

# **2015-2016 FULBRIGHT STUDENT PROGRAM**

## ***Instructions for Completing the Fulbright Student Program Application***

### **Fulbright Program Office Contact Information:**

Mr. Socheat Ou, Public Affairs Specialist,  
U.S. Embassy, No. 1, Street 96, Sangkat Wat Phnom, Khan Daun Penh, Phnom Penh.  
Telephone: (+855) 23 728 248, E-mail: Ous1@state.gov

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### **Read all instructions carefully before completing the application**

#### **STEP 1: Be sure you understand the program requirements for submitting an application.**

##### **Applicant eligibility requirements:**

- Possess a strong academic background and a record of excellence in previous studies;
- Have a Bachelor's degree from a recognized college or university for those applying to study in the U.S. for a Master's degree program, or have a Master's degree from a recognized college or university for those applying to study in the U.S. for a doctoral program;
- Be proficient in English (minimum score of 570 on TOEFL or ITP, or 230 on computer-based TOEFL, or 88 on iBT);
- Be able to adapt readily to a foreign environment; and
- Be in good health and able to undergo a rigorous study program.

For information about TOEFL ITP registration, please contact:

Educational Advising Center  
Room 103, Royal University of Phnom Penh  
E-mail: iroffice@rupp.edu.kh  
Tel: 023 884 320

For information about TOEFL iBT registration, please contact:

Bonna Institute of Cambodia  
No. 22E, Pasteur (St. 51), corner of Dekcho Damdin (St. 154)  
Phnom Penh  
E-mail: dara\_sim2000@yahoo.com  
Tel: 023 992 727

### **How to apply?**

- Online application at <https://apply.embark.com/student/fulbright/international/>

The Fulbright Selection Committee will accept only online applications.

### **Final Deadline: June 1, 2014**

#### **STEP 2: Record user ID and password in a safe place.**

Your email address is your user ID. When you created an account for this on-line application, you created a password. An e-mail was sent to you indicating your User ID and Password. Keep this information in a safe place. You can log in and out of the application as frequently as you like; however, you must have your user ID and password. While you cannot change your User ID, if necessary, you can change your password by clicking on "Update My Account" at the top of the Home page of this application.

#### **STEP 3: Complete the application**

You do not need to complete this application at one sitting. You can re-enter at anytime and edit your application. But remember that once you submit your application, you can NO longer make changes to it.

All forms in this application are to be completed in English. Items must be answered completely and carefully. Some helpful “tips”:

- Avoid using all capital letters when answering items, e.g., name, address, etc. It is better to use upper and lower case, e.g. Ron Smith.
- You can copy and paste information into all text boxes.
- In the text boxes, you **must limit your responses to the space provided**. Information that exceeds the space provided **will not** display or print. Note this carefully, as information that exceeds the space provided will not display or print. If what you have typed or copied exceeds the size of the box, you must edit it.
- You can review each page of the application in its PDF format by clicking on the **Preview** button on the upper right-hand corner. Be sure to review so that you can make sure all of your text is viewable.
- Closing out of the PDF view will bring you back to your application.
- You will create essays on pages 4, 5, and 6. On the essay pages text entered that exceed the space provided **will display** and print. However, it is recommended that you try to keep your essays to one or one and a half pages when possible.
- You have several ways in which you can create your essays.
  - You can compose your essay on-line. Please note, there is a 40-minute ‘time out’ function. In other words, you will need to either complete your essay in 40 minutes or periodically save your essay. You will not be able to customize the formatting of your essay.
  - You can copy and paste text from another document and edit online. Again, you will have a 40-minute “time-out” function. You will not be able to customize the formatting.
  - You can upload text from another document. This is the only option where you will be able to have special formatting, e.g. bold, underline, headers, double spacing, etc. While you cannot edit an uploaded document on-line, you can delete your upload, make your corrections in your document off-line, and upload again.
  - Pages 4 (study objective) and 5 (personal statement) contain a header that displays on the PDF view. Therefore, you must leave a 1½ inch (4cm) margin at the top of every page of your essays to allow space for the header that will appear on the print version of your application.
- You should **preview** all of your essays to make sure the formatting is correct before submitting your application by clicking the preview button in the upper right-hand corner of the screen. When you preview an essay, **you must use the “Back” browser button to return to your essay**. Closing out of the HTML preview (i.e. clicking the X in the upper right-hand corner) will exit you from your application.
- Some questions are ‘required.’ In other words, you will not be able to complete and submit your application until all required items are completed. When you click on the **Application Inspector** button on the Home page, your application will be checked for completeness. You will be prompted to enter any missing information on required questions.

Often specific instructions for completing a question or item will be provided in the application. Please read all instructions carefully. In addition, please review the following important information.

**Preliminary Question Page:** It is very important that the following questions are answered correctly:

- **Question –Country of Citizenship:** Make sure that you properly identified “Cambodia” as the country (i.e. country of citizenship) to which you are applying.
- **Question 2--Program:** Make sure that you correctly identify the Fulbright Program to which you are applying. Select the **Fulbright Foreign Student Program**. The other choice, the **International Fulbright Science and Technology PhD Program**, is a special world-wide competition that is a separate competition. If you have any questions regarding the programs, please contact our office.

**Item 1—Name:** It is very important that you list your name exactly as it appears (or will appear) on your passport. Please use upper and lower case when entering in your name, e.g. Sok Dara. Avoid using all capital letters or using all lower case. Also do not use diacritical markings as this can sometimes create computer-related problems.

**Item 11—Application Cycle:** Please select **2015-2016**.

**Degree Objective:** Select one degree from the drop down menu of choices.

**Item 14—Institutions Attended:** Please list all post-secondary institutions (universities or colleges) attended in reverse order (putting the most recently attended first). List all post-secondary institutions attended even those from which you did not achieve a degree. It is not necessary for you to include information on secondary institutions attended.

**Item 21—Position Code:** Please select from the drop down menu the position title which best describes the activity in which you are currently (or most recently) involved.

**Item 28—Study/Research Objective (Maximum 500 words):** The study/research objective description that you provide is an essential and highly important part of your application. You should take great care to write a clear and very detailed description of the program you want to pursue. Clearly identify the area(s) within your field of study in which you want to specialize or concentrate. If there is specific research that you want to accomplish, please describe. Remember to leave a 1 ½ inch (4 cm) margin at the top of every page to allow room for the header that will appear on the PDF view. Preview your essay to check the formatting before submitting your application.

**Item 29—Personal Statement (Maximum 500 words):** The personal statement is a narrative statement in which you can include information about your education, practical experience, special interests, career plans, and your purpose in applying for study in the U.S. Remember to leave a 1 ½ inch (4 cm) margin at the top of every page to allow room for the header that will appear on the PDF view. Preview your essay to check the formatting before submitting your application.

**Item 30—Additional Information:** Please feel free to use this page to give additional information about yourself. If you intend to pursue a professional degree, e.g. business or law, it is recommended that if you attach a professional resume. If you intend to pursue a theoretical, academic degree, complete curriculum vitae is useful.

**Page 7—University Transcripts:** You can scan copies of your unofficial transcripts and upload them into this application. Just follow the instructions that appear on page 7 or the application. You will still need to submit ‘official’ transcripts, e.g. transcripts that come directly from your institutions in envelopes that have not been opened by you. The U.S. Embassy in Phnom Penh will ask you to provide original transcripts and certified copies of your degree certificates if you progress to the interview stage.

**Page 8—Personal Information:** The information provided on this form will be used by the Fulbright Program Office and Fulbright administrative agencies for internal purposes only.

**Item 32 National Identification Number:** This is not a required field. However, if you have your State issued ID number, please enter it here.

**Page 9—Personal Financial Information:**

Since the Fulbright grant might only cover a portion of your expenses, you may need to provide funds from your own or other sources. Therefore, please complete this form as completely and accurately as possible based on information that you have at the time of application. If you have a major change in your financial resources while your application is pending, you should immediately inform U.S. Embassy in Phnom Penh.

**Page 10—University Preference:** It is **not** an expectation that you will have U.S. university preferences. However, if you do, please be specific. Do not just list the name of a university. Please provide the name of the department and the specific program within that department in which you are interested. If you have been in contact or correspondence with a faculty member of that department, please provide the name and contact information for that individual.

**Page 11 Writing Sample:** You should use this page to upload a writing sample that will be submitted along with the rest of your application materials to the universities. This is mainly for Doctoral candidates, as the vast majority of those programs require a writing sample be included with the application materials, but certain Master’s candidates would benefit from including a writing sample as well.

**Page 12 Additional Information Page:** Please feel free to upload any other relevant documents (e.g. resume) to this section or as instructed by Phnom Penh U.S. Embassy Fulbright Program Office.

You can also use this space to provide other information that is important to you, e.g. climate, large vs. small institution, urban vs. rural location, etc.

If you have applied to a U.S. university within the past three years, please list the programs and the results. If you have letters of admission, letters of invitation, or other correspondence from a school, especially a preferred program, please forward a copy (not the original) of this correspondence to the Phnom Penh U.S. Embassy Fulbright Program Office in Cambodia.

#### **STEP 4: Print supplemental forms**

It is a good idea to print all supplemental forms prior to submitting your application electronically. However, even after submitting your application you will be able to access these forms. The following forms can be found by clicking on the **Supplemental Forms** button on the Home page of this application.

- a. **Letter of Reference/Recommendation:** You must have three letters of reference (or recommendation) submitted on your behalf. Letters of reference are extremely important. All letters of reference should be written by teachers under whom you have studied or pursued research or by someone who has supervised you in work related to your proposed field of study. Letters of reference should not be written by persons related to you either by blood or marriage or by personal friends. At least one academic and one professional or work related letter should be included among the letters. The letters should be written in English if possible. If they are not, an original English translation must be provided.
  - o Your recommenders can submit their letters in two ways.

- You can print out the Letter of Reference form and forward to your recommenders who will then complete the forms and mail to Phnom Penh U.S. Embassy Fulbright Program Office.
  - Your recommenders can complete the forms online and submit electronically. You must click on the **Recommendation** button on the Home page of this application to register your recommenders.
- b. Report on Proficiency in English:** Complete only the top section of this form and have the remaining portion completed by one of the types of certified English language evaluators listed on the form. Your language evaluator should return this form directly to Phnom Penh U.S. Embassy Fulbright Program Office.
- c. Information Concerning Foreign Student Academic Records:** In order to assist U.S. academic institutions in evaluating more accurately your academic credentials, this form allows you to provide information about the educational and grading system in the country where you did post-secondary study. A separate form should be completed for each college or university attended.
- d. Transcript Release Form (for post-secondary U.S. transcripts only):** This form is needed for those students who
  - 1) will be placed in U.S. universities by a Fulbright administrative agency or by the Fulbright Program Office in your home country AND
  - 2) who attended a post-secondary program (undergraduate or graduate) in the U.S. Frequently the fees for acquiring multiple copies of U.S. postsecondary transcripts will be covered by the Fulbright Program. Check with your Fulbright Program Office.
- e. Signature Form:** You must print out, sign, and forward this form to Phnom Penh U.S. Embassy Fulbright Program Office.

### STEP 5: Application inspector

Before you can submit your application electronically, your application will be reviewed for completeness. If there is missing data, you will be prompted to correct.

### STEP 6: Review and print your application

Review a PDF version of your application and print a copy for your records.

### STEP 7: Submit your application

After completing this application and thoroughly reviewing it, you will submit it electronically to Phnom Penh U.S. Embassy Fulbright Program Office. **Please note**, it is very important that the following questions were answered correctly:

- **Question 1--Citizenship:** Make sure that you identified “Cambodia” as your country of *citizenship*.
- **Question 2--Program:** Make sure that you identified the *Fulbright Foreign Student Program* as the award program to which you are applying.

If you entered either question incorrectly, you must correct your answer(s) prior to submitting your application. You can make corrections by clicking on the **‘update my answers to preliminary questions’** link on the upper-right hand corner of the Home page.

After completing this application and thoroughly reviewing it, you will submit it electronically to the Fulbright Program Office in Cambodia. **Please note**, it is very important that you identified Cambodia as your country of citizenship in the preliminary question. If you didn’t enter “Cambodia”, you must correct your answer to the preliminary question prior to submitting your application. Also, make certain that you selected the correct program, “Fulbright Foreign Student”, for question two. You can correct these data fields by clicking on the **‘update my answers to preliminary questions’** link on the upper-right hand corner of the Home page.

**Note carefully**, after submitting you application electronically, you will be able to access it in a viewable PDF format as well as be able to access supplemental forms. You will be able to print these documents. However, you will no longer be able to make changes to your application.

### STEP 8: Track your application for missing documents

At the bottom of the home page of your application, there is a **‘track your status’** link. If items that are still needed to complete your Foreign Fulbright dossier have been identified, they should be indicated here. Only items that are missing will be identified. Please return periodically to check your status. Phnom Penh U.S. Embassy Fulbright Program Office may also contact you from time to time to ask you to supply further documents as deemed necessary.

## STEP 9: Supporting documentation needed to complete your application

Your application is not considered complete until Phnom Penh U.S. Embassy Fulbright Program Office receives all your supporting documentation. The following must be uploaded on your online application: the signature form; three letters of reference/recommendation; scan copies of your academic transcripts from all post-secondary schools attended, copies of diplomas for all post-secondary schools attended, and original English translations (when necessary).

- a. **Academic transcripts:** Applicants must submit complete and certified academic documents covering the entire period of study at universities and other post-secondary institutions. Documents must be accompanied by complete official English translations. These documents must consist of:
  1. One certified official record (transcript) from each university or post-secondary institution you attended, even those schools from which you did not receive a degree or diploma. The transcripts should list the subjects you studied and the grades you received during each year of your enrollment.
  2. Certified, official evidence of each post-secondary or university degree, diploma or certificate awarded to you should be included as part of the completed application.

Applicants will be asked to provide official transcripts and degree certificates directly from the schools in sealed envelopes to Phnom Penh U.S. Embassy Fulbright Program Office, if they progress to the interview stage.

- b. **Standardized tests:** You will be required to take one or more of the following standardized tests to gain admission to a U.S. university. For instructions on registration, contact the Fulbright Program Office or the website for the test.
  1. **Tests of English Language Proficiency**
    - a. **TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language):** TOEFL is an admissions requirement at U.S. institutions for applicants whose native language is not English. All non-native English-speaking candidates should immediately register for TOEFL.
    - b. **TWE (Test of Written English):** The TWE is designed to measure an individual's ability to communicate in writing in English. It consists of essay questions similar to those which students are expected to produce as part of their classroom work at colleges and universities in the United States. The TWE is only administered at paper and pencil TOEFL test locations. The TWE is included as part of computer-based and internet-based TOEFL exams.
    - c. **TSE (Test of Spoken English):** The TSE is designed to measure an individual's ability to communicate verbally in English. Graduate candidates who are recommended for teaching assistantships should register for this test. The TSE is included as part of the internet-based TOEFL exam.
    - d. **IELTS (International English Language Testing System):** A growing number of U.S. institutions will accept the IELTS in lieu of TOEFL scores.
    - e. **MELAB (Michigan English Language Assessment Battery):** The MELAB may be accepted as a preliminary English proficiency evaluation for nonnative speakers of English who have not yet been able to sit for the TOEFL exam.
  2. **GRE (Graduate Records Examination):** The GRE is required by U.S. graduate schools and/or departments for candidates in most fields other than Business Administration and Law. You should make every effort to register for the earliest possible administration of the GRE.
  3. **GRE SUBJECT TESTS** are required in certain fields. If a GRE Subject Test is offered in your field of study, you should make every effort to register for the earliest possible administration of this exam.
  4. **GMAT (Graduate Management Admissions Test):** GMAT is an admissions requirement for applicants proposing to study Business or Management, as well as any fields which may fall within the scope of offerings of a Business school or department. Arrangements should be made immediately to take the GMAT.

### **IMPORTANT**

*Note carefully*, you **MUST** indicate that you want your score reports sent to the Institute of International Education (IIE). You must indicate the IIE code on the registration forms and/or the forms provided at the time you take the exam.

For all **TOEFL** and **GRE** exams please indicate **CODE: 2326**.

For the **GMAT**, please indicate **CODE: F0F-4J-28**.

For the **IELTS**, select **the Institute of International Education** from the 'Professional Bodies' listing.

## **OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

1. **Duration of Grants:** Fulbright grants and other fellowships, assistantships, scholarships and educational grants are generally awarded for one nine-to-twelve months beginning in August or September. Candidates appointed to certain types of Fulbright grants may be required to arrive during the summer for an introductory course or intensive English program prior to the academic year. In some cases, arrangements may be made for an extension of the period of grant beyond the first academic year. Candidates should **not** assume, however, that awards are automatically renewable.
2. **Duration of Degrees:** The length of your degree program may exceed the available funding and sponsorship limits of your Fulbright grant. The requirements for completing academic work toward a degree vary depending upon the degree desired, the candidate's academic background and the regulations of the individual U.S. institution to which the candidate is admitted. It is usually not possible to obtain a degree in one academic year. Although the minimum time required for a Master's degree is one academic year, a student should expect to spend from at least one summer session to an additional academic year to complete the academic requirements. For the Doctoral degree, at least two to three academic years are required beyond the master's degree. However, many doctoral students find four or five years necessary, and in some cases even longer.
3. **Change of Plans:** You should promptly inform your Fulbright Program Office of any change in your academic status or future plans after your application has been submitted.