Olin’s Fulbright Preparation Program
Spring-Summer - Fall 2013

All events/deadlines are mandatory if you intend to apply for a Fulbright in fall ‘13

Tuesday, April 9th, 7:15-8:30 pm, AC 326: info session and prep program kickoff
• After meeting, email Olin’s Fulbright Committee so we know you are planning to pursue this scholarship (Caitrin Lynch, Chris Morse, Aarti Chellakere)
• Go to http://lists.olin.edu/mailman/listinfo/fulbright to subscribe to fulbright@lists.olin.edu, where all communication will take place. (Note: Only applicants for the year will be added to the listserv)

Tuesday, April 16th, 12:30-1:30, CC 214, (B.Y.O.Lunch): Program with Gillian Epstein: Personal Essays for Fulbright and other post-graduation activities

Tuesday, April 23rd, 1:30-3:00pm, MH 273 Drop-In Consult with Caitrin Lynch and Chris Morse
• These are drop-in hours: We will be doing a general overview at 1:30 and again at 2:15, so those would be good times to swing by.
• Prepare a list of 2-3 countries you are considering and your rough project ideas; check countries http://us.fulbrightonline.org/countries/regions on the Fulbright website first to make sure you are eligible and they have programs
• Prepare a draft of your personal essay (see Winning Tips for Personal Essay in “Guidelines for Olin College Fulbright Applicants”); this can be VERY drafty—we just want you to think about Gillian’s tips and start to write down ideas of what you want to discuss in your essay.
• Prepare a paragraph describing what you need to do between now and August 22 to prepare your project proposal (resources, people, institutional affiliation, etc.)
• Bring 2 hard copies of your materials to the session, to share with Chris and Caitrin.

May 14th to August 20th
• Monthly check-in about activities and status on wiki (we will send you an invite to join the wiki in May).
• Tuesday, July 16th: Good drafts of project proposal and personal essay due by midnight to listserv via email. (These will be read and suggestions/comments made in 2 weeks.)
• Early August: Visit Embark https://apply.embark.com/student/fulbright/usa/25/, Fulbright’s online application system, and start your application. Fill in your name and other details.
• Tuesday, August 20th: Revised drafts of project proposal and personal essay due by midnight to Aarti via email.
• September (details TBA): Required 1-hour workshop (followed by individual help if needed) on both Fulbright essays; students will give written peer feedback (details TBA). Second hour immediately following for students wanting additional assistance from Gillian Epstein, Caitrin Lynch and Aarti Chellakere.
• Friday, September 6th: Provide Aarti your time availability between 9-5pm for your Fulbright Interview (between Sept 23rd – Sept 27th). Keep in mind we will be scheduling 5 or 6 people so your schedule will need to be flexible.
• Between September 9th and September 13th: Required technical review of your essays with Caitrin, Chris, Gillian, or faculty member on your review committee or academic adviser to discuss essays.
• Thursday, September 19th: Best drafts of two essays, letters of affiliation from host country, unofficial Olin transcript, letters of recommendation uploaded on Embark and all Fulbright forms due by 5pm to Aarti
• Committee Interviews between September 23rd and September 27th.

Final Olin Deadline: Friday, October 11, 2013
Final Fulbright Deadline:Tuesday, October 15th, 2013)
FAQs for Fulbright Applicants
http://us.fulbrightonline.org/about

What is the Fulbright grant?

There are 2 major types of Fulbright grants: the full grant and the teaching grant. The Fulbright full grant provides one year of foreign study and research for nearly 1000 U.S. students. Most Fulbright grants provide travel, medical insurance, books, a monthly stipend geared to the cost of living in the host country (ranging from about $1000 to $4000 per month), and, often, tuition. There are also English Language Teaching Assistantships in many countries, including France, Argentina, Chile, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Indonesia, Korea, Romania, Taiwan, Thailand, and Turkey. Some require language proficiency, but some do not. For the Teaching Assistantships, see http://us.fulbrightonline.org/eta-program-charts

When should I begin thinking about this?

Now! It’s never too early to start preparing an application. Most students start seriously thinking about applying for a Fulbright in their sophomore and junior years, and use time abroad junior year to obtain solid contacts. Then, they use the tail end of junior year and the summer before senior year to create a well-conceived and polished draft for the first deadline in August. Olin’s Fulbright Preparation Program starts in the spring for juniors.

Who is eligible to apply?

Applicants must be U.S. citizens at the time of application; hold a B.A. degree or the equivalent before the start of the grant (some exceptions, but not relevant to Olin students); be in good health (Medical Certificate of Health will be required from a physician if you receive the grant). There is no specific GPA requirement, although a strong GPA will strengthen your application. Review the full list of eligibility criteria http://us.fulbrightonline.org/eligibility on the Fulbright website.

What does the application consist of?

A completed application consists of general information forms, a project essay, a personal statement, three letters of reference, and an affiliation letter from an institution in the country to which you are applying (required for full grants; only required in teaching grants if you are going to be doing some sort of research in addition to teaching). The project essay is where an applicant outlines exactly what he or she is going to be researching while abroad OR it is where an applicant describes why he or she wants to teach English abroad. The personal essay is akin to a narrative, personal statement.

Is there any more information?

The Fulbright application and a lot of extremely helpful information is available online at http://us.fulbrightonline.org/about/resources. Olin’s Fulbright Committee also has materials to help you succeed. Contact the committee (Caitrin Lynch, Chris Morse and Aarti Chellakere) and join Olin’s Fulbright email list by going to https://lists.olin.edu/mailman/listinfo/fulbright