Alternatives to the Fulbright U.S. Student Grant

Updated January 27, 2016

While you are unlikely to find other opportunities offered in as many countries and with the amount of flexibility as the Fulbright, below you will find other highly competitive and widely recognized alternatives that take place abroad. Don’t wait until you hear the outcome of your Fulbright application to apply for an alternative! For more program specific information and exact application deadlines, please click on the website link.

Scroll down to the end to see several opportunities to teach English abroad.

**Boren Fellowships** (National Security Education Program) (Graduate Study, Doctoral study)

**Website**: NSEP-Boren Fellowships-Boren Fellowships Basics

**Deadline**: End of January

**Award Description**: Boren Fellowships provide up to $24,000 to U.S. graduate students to support study and research in areas of the world that are critical to U.S. national security interests, including Africa, Asia, Central & Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin America, and the Middle East, with a focus on studying less commonly taught languages. It draws on a broad definition of national security, recognizing that the scope of national security has expanded to include not only the traditional concerns of protecting and promoting American well-being, but also the challenges of global society, including: sustainable development, environmental degradation, global disease and hunger, population growth and migration, and economic competitiveness. Boren Fellowship awards are made for a minimum of 12 weeks and maximum of 24 months.

**Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals in Germany** (Professional, Undergraduate study)

**Website**: Cultural Vistas- Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange for Young Professionals

**Deadline**: Beginning of December

**Award Description**: A full-year, reciprocal work-study fellowship providing 75 Americans, age 18-24, with an understanding of everyday life, education, & professional training in Germany. Includes RT transatlantic flight, university tuition, language training, living stipend, & program-related travel costs in Germany: 2 months language training in Germany, 4 months of study at German university, and a 5 month internship in a German-speaking work environment. Also Accommodation in a German home/student residence, seminars, in-country support during program & health & accident insurance.

**Critical Language Scholarship** (Undergraduate, Graduate)

**Deadline**: November

**Website**: http://www.clscholarship.org/

**Award Description**: With the goal of broadening the base of Americans studying and mastering critical languages and building relationships between the people of the United States and other countries, CLS provides opportunities to a diverse range of students from across the United States at every level of language learning.
The CLS Program is a program of the U.S. Department of State. 10 weeks of intensive language study during the summer in a country in which the language is spoken. Can be used the summer following senior year. Graduate students also eligible.

Global Health Corps Fellowship (Professional)
Website: Global Health Corps
Deadline: Beginning of February
Award Description:
Global Health Corps is mobilizing a global community of emerging leaders to build the movement for health equity. We place talented individuals from a wide variety of backgrounds in paid, high impact roles in NGOs and government agencies in sub-Saharan Africa and the US for one year. During the fellowship year, fellows collaborate, innovate, and create sustainable and impactful change. Applicants can apply for up to 3 positions that match their interests and skills, from project management to monitoring and evaluation, engineering, communications and more. We are looking for people from a broad range of sectors and disciplines.

The Luce Scholars Program in Asia (Professional)
Website: Luce Scholars Program
Deadline: Beginning of November
Award Description:
The Luce Scholars Program is a nationally competitive fellowship program. It was launched by the Henry Luce Foundation in 1974 to enhance the understanding of Asia among potential leaders in American society. The program provides stipends, language training, and individualized professional placement in Asia for 15-18 Luce Scholars each year, and welcomes applications from college seniors, graduate students, and young professionals in a variety of fields who have had limited exposure to Asia. Candidates must be U.S. citizens who would not have reached their 30th birthday by July 1st of the year they enter the program.

Mickey Leland International Hunger Fellows Program (Professional)
Website: Congressional Hunger Center-Leland International Hunger Fellows Program
Deadline: End of January
Award Description:
During each two-year fellowship cycle, 12-15 Leland Fellows are placed with international development organizations that include international and local NGOs, U.S. government agencies and multilateral organizations. Host organizations in the past have included Concern Worldwide, the UN World Food Program, Catholic Relief Services, Mercy Corps, and many more. Fellows work on a variety of food security issues, such as agricultural development, nutrition, natural resource management, agribusiness development and women’s empowerment. Includes a monthly stipend, health insurance and travel expenses.

Peace Corps (Professional, graduate)
Website: Peace Corps
Deadline: Ongoing
Description:
The Peace Corps sends Americans abroad to tackle the most pressing needs of people around the world. Peace Corps Volunteers work at the grassroots level toward sustainable change that lives on long after their service—at the same time becoming global citizens and serving their country. When they return home, Volunteers bring their knowledge and experiences—and a global outlook—that enriches the lives of those around them. Typically requires two years of post-graduate service abroad working on economic, environmental, community development, and education initiatives, among others. May be able to combine with a master’s degree program. Benefits include travel to and from country of service, a monthly living and housing allowance, and full medical and dental coverage. For additional benefits, see their website.
Princeton in Africa (PiAF) (Professional)
Website: Princeton in Africa
Deadline: Beginning of November
Award Description:
Princeton in Africa develops young leaders committed to Africa’s advancement by offering yearlong fellowship opportunities with a variety of organizations that work across African continent. Approximately 30 paid fellowships are awarded each year. Fellowships are awarded on a needs-blind basis. Graduating seniors and young alumni from any accredited U.S. college or university are eligible to apply. Please note that prior Africa experience is NOT a requirement.

Princeton in Latin America (Professional)
Website: Princeton in Latin America
Deadline: Beginning of November
Award Description:
Princeton in Latin America (PiLA) seeks to connect recent college graduates with one-year, service-oriented positions at NGOs and community based service organizations in Latin America. For most positions, some knowledge of the local language (Spanish, Portuguese, or French) is necessary. In addition, applicants who feel that they might need to strengthen their language skills may indicate that they plan on taking language classes prior to starting their fellowship. PiLA is currently open to graduating seniors and young alumni of Princeton and other universities.

Rotary Peace Fellowship (Graduate Study, Professional)
Website: Peace Fellowships-My Rotary
Deadline: End of May
Award Description:
Each year, Rotary selects up to 100 individuals from around the world to receive fully funded academic fellowships at one of our peace centers. These fellowships cover tuition and fees, room and board, and RT transportation. Two types of fellowships are available: (1) 15-24 month master’s degree fellowships at premier universities in fields related to peace and conflict prevention and resolution and (2) 3-month fellowships for experienced professionals working in peace-related fields at Chulalongkorn University in Thailand. For more information, contact your local Rotary club or the Rotary Peace Centers Department at The Rotary Foundation.

Schwarzman Scholars
Website: Schwarzman Scholars
Deadline: Early September
Award Description:
Designed to prepare the next generation of global leaders, Schwarzman Scholars is the first scholarship created to respond to the geopolitical landscape of the 21st Century. Whether in politics, business or science, the success of future leaders around the world will depend upon an understanding of China’s role in global trends. Award includes a 1-year Master’s and leadership training at Tsinghua University (Beijing, China) for future global leaders.

U.S. Borlaug Fellows in Global Food Security Graduate Research Grant
Website: U.S. Borlaug Fellows Program-Center for Global Food Security-Discovery Park at Purdue
Deadline: Mid-April
Award Description:
The U.S. Borlaug Fellows in Global Food Security graduate research grant program supports exceptional graduate students who are interested in developing a component of their graduate research in a developing
country setting. All topics that relate to food security (e.g., agriculture, nutrition, ecological resources, poverty) and are linked to the research strategies of the Feed the Future initiative are admissible. The grants have a maximum value of $15-$40,000 for 6-month to 2-year long international research stays.

William J. Clinton Fellowship for Service in India (Professional)
Website: Leadership-Investment Areas-American India Foundation
Deadline: Beginning of February
Award Description:
William J. Clinton Fellowship for Service in India is a 10 month leadership fellowship that pairs a select number of young professionals from the U.S. and India with NGOs and social enterprises in India in order to accelerate impact and create effective projects that are replicable, scalable, and sustainable. Applicants must be between the ages of 21 and 34 and completed an undergraduate degree. AIF provides a round trip ticket to India, insurance coverage, and a monthly stipend to each Fellow. Stipends vary from Rs. 16,000 per month to Rs. 35,000 per month based on location.

INTERESTED IN TEACHING ENGLISH ABROAD?

Check out these (and other) country-specific opportunities, typically funded by the host-country government:

Japan Exchange & Teaching Programme (JET)
Hong Kong NET
North American Language & Culture Assistants – Spain
English Open Doors – Chile
Teaching Assistantship in France