



Fulbright Graduate and Doctoral Programs

Fulbright programs are extremely competitive, world-class opportunities focused on increasing mutual understanding between the United States and Afghanistan.

Basic Requirements:

- Afghan national, currently residing in Afghanistan
- English language proficiency (TOEFL score of 600 preferred)
- Demonstrated leadership and exceptional academic record
- Clear vision of what you would study in the U.S. and explanation of how this program will help you reach your professional 'dream'
- Commitment to return to Afghanistan as a leader and pillar of society
- Limited or no prior experience in the United States
- Completion of online application, two essays, and submission of three letters of recommendation by **May 1st deadline**

Fulbright Doctoral Program

The newly inaugurated Fulbright Doctoral Fellowship will place up to 3 qualified Afghans in United States' universities to pursue a five year PhD in selected fields of study during the 2013-14 academic year. *See information about application and selection process below.*

- Eligible fields of study: *Agriculture, Communications, Economics, Education, Engineering, Math, Science or Technology*
- Master's degree required
- Professional writing sample required (10-15 pages, in anticipated field of study)

Fulbright Graduate Program

The Fulbright Graduate Fellowship will place up to 75 qualified Afghans in United States' universities to pursue a two year graduate degree during the 2013-14 academic year. *See information about application and selection process below.*

- Bachelor's Degree (first university) required
- Open to any field pursuing a MA, MS, MBA/MPA, LLM or similar degree. Medical degrees are not available, but public health degrees are offered.

Fulbright selection and placement – how does it work?

Participants are recruited through a merit-based, open competition and chosen based upon their leadership potential, academic excellence, maturity, ability to adjust successfully to life in the U.S., strong interest in engaging Americans, and potential to promote mutual understanding between the United States and Afghanistan.

- 1) All applications go through a technical review (we expect ~2000!)
- 2) then scored panel review in May (about ~1800)
- 3) candidates with excellent panel scores invited to take iTOEFL (institutional test of English as a Foreign Language) in June (about 500)
- 4) top iTOEFL candidates invited for interview (about 200)
- 5) panel interviews in front of Fulbright alumni, Embassy staff, Afghan experts in your chosen field of study in July
- 6) top candidates from panel interview selected as finalists (up to 75) or alternates (up to 25) in August
- 7) finalist and alternates take TOEFL and GRE (must meet minimum score requirements to move to next stage) in September/October/November
- 8) finalists approved by Fulbright Scholarship Board (panel of 12 people in US appointed directly by President Obama!) in December/January 2013
- 9) some finalists asked to attend pre-academic studies (From January 2013 to July 2013)
- 10) Finalists placed at a US institution, apply for US visa, and depart for their programs! (by July 2013)

Applications for both programs are due by 5pm Kabul time on May 1, 2012. They must be submitted online using this link: <https://apply.embark.com/student/fulbright/international/20>. Before you apply, please review all materials on our website: <https://kabul.usembassy.gov/fulbright.html>

Remember:

Your family/relatives/dependents **cannot** join you during your Fulbright program – even if you want to pay out of your own pocket. No dependents, no exceptions!

If you apply to a U.S. university on your own, Fulbright cannot fund it – Fulbright has its own placement process.

Programs are fully funded by the U.S. Department of State, including testing fees, transportation, tuition, monthly stipend, medical insurance and book allowance.

