



## 2015 FULBRIGHT U.S. – ASEAN VISITING SCHOLAR PROGRAM (USAS)

The U.S. Embassy in Vientiane, Laos is pleased to announce the **2015 U.S. – ASEAN Visiting Scholar Program (USAS)**, a new Fulbright program for ASEAN citizens. The program offers grants to Lao scholars, university faculty, foreign ministry and government officials, and professional staff of think tanks and other NGOs in Laos to travel to the United States for scholarly and professional research or to engage in special academic-related projects for 3-4 months on issues that are focused on ASEAN or the U.S - ASEAN relationship. We welcome proposals in all areas of expertise, especially in the physical science, technology, engineering, and social science fields.

Selection will be based on the professional qualifications of applicants, and on the quality and significance of their project proposals. Applicants are encouraged to consider the most appropriate location for their research/lecturing projects and should be able to indicate that the proposed host institutions - universities, archives, institutes, think tanks, etc. - are prepared to receive the scholars. **Applicants are not required to submit an invitation letter from a U.S. host affiliation at this stage.**

Award Terms: Fulbright U.S. – ASEAN Visiting Scholar awards will provide:

- A monthly stipend for grantees, between USD 2,710 and 3,145, depending on the U.S. host city.
- A direct-flight, round-trip economy-class air ticket.
- A one-time \$1,250 moving allowance.
- Qualifying university lab and research fees up to \$3000, as necessary.
- Please note that dependent support will not be available.

### ELIGIBILITY:

An applicant must:

1. be a **Lao citizen** in good health, **not exceeding 58 years old by the application deadline**; (individuals holding U.S. immigrant visas or permanent U.S. resident cards (green cards), or dual (Lao and U.S.) citizenships are not eligible to apply);
2. be physically present in Laos at the time of interview;
3. hold a Master's Degree or higher;
4. be a highly-motivated and experienced person who has responsibility for teaching/researching/engaging on U.S. – ASEAN matters and who has the ability and willingness to incorporate information about U.S. – ASEAN relations in his/her teaching and professional work.
5. be able to take leave from his/her home institution or post;
6. be able to fully participate in preliminary and pre-departure orientations at the U.S. Embassy in Vientiane
7. be willing and able to serve as a cultural ambassador for Laos while in the United States, e.g. as a lecturer, seminar participant, consultant, or in other capacities requested by the host institution or community;
8. be prepared to lecture and participate in academic and professional activities related to the program upon return to Laos; and
9. must not have held a Fulbright grant within the past 5 years.

**A complete application set includes:**

- 1. Original completed application form (with a photo attached)**
- 2. Project Statement** (not more than 3 - 5 pages typed)
- 3. Essay Statement** (not exceeding 2 pages typed)
- 4. Resume/CV**
- 5. Bibliography** (up to 3 pages)
- 6. A copy of your academic transcripts**
- 7. Three letters of recommendation (one from your home institution, all sealed in envelopes)**
- 8. A letter of invitation from the U.S. host institution is an advantage, but not required at this stage** (a copy of a PDF file with signature is acceptable). *Provided you are selected, a letter from a host institution will be required.*
- 9. Submit four sets of your application except the recommendation letters (one original and three copies. We do not require copies of the recommendation letters). Please do not staple your applications.**

**PLEASE DO NOT STAPLE**  
***FAILURE TO SUBMIT A COMPLETE APPLICATION MAKES AN APPLICANT INELIGIBLE***

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:**

August – October 17, 2014	Program announcement and application forms will be available on the website <a href="http://laos.usembassy.gov">http://laos.usembassy.gov</a>
<b>Friday October 17, 2014</b>	<b>DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING COMPLETED PRELIMINARY APPLICATION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS</b>
Late October 2014	Screening and shortlists of proposals, Finalists notified of interview place, date and time
Early November, 2014	Interview by Binational Selection Committee
Early-mid November 2014	Candidates notified of the interview results Final online application form given to the selected scholars
Late November 2014	Completed final online applications submitted to the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES) and the Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs (ECA), Department of State in Washington, D.C. for final consideration
April – May 2015	Scholars notified of final approval from Washington, D.C.
Early June 2015	Pre-departure Orientation
September 2015 onward	Departure of Scholars

*Please be advised that:*

- *Scholars' grants must not start before September 1, 2015 and no later than February 28, 2016.*

**APPLICATION PROCEDURE:**

Applicants who are interested must submit the completed application and required documents by-hand delivery or mail (not by email) to the Fulbright Office, Public Diplomacy Section, U.S. Embassy, Vientiane, Laos. **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, October 17, 2014** to be eligible for further consideration.

Fulbright Office, Public Diplomacy Section, U.S. Embassy, Vientiane, Laos will nominate up to three (3) candidates for final approval which will be made by the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board in Washington. Notification will be conveyed to selected and non-selected candidates. expected by May 2015.

A detailed announcement and application form can be downloaded at <http://laos.usembassy.gov>. If you have any questions, please contact the Fulbright Office, Public Diplomacy Section, U.S. Embassy, Vientiane, Laos at 021 26 7000 ext. 7055 or at [Fulbright-humphrey@state.gov](mailto:Fulbright-humphrey@state.gov).

**DEADLINE: FRIDAY, October 17, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.**