



**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: ACADEMIC YEAR 2027-20278
PROGRAM FOR BRAZILIAN CITIZENS
FULBRIGHT DISTINGUISHED CHAIR AT
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN**

The Fulbright Distinguished Award in Biotechnology at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) will give one award for a Brazilian scholar to spend one academic semester lecturing and researching in the fall term 2027 (September to December) or spring term 2028 (January to May), following UIUC academic year calendar.

The award aims to foster teaching and research in biotechnology. Candidates must submit a detailed proposal covering both lecturing and research activities in the field. Ideal candidates work in one of the priority fields listed below and are engaged in research collaboration with faculty at the University. Selected scholars will be hosted by faculty at UIUC and are expected to conduct collaborative research, contribute to teaching activities, deliver seminars, and strengthen long-term inter-institutional partnerships.

Lecturing proposals should include a detailed syllabus for a three-hour weekly graduate seminar within a discipline offered at UIUC. Research proposals must identify a host laboratory or research site and the proposed faculty affiliation at UIUC. **The priority fields are:**

- **Plant Biotechnology**
- **Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering**
- **Bioengineering & Biosciences**
- **Core Facilities**

The 2027–2028 awardees will stand out as Fulbright Brazil's 70th cohort, a milestone in the bilateral academic exchange.

1. ELIGIBILITY

Candidates must work under a full-time and active contract in a Brazilian higher education institution. English language proficiency compatible with the proposed activities is a requirement. Candidates must hold a Brazilian passport and must have earned a doctoral degree before December 31st, 2018. Candidates that have benefited of J-1 visa in the past must have returned to Brazil before August 1st, 2025, to be eligible for the Fulbright Program.

Former Fulbright Chair awardees, dual Brazilian/U.S. citizens, candidates hired temporarily or as substitute professors are not eligible. Candidates must demonstrate outstanding academic qualifications and a record of professional experience along with intellectual production in the proposed area during the last ten years. The candidate must stay in Brazil during the following phases: selection, affiliation, and departure to the U.S.; this grant cannot be combined with any other similar grant with the same purpose.

2. FUNDING

The Chair will award funding for one visiting scholar based on a four-month stay, as follows:

- US\$ 28,000 for all expenses related to the stay in the U. S. (stipend, housing, settling-in allowance, and international round-trip air ticket). The award will be paid by both institutions, Fulbright (US\$ 14,000) and UIUC (US\$ 14,000). The income paid by the University is subject to tax, determined under tax accounting rules;
- Limited health coverage through Fulbright's ASPE - Accident and Sickness Program for Exchanges;
- Visa J-1; and
- Access to the facilities and services of the host institution, such as office space, laboratories, libraries, and any other amenities regularly provided to the academic community, to ensure the success of the teaching and research activities undertaken by the scholar.

3. SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The candidate must carefully read the [Application Instructions](#) and submit the online application form, available at <https://apply.iie.org/fvsp2027>, indicating **“Chair at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign”** in the Award Information, cycle 2027-2028, and including the following mandatory documents, **all in English:**

- **Brazilian passport ID pages**, if available, or official ID document with photo (ex. CIN, RG or CNH);
- **CV** with no more than three pages;
- **Ph.D. certificate or diploma** (original document; translation not required);
- **Research project statement** with bibliography;

- **Course syllabus**, with no more than ten pages;
- **Plan of Activities**;
- **Paystub** (*contra cheque*);
- **Previous DS-2019 forms and visas** on the passport, if the candidate has already received a J-1 visa;
- **Letter of support from institution of affiliation**: employer's declaration must indicate the date of admission and the present status of the contract (active and full-time); and
- **Two letters of reference**.

4. SELECTION PROCESS

The Fulbright Commission will screen and **analyze, by peer review**, all valid applications. A multi-disciplinary faculty review panel at the Host University will assess valid candidates' academic and professional qualifications and the relevance of their proposed courses and research projects. An interview may be required. The Fulbright Commission and the University will nominate the selected candidate for final approval by the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. Preference will be given to candidates with little or no significant previous academic experience in the U.S.

Note: Plagiarism will result in disqualification from participating in the program.:

5. TIMELINE

- **August 2, 2026**: deadline for online application submissions;
- **December, 2026**: results of the selection process;
- **Fall 2027 or Spring 2028**: activities at the host institution.

6. 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.

Additional information about the **"Fulbright Distinguished Chair at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign"** at www.fulbright.org.br
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