

Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad Program Webinar
Saturday, March 7, 2015
Questions and Answers

Question: Are professors and administrators from higher education/college eligible to apply?

Answer: Professors and administrators at higher education institutions are INELIGIBLE to apply for the Seminars Abroad Program for Fiscal Year 2015.

Questions: Can we get Act 48 credits/College Credits for participating in the Seminars Abroad Program?

Answer: The U.S. Department of Education does not offer academic credit to participants in the Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad Program.

Question: I work for an educational program (TRIO). I work directly for a community college, however I serve four Title I schools (low-income/first-generation students), would this qualify me for the additional points?

Answer: Fiscal Year 2015 Seminars Abroad Program is accepting applications only from K-12 teachers and administrators. Professors and administrators from higher education institutions are INELIGIBLE to apply. Applications from applicants who directly work at a K-12 school that is identified as Title I or Federal Student Aid Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program will be awarded 10 points.

Question: Are applications accepted only from K-12 teachers? Or can they also come from university faculty? Also, can these seminars focus on community college and university faculty and students while including some K-12 teachers?

Answer: Fiscal Year 2015 Seminars Abroad Program is accepting applications only from K-12 teachers and administrators. Professors and administrators from higher education institutions are INELIGIBLE to apply. For Fiscal Year 2015, the seminar will focus on K-12 teachers and administrators.

Question: It says "K-12" but I am currently teaching in early education (birth to 3) for a school district. I am considered a classroom teacher within my district. Are early education teachers eligible?

Answer: Early education teachers are INELIGIBLE to apply for Fiscal Year 2015. Only K-12 teachers and administrators are ELIGIBLE to apply for Fiscal Year 2015.

Question: Any information that you can give us about a timeline for decisions on application status?

Answer: Applicants will be notified whether or not they have been selected to participate in the Seminars Abroad Program by end of May 2015.

Question: Must we submit all of our application materials at once, or can we submit gradually, ensured that application materials will be saved?

Answer: You can gradually submit your applications materials. However, all of the application materials need to be submitted by April 1, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. (Washington, DC time). Please do not wait until the last minute to submit.

Question: My school is "eligible" as a Title I school, but we currently do not have enough free and reduced lunch students to actually be a Title I school. Would I still get 10 points for this?

Answer: To verify if your school is a Title I School, please visit <http://nces.ed.gov/ccd/schoolsearch/>

As long as your school is identified as a Title I School, you will be awarded 10 points. Additionally, applicants who work at a school that is eligible for the Federal Student Aid Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program will be awarded 10 points. To verify if your school is eligible for the Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program, please visit <https://www.tcli.ed.gov/CBSWebApp/tcli/TCLIPubSchoolSearch.jsp>

Question: Is the focus of the tour the culture of China or their educational system?

Answer: This Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad Program will provide a unique in-country study experience for U.S. K-12 educators and administrators to examine China's history, culture, society, and economy.

Question: Can we get documentation of contact hours for participation, not the same as college credit, but for recertification in our school district?

Answer: The SA program can provide documentation of an individual's participation in the program and a copy of the host country itinerary, but the onus is on the seminar participant to follow up from there.

Question: When will the official dates for the seminar be announced?

Answer: The official dates for the Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad Program will be provided as soon as they are finalized. Should an applicant be selected for participation in the program, the specific dates will be provided at that point in time for the candidate's consideration.

Question: Does the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund count as previous Fulbright travel?

Answer: The Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund does count as a previous Fulbright award.

Question: I applied last year and received very helpful feedback from the readers. Can I assume that the readers will not be the same though?

Answer: The readers will vary from year to year.

Question: Are 10 points awarded for schools that are considered Title I?

Answer: Applicants who work at a school identified as Title I or that is eligible for the Federal Student Aid Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program will be awarded 10 points.

To verify if your school is a Title I School, please visit <http://nces.ed.gov/ccd/schoolsearch/>.

Additionally, applicants who work at a school that is eligible for the Federal Student Aid Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program will be awarded 10 points. To verify if your school is eligible for the Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program, please visit <https://www.tcli.ed.gov/CBSWebApp/tcli/TCLIPubSchoolSearch.jsp>.

Question: Can you repeat last year's average score?

Answer: As a rule, we generally don't provide this kind of data to applicants since each year's competition can be very different with varying seminar themes, host country locations, education levels offered, funding available, and group sizes. For FY 2015, the SA program plans to select 16 applicants to participate in the summer seminar to China plus approximately 10 alternates.

Question: My three year full-time employment mark will be in November. Am I ineligible to apply for Summer 2015?

Answer: Eligible applicants MUST have at least three years of full-time professional BY THE TIME OF DEPARTURE OF THE SEMINAR.

Question: When the dates are known, will that information be shared? If so, where will it be posted/shared?

Answer: Exact travel dates for the Seminars Abroad Program will be included in the award notification letter. Additionally, travel dates will be posted on the Web page at <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/iegpssap/index.html>.