

FULBRIGHT VISITING SCHOLAR PROGRAM FOR IRAQ



What is the Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program for Iraq?

- A ten-week, non-degree professional and faculty development program for 35 **junior** Iraqi scholars.
- Five discipline based cohorts each comprised of seven junior Iraqi faculty will be hosted at select U.S. universities.
- This is **not** a research program, though participants will be introduced to new research methods in their fields.



How will Iraqis benefit from Fulbright?

- Build higher education capacity in Iraq
- Develop a network of American colleagues and forge new relationships between Iraqi and American universities
- Improve teaching methods and develop new curricula
- Promote mutual understanding and cooperation between peoples of Iraq and the United States
- Join an elite group of over 300,000 Fulbright alumni
- Fulbright is one of the most prestigious and widely recognized international academic and cultural exchange programs in the world



Who is eligible to apply?

- Applicants must be Iraqi citizens, currently resident in Iraq, and committed to returning there upon completion of the grant.
- Applicants must be able to travel to and remain in the U.S. during the dedicated grant period of June 29 through September 7, 2013.
- Eligible candidates will possess a high proficiency in written and oral English.
- Applicants must not have applied or be planning to apply for a U.S. green card or asylum status. Applicants cannot be dual citizens of the U.S. and Iraq.

And...



Who is eligible to apply? (continued)

Applicants must also meet at least one of the following criteria:

- MA/MS with at least 5 years of university-level teaching experience and currently employed at an Iraqi university;
- MA/MS, currently enrolled in a PhD program, and possess at least 3 years of university-level lecturing experience; or
- Possess a PhD, no more than 5 years of teaching experience, and currently employed at an Iraqi university.



Relevant academic fields include:

- Science & Technology– Biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, computer science, information science, and GIS.
- TEFL/Linguistics– Applied linguistics and teaching of English as a foreign or second language.
- Engineering– Mechanical, computer, civil, chemical, electrical, industrial, materials, & systems engineering.



Academic fields (continued)

- American Literature– Literature, poetry, literary theory, creative writing.
- Political Science– Political behavior, governance, political theory, comparative politics, and international relations.



When will the program take place?

- Selected grantees will arrive in the U.S. on June 29, 2013 and depart on September 7, 2013.
- Scholars will spend 10 weeks at their host institutions, where they will observe classes, attend seminars, visit labs, learn new teaching and research methods, and develop linkages with American faculty through weekly mentoring sessions.
- Scholars are also expected to pursue their own self-directed projects. (e.g. research articles or course material for classes, explore American history, learn how to use new lab instruments, etc.)



What will grantees do at their host institutions?

Grantees will:

- Explore new approaches to courses and course materials
- Work closely with a faculty mentor at a selected host university
- Be introduced to theoretical and practical topics such as teaching methodology, pedagogy, technology in the classroom, curriculum development, assessment strategies, educational leadership, and academic support structures
- Connect with the local community
- Serve as resources on Iraqi history, culture, and higher education
- Receive an overview of U.S. higher education and administration
- Visit laboratories and libraries
- Build research capacity through training on new research methods, mentoring, exposure to a functional research infrastructure, and sustained collaborations with U.S. faculty



What support will grantees receive?

- A monthly stipend
- Travel allowance
- Professional development funds
- Round-trip airfare from Iraq to the United States
- Accident and sickness medical coverage
- Furnished, apartment-style accommodations



How do interested candidates apply?

- Applications and supporting documents must be submitted via the online application system at:
<https://apply.embark.com/student/fulbright/scholars/30/>
- Supporting documents include: 2 letters of recommendation, a C.V., a statement of purpose, and a scanned copy of your passport biographical page.
- Please review the application instructions
- Complete applications are due by December 10, 2012.



How will grantees be selected?

- Fulbright grantees are selected via an **open, merit-based** competition. Individuals with competitive applications will be invited to take an exam of English proficiency and participate in an English language interview at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad. The Embassy will then nominate finalists who will be further reviewed and ultimately selected by the Fulbright Programs Office in Washington, D.C.
- All selected candidates must also receive medical clearance, approval by the Fulbright Scholarship Board, and be eligible to receive a J-1 visa before grantee status may be conferred.



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

➤ **May I bring my spouse with me to the U.S.?**

No, grantees may not bring any accompanying dependents.

➤ **Will I be able to enroll in English courses on campus?**

ESL courses are not provided through the program. All grantees must have sufficient written and oral English proficiency.

➤ **Will there be any orientation after I arrive in the U.S.?**

The Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES) will provide a one-day arrival orientation session for each cohort at their host institution campus during the first week of the program.



More questions?

- Please direct all questions regarding the Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program for Iraq to FulbrightIraq@state.gov

