



ANNOUNCEMENT

Doctoral dissertation research award to students from underrepresented graduate programs (DDR-U)

As part of the celebrations of our 60th anniversary in Brazil, the Fulbright Commission is pleased to announce that, starting on September 21st, 2016, it will be receiving applications from Brazilian citizens to develop academic activities in the U.S. These awards are part Fulbright program and aims to promote mutual understanding between peoples from the United States and from other countries.

The Commission will award up to 20 grants in open competition for Brazilian citizens that are doctoral students in graduate programs till now underrepresented in the Fulbright program. Candidates must be currently enrolled as regular students in doctoral graduate programs from the North, Northeast or Central-West regions in Brazil, except the Federal District, with grades 3, 4 or 5 at Capes, to develop their dissertation research in the U.S.

The grants are awarded for nine months to the students from August / September 2017 to May / June 2018. A pre-academic English training in the U.S. from April to July 2017 may be offered to selected grantees with moderate language proficiency level for improving their skills, at the Commission's solely discretion.

A general instruction package for each program is available through the **www.fulbright.org.br**.

Applications must be submitted in the online application system by 08:00 p.m. Brasilia time, on November 16th, 2016.

It is a unique opportunity to participate in the U.S. flagship educational exchange program and become a *Fulbrighter* for life.

Sincerely,

Luiz Valcov Loureiro, PhD

Executive Director

Fulbright Commission



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Doctoral Dissertation Research Award To Students From Underrepresented Graduate Programs (Ddr-U)

Bolsa de Doutorado-Sanduiche para os programas das regiões Norte, Nordeste e Centro-Oeste

The Commission will award up to 20 grants in open competition to all fields of study for Brazilian citizens that are currently enrolled as regular students in doctoral graduate programs from the North, Northeast or Central-West regions in Brazil, except the Federal District, with grades 3, 4 or 5 at Capes (The Brazilian Federal Agency for Support and Evaluation of Graduate Education), to develop their dissertation research in the U.S.

The DDR-U program provides opportunities to doctoral candidates to engage in nine-months dissertation research in the U.S. The grant is awarded for one academic year (9 months), beginning in August/ September 2017 and ending in May/ June 2018. The program may also offer pre-academic English training to the grantees with moderate language proficiency level.

A pre-academic English training in the U.S. may be offered to selected grantees with moderate language proficiency level for improving their skills at the Commission's solely discretion. Candidates can be accompanied by dependents only during their research program, although the award does not support expenses related to relatives, spouse, or children.

1. Eligibility

Only Brazilians enrolled in doctoral programs in the North, Northeast or Central-West regions of Brazil, except the Federal District, with grades 3, 4 or 5 at Capes are eligible. Candidates must reside in Brazil during the application and the selection process. Students enrolled in doctoral programs of international level – Capes grades 6 and 7 – are not eligible. Dual Brazilian/U.S. citizens are also not eligible. The candidate must be a regularly enrolled student and meet the English language requirement as indicated in item 3. This grant cannot be cumulated with any other similar grant.

2. Funding

The Commission will fund:

- ▶ Monthly Stipend: Living expenses variable [U.S. State Department Monthly Maintenance Rate (MMR), variable from campus to campus];
- ▶ International travel allowance: US\$ 2,000;
- ▶ Settle-in allowance: US\$ 2,000;
- ▶ Financial support for academic events in the U.S, upon approval: up to US\$ 2,000;
- ▶ Pre-Academic English training in the U.S.: up to six-months of English language course, depending on the language proficiency level of the grantee;
- ▶ Limited health insurance coverage: ASPE – Accident and Sickness Program for Exchanges and, if necessary, host institution mandatory health coverage; and,
- ▶ J-1 visa fee.

3. Submission guidelines

The candidate must read carefully the Application Instructions and submit the online application form both available at URL, including all the following documents that are mandatory:

- ▶ CV in English, no more than three pages;
- ▶ Copy of Brazilian passport ID pages, if available, ID card or driver's license;
- ▶ If the candidate has already received a J-1 visa, it is necessary to include a copy of the DS-2019 form and of the visa page from the passport;
- ▶ Academic transcripts in Portuguese: diplomas and transcripts of post-secondary institutions including the transcript of the current doctorate program indicating the date of enrollment;
- ▶ Letter of support from the Brazilian academic advisor in Portuguese: the letter must specifically address in what extent the grant will impact in the candidate's dissertation project as the negative impact if the grant is not awarded;
- ▶ Brazilian academic advisor's CV in English, no more than three pages;
- ▶ Research project in English: write the Research Project in English at maximum of 10 pages, it should be prepared using 11 pt. font, 1,5 line spaced and contain a clear and detailed description of your research proposal or proposed activity including the following items:
 - ▶ Research Title;
 - ▶ Background and Significance: explain the significance of the project for the field, your own professional development, and home country. When possible, place the project in academic or professional context by referring to the major work by others on the topic. In some cases this can be aided by use of a select bibliography.
 - ▶ Objective: define clearly the aims of the project.

- ▶ **Methodology:** describe the project and explain the approach and methods you will follow
- ▶ **Activity Timetable:** explain how your project can be completed within the time period requested.
- ▶ **U.S. Host Institution preferences:** indicate and justify the U.S. Host Institution preference and why residence in the United States is necessary for the accomplishment of the project.
- ▶ **Bibliography:** include the citation or quote as original resources to support your research proposal.
- ▶ Letter of acceptance from the U.S. Advisor in English; and
- ▶ DDR minimum language requirements, accomplished after August 1, 2015 (TOEFL iBT minimum requirement of 61; TOEFL ITP of 500; and IELTS of 5.5).

Candidates must submit their applications through the online application system until the deadline. Candidates are responsible for ensuring that all supporting documents are attached to the online application, as outlined here above. The Fulbright Commission will not consider applications with inaccurate, insufficient or inconsistent data or missing supporting documents.

4. Selection process

The Fulbright Commission will review and select the valid applications. A peer review panel, nominated by the Commission, will assess candidates' academic and professional qualifications and the relevance of their research projects. An interview will be required, by videoconference or phone. The Fulbright Commission will nominate the selected candidate for final approval by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. Preference will be given to candidates with no significant previous academic experience in the U.S.

Priority will be given for all qualified individuals, including underrepresented populations. This may include, but is not limited to, members of racial and ethnic minorities, women, LGBTI persons, persons with disabilities, persons of lower socioeconomic status, members of religious and minorities.

5. Timetable

- ▶ November 16th, 2016: deadline for online applications submission;
- ▶ January, 2017: videoconference or phone interviews;
- ▶ February, 2017: announcement of the selected candidates;
- ▶ April/May, 2017: when applicable, start of pre-academic English training in the U.S.; and
- ▶ August/September, 2017: start of academic program in the U.S.

6. Information

Additional information about the “The DDR-U Program”

Fulbright Commission – www.fulbright.org.br

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