



**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS – CYCLE 2027-2028**  
**PROGRAMS FOR BRAZILIAN CITIZENS**  
**DOCTORAL DISSERTATION RESEARCH AWARD (DDRA)**

The Fulbright Commission is pleased to launch the call for applications for the **Doctoral Dissertation Research Award (DDRA)**. This award is part of the Fulbright Program, which aims to promote mutual understanding between people from the United States and other countries.

The Commission will offer **up to fifty (50) awards in open competition for Brazilian citizens** currently enrolled in doctoral programs at Brazilian universities to develop part of their dissertation in the U.S. The DDRA provides opportunities for doctoral candidates to engage in nine-month dissertation research in the U.S. The award is for one academic year, beginning in **August/September 2027** and ending in **April/May 2028**.

**The 2027-2028 awardees will stand out as Fulbright Brazil's 70<sup>th</sup> cohort, a milestone in the bilateral academic exchange.**

## **1. ELIGIBILITY AND ENGLISH REQUIREMENTS**

Candidates must be regular students enrolled at a Brazilian Ph.D. program and meet the English language requirements indicated below. Only Brazilian citizens are eligible, and dual Brazilian/U.S. citizens are not. The candidate must stay in Brazil during the selection and affiliation process and before departure to the U.S.

The minimum language requirement to apply to the DDRA program is assessed through standardized test scores obtained after **July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025**: no less than 81 TOEFL iBT, 6.5 IELTS or 110 Duolingo.

### **1.1 Eligible Fields of Study <sup>1</sup>**

#### **I. Life Sciences**

(i) Agricultural Sciences: Agricultural Science, Fisheries Management, Food Science, Veterinary Medicine, and Zootechnics; (ii) Biological Sciences: Biodiversity, and Biology; and (iii) Health Sciences: Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing, Nutrition, Pharmacy, and Physical Education.

#### **II. Humanities**

(i) Applied Social Sciences: Architecture and design; Demography, and Economics; (ii) Human Sciences: Archaeology, Education, History, International Relations, Philosophy, and Psychology; and (iii) Language, Literature and Art: Arts, Language and Literature

#### **III. Earth Science, Technologies And Multidisciplinary Studies**

(i) Earth sciences: Astronomy, Chemistry, Computer Science, Earth sciences, Mathematics, Physics, and Probability and Statistics; (ii) Engineering; and (iii) Multidisciplinary Studies: Biotechnology, Materials Science, Sciences and Humanities for Basic Education; Teaching and learning

## **2. FUNDING**

The Commission will fund for nine months:

- Monthly Stipend: living expenses, exclusively for the awardee, variable with the host institution campus;
- International air ticket;
- Settle-in allowance: US\$ 2,000;
- Pre-Departure Orientation seminar;
- Limited health insurance coverage: ASPE - Accident and Sickness Program for Exchanges; and
- J-1 visa fee.

## **3. SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

The candidate must carefully read the Application Instructions and submit the online application form, both available at [www.fulbright.org.br](http://www.fulbright.org.br), including all the following mandatory supporting documents:

- **Brazilian passport ID pages**, if available, **or official ID document** with photo (ex. CIN, RG or CNH);
- **Personal Statement in English**, one page;
- **Study/Research Objective in English** – candidates must send a **research project** with up to ten (10) pages, not including the bibliography. It must include the following items: (i) Title, Background, and Relevance; (ii) Objectives; (iii) Methodology; (iv) Timetable; (v) U.S. host institution (indicate and justify the U.S. host

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<sup>1</sup> This list is exhaustive, and follows the major areas created by CAPES, the Brazilian Agency for Support and Evaluation of Graduate Studies. Check the full list at <https://www.gov.br/capes/pt-br/acao-a-informacao/acoes-e-programas/avaliacao/instrumentos/documentos-de-apoio/tabela-de-areas-de-conhecimento-avaliacao>

institution you will attend – must be the same from the Invitation letter) **and the bibliography in a separate document;**

- **Academic transcripts:** applicants must submit official, complete, and certified diplomas and transcripts in Portuguese of the undergraduate program, master's degree, and the current doctorate program indicating the date of enrollment;
- **Previous DS-2019 forms and J-1 visas** on the passport if the candidate has already received a J-1 visa;
- **CV in English**, limited two pages;
- **Brazilian academic advisor's CV in English**, limited to three pages;
- **U.S. host institution advisor's CV**, limited to three pages;
- TOEFL, IELTS or Duolingo **score report**. For more information, please refer to item 1 of this call;
- **Letter of support** from the home institution. It must state that the student is regularly enrolled in the program, that the internship period in the United States is in accordance with the PPG regulations, and include the expected dissertation defense date, which must not be earlier than July 1, 2028.
- **Invitation letter** from the U.S. host institution. It must include the start date (month and year) and end date (month and year) of the academic program, beginning in August/September 2027 and ending in May/June 2028, totaling 9 months. Letters with durations shorter or longer than 9 months will not be accepted.
- **Three letters of reference in English**, one of the letters must be from your Brazilian advisor.

Applicants must also record a **thirty-second video in English** and send it through the Fulbright Brazil Platform: [https://fulbright.com.br/candidatura/net\\_public/?app=login](https://fulbright.com.br/candidatura/net_public/?app=login). In the video, applicants must explain **how going to the U.S. will contribute to the candidate's doctoral dissertation**.

Candidates must submit both their application and the video by **August 2nd, 2026**. The Fulbright Commission will not consider applications with inaccurate, insufficient, or inconsistent data or missing supporting documents and video.

#### 4. SELECTION PROCESS

The Fulbright Commission will review and select valid applications. A peer review panel nominated by the Commission will assess candidates' academic and professional qualifications and the relevance of their applications. A videoconference interview of the selected candidates will be required.

The Fulbright Commission will nominate the pre-selected candidate for approval by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board (FFSB).

Note: Plagiarism will result in disqualification at any point in the program.

#### 5. TIMELINE

- **August 2nd, 2026:** deadline for submitting applications
- **October 2026:** interview of candidates approved by the peer review panel
- **November 2026:** announcement of selected candidates
- **August/September 2027:** start of activities in the U.S.

#### 6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

*Grantees will be required to complete their Fulbright grant in the academic program specified in the grant document. Grant dates and funding amounts stated in the grant document are subject to change. Prospective Fulbright participants should be aware that public health conditions, availability of consular services and travel, as well as U.S. institutional operating status and policies, may affect their ability to travel to the U.S. and participate in academic programs. The grant is activated only if the grantee can obtain a passport, J-1 visa and enter the United States to start the academic program outlined in the grant document.*

Contact e-mail: [ddra@fulbright.org.br](mailto:ddra@fulbright.org.br)

Fulbright Commission - [www.fulbright.org.br](http://www.fulbright.org.br)