
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

FULBRIGHT THAI GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP (OPEN COMPETITION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM)

- 1. To which country does the Fulbright Program offer grants?**
 - The United States. The Fulbright Program in Thailand is a bi-national program for academic exchanges between Thailand and the United States.
- 2. Is the Fulbright Thai Graduate Scholarship same as the Open Competition Scholarship Program?**
 - Yes. We recently changed the program name to “Fulbright Thai Graduate Scholarship” to reflect the nature of scholarships which provide funding for both masters and doctoral degrees.
- 3. When is the application period for Thailand?**
 - January – early April of each year. Please check each year’s announcement.
- 4. Can I apply for the Fulbright Thai Graduate Scholarship (Open Competition Scholarship Program) if I already have a master’s degree?**
 - Yes, but grant consideration will be made on the academic record of your bachelor’s degree though a transcript for your master’s degree is required.
 - You can also apply for a doctoral degree.
- 5. Can I apply for a program with more than a two-year requirement?**
 - Yes, but you are responsible for the additional expenses necessary to complete the program.
- 6. Can I apply for a Ph.D. program that includes a master’s degree?**
 - Yes, but Fulbright only will provide grant for the first 2 years, and you are responsible for the additional expenses necessary to complete a doctoral degree.
 - Applicants who are interested in applying for the scholarship for doctoral degrees must have earned a master’s degree or in their final year of their master’s degree.
- 7. Does the grant cover only the first year of study? How about the second year?**
 - Successful candidates will receive funding from the Foundation for the actual costs of their selected program in the United States for two years, but not exceeding
 - \$35,500 in the first academic year; and
 - \$17,500 in the second academic year.
 - The maximum grant period is 2 years for both masters and doctoral degrees.
- 8. What kind of commitment does the Fulbright Program require?**
 - The Fulbright Program provides grants with no string attached. However, Fulbright grantees are holders of J-1 visa and are therefore subjected to a two-year residency requirement. That means they are not allowed to work in the U.S. for 2 years after the visa expires. (Marriage to a U.S. citizen is not exempted.) You are also advised to check with your home institution for any further commitments.

ELIGIBILITY

1. What are the main eligibility criteria for the Fulbright Thai Graduate Scholarship (Open Competition Scholarship Program)?

- Must be a Thai citizen, not holding a dual citizenship.
- Must not be employees (and immediate families) who work for the U.S. Department of State or the U.S. Agency for International Development.
- Must have completed all requirements for a bachelor's degree from a Thai university at the time of the interview. Applicants with working experience are encouraged to apply.
- Must have at least a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or equivalent on the bachelor's degree transcript of academic performance. For doctoral degree applicants, at least 3.50 in their master's degree level is required.
- Must have a minimum English score of:
 - i. For master's degree: TOEFL iBT® 80+ or IELTS of 6.5+;
 - ii. For doctoral degree: TOEFL iBT® 100+ or IELTS of 7.5+.
- Must be in Thailand for the interview.
- Have not previously awarded a Fulbright Open Competition Scholarship (OC).
- **Please refer to each year's program announcement.**
- **If you are unsure, please contact tusef@fulbrightthai.org for further clarification.**

2. If I am not a Thai citizen, but living in Thailand, can I apply for a Fulbright scholarship?

- No. You need to contact Fulbright Commission or U.S. Embassy in your country of citizenship.

3. I received my bachelor's degree from overseas, but I completed a master's degree from a Thai university. Am I eligible?

- No. Regardless of the degree applying, all applicants must hold bachelors from Thai universities, listed under the Office of the Higher Education Commission.

4. What disciplines are eligible for the Fulbright Thai Graduate Scholarship Program?

- All disciplines are eligible, except for health science and related areas which involve patient contact and require more than two years to complete.
- Public health and allied subjects with no clinical practices are eligible.
- The J-1 visa does not permit foreign nationals to pursue academic programs that require direct clinical patient contact and/or prescribing or administering of medication.

5. If I am currently a first-year master's student in the U.S., can I apply for a Fulbright scholarship for my second year of study?

- No. Fulbright selects candidates as a cohort, and they need to work with Fulbright Thailand from the start.

6. Is it acceptable if I have a TOEFL score report of 79?

- No. The minimum requirement for TOEFL iBT® is 80 for master's degree and 100 for doctoral degree. Applications that do not meet any of the eligibility requirements will be disqualified and will not be considered.

7. Can I use my IELTS score?

- Yes, from year 2020, Fulbright Thailand accepts both TOEFL iBT® and IELTS scores for TGS program. Kindly refer to each year's program announcement for requirements.

8. If I graduated from a master program abroad/an international program, do I still need to submit a TOEFL score report?

- Yes. It is a universal requirement for non-American applications.

9. Do I need GRE and GMAT score reports?

- GRE and GMAT scores are not required at the time of grant application. However, grantees will need to have these scores for university application.

10. Is it acceptable if my GPA is in percentage?

- Yes. If possible, you should request a formal document from your home institution to show your grade conversion (from percentage to a 4.0 scale).
- If such conversion report is not available, please write to tusef@fulbrightthai.org to consult your case.

11. My cumulative GPA for bachelor degree is 2.99. Can I apply for the Fulbright TGS Program? Will other qualifications (e.g. extra-curricular activities) help?

- It depends on the following condition:
 - No. If you are applying for a scholarship for a master's degree program, you must have the cumulative GPA of at least 3.00 from your bachelor's degree. Applications that do not meet the any one of the eligibility requirements will be disqualified and will not be considered.
 - Yes. If you are applying for a doctoral program, and your master's degree cumulative GPA is higher than 3.5, you can apply for a scholarship for a doctoral program, in spite of GPA 2.99 in the undergraduate level.
- **Please refer to each year's program announcement.**

12. Do I need to submit an official transcript? Can I download an online transcript from the university's website?

- For initial application submission, you can submit a photocopy of your official transcript with completed GPA record and courses taken up to the latest semester. However, an official transcript is needed and must be submitted by if you are invited for an interview.
- Unofficial transcripts printed from student's online account are not acceptable.

13. Do I need an acceptance from a host university before submitting the grant application? Do I need to apply to a university before submitting the grant application?

- Not necessary. University applications can be done after you are selected as a Fulbright grantee. Those who are already accepted need to defer their studies for the following academic year. Please consult with your university admission officer if this is the case.

ACCOUNT REGISTRATION

1. What should I do if I forgot my username and/or password?

- You can click on “forgot password” on the sign-in page or contact technical support at tusef@fulbrightthai.org for assistance.

2. I did not receive an email confirmation for creating an account.

- There is no confirmation email for opening an account. Users can sign in with their username and password after creating an account.

APPLICATION FORM

1. Can I apply to study a discipline different from my undergraduate?

- Yes, but with good reasons, provided in the essays.

2. How many disciplines can I apply for in the same year?

- Only one.

3. How do I choose major field of study in question 1 of online application form?

- Examples of field of studies in each category:
 - **Pure and applied science:** chemistry, biology, physics, mathematics, actuarial science, statistics, architecture, urban design, food science, agricultural, forestry, fisheries, etc.
 - **Health science:** biomedical science, veterinary science, etc.
 - **Engineering and computer science:** electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, petroleum engineering, computer science, computer engineering, data analysis, ocean engineering, aerospace engineering, etc.
 - **Arts, humanities, and education:** dance, music, design, fine arts, visual arts, films/TV, cinematography, animation, languages, literature, philosophy, anthropology, education, etc.
 - **Social science:** public policy, political science, international development, criminal justice, economics, environmental studies, communications, journalism, geography, social work, theology/religious studies, history etc.
 - **Law:** all legal concentrations
 - **MBA (Finance):** banking, finance, financial engineering, quantitative business analysis, etc.
 - **MBA (Non-finance):** general management, operation management, entrepreneurship, social enterprise, marketing, HR, supply chain management and logistics, etc.
- If you are not sure about your field of study, please contact tusef@fulbrightthai.org.

4. What degree should I choose in question 1 of online application form?

- If you are applying for a master’s degree, choose “Master of”.
- If you are applying for a doctoral degree, choose “Doctor of”. You must have earned a master's degree or studying in the last year of a master's degree program to be able to apply for a doctoral program degree.

5. The system would not let me move on to the next page without filling in all information.

- You need to fill in your information in the required fields. If the information is not available, please type a hyphen (-) in the fields.

6. How can I submit letters of recommendations?

- Your recommenders can submit letters of recommendations by:
 - Sending through online application system; OR
 - Sending PDF file directly to tusef@fulbrightthai.org.
- All recommendation letters must be submitted before the deadline.

7. My recommenders did not receive a request email.

- You may have provided an incorrect email address in the system. Please contact tusef@fulbrightthai.org or 02-285-0581 ext. 106 during office hours for further assistance.

SUBMISSION

1. *How do I know that my application has been successfully submitted?*

- Once you submit your application form online, you will receive a confirmation email.
- You can check your application status by logging in to your Fulbright account at <http://application.fulbrightthai.org>. The summary page shows statuses of your online application form and supporting documents.
- It is your responsibility to make sure that all online and hard-copy documents are submitted within the deadline. Please check your account often.

OTHER

1. *Are there any previous exams available for sale? Any samples for interview questions?*

- No. There are no exams for the Fulbright Program. The interview questions also vary from year to year depending on the committee panel, which also changes on a yearly basis.

2. *If I want to re-apply for the scholarship, can I submit the same application I submitted for previous year's competition?*

- Applicants are welcome to re-apply; however, it is not recommended to use the same essays and resume as there might be some changes of details in your application.

3. *If I am not selected for the grant, can I have my application back?*

- Yes, but you must make a request within 1 month after the announcement of final grant results. The application can be picked up at Fulbright Thailand's office or mailed at your own cost.

4. *May I ask for Fulbright alumni contacts?*

- Fulbright Thailand reserves the right to keep alumni contacts confidential.

5. *Where can I get more information about the Fulbright Thai Graduate Scholarship Program?*

- Please visit Fulbright Thailand's website at <http://www.fulbrightthai.org/>.