulbright Program Partner Information**

For more information, please visit program websites at [www.fulbrightteacherexchanges.org](http://www.fulbrightteacherexchanges.org) and <https://www.irex.org/fulbright-tea>, and U.S. Embassy Moscow website - <https://ru.usembassy.gov/education-culture/teaching-excellence-achievement-tea-program/>.