

## Fulbright Academic Graduate Student Grants (IIE-Placed)



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### What should be the format of my CV?

There is no required standardized format (it could follow the [EU pass format](#) or the [American CV format](#)), the important aspect is relevance, brevity and focus. The CV should be up to three pages. For reference, you can review this American University [guide](#) to CV formats.

### Should I list my secondary (high school) education diploma?

No. Only higher education (university) should be listed here.

### Which diplomas should I submit as supplements and in what form?

Diplomas and supplements (transcripts) for every degree or academic exchange, should be provided. Bulgarian diplomas and supplements should be given to an authorized translation agency, which will legalize the documents, incl. apostille. Diplomas and transcripts issued by BG, EU, and US institutions in English need no additional validation. All documents are scanned and uploaded as PDF files into the online system.

### Is there anything more I should know about the study plan?

Please make sure your choice of field and program are consistent throughout the application. Do not list different fields or different types of degree programs as your objectives.

## What does the Plagiarism Agreement mean?

All writing in your Fulbright application should be your own work, and any quotations or sources used must be properly cited. The Fulbright program takes academic dishonesty very seriously, and plagiarism is grounds for disqualification from the Fulbright program. Bulgarian standards may be more flexible than US standards, thus for more information on US academic citation requirements, please review [this](#) information. Please review and sign the Plagiarism Agreement to confirm that you understand and abide by Fulbright academic honesty standards.

## How do I choose my university preferences?

You can choose any accredited university on the territory of the US as your host institution. All disciplines except clinical medicine and dentistry are eligible. For reference to graduate study programs in the US, you can use this [resource](#). Please list four main preferences, using a differentiated approach: dream school; top preference but with more reasonable financial parameters; smaller school but good academic fit; safety option.

## Can I change my university preferences after I am nominated?

Yes. A discussion will be held with each nominee after the end of the competition and the list can be edited. Still, undertaking quality research in advance and providing a balanced list demonstrates a candidate's engagement during the application process.

## What is the format of study objectives essay?

The study objectives essay should be approximately two standard pages: Times New Roman, 12 pt., single-spaced. It should clearly describe your academic aims, describe your background, demonstrate your interest, and present your future academic and professional plans. Be consistent with your stated degree objective. Be specific. This is the place where you can demonstrate your knowledge and seriousness of purpose. It is not necessary to retell your CV here, but rather to demonstrate your academic readiness and intellectual curiosity. PROOFREAD your essays or ask a friend to do so.



## What is the format of the personal statement?

The personal statement should be approximately two standard pages: Times New Roman, 12 pt., single-spaced. You can learn more about possible content and structure of personal statements from these resources: Stanford guidelines, UC Berkeley guidelines, Etan Sawyer's guide.

## What are the reference requirements?

Three references are required (a typical, but not obligatory, balance might be two from academics and one from an employer). Choose your referees wisely. Approach those who know you and who think well of you, rather than those who are well-known.

Register your referees in the online system via e-mail addresses and click submit. They will receive a link to the online recommendation form and submit confidentially into the system. Follow up with your referees before the competition deadline to confirm they have submitted letters on your behalf.

## Can referees submit their recommendations after I have submitted my application?

Yes, technically, they can, although this pose be a disadvantage to you if reviewers do not have access to them in a timely manner. Thus, it is strongly advisable for them to comply with the application submission deadline.

## Should I submit writing samples or portfolios?

Writing samples are required for PhD programs and professional programs. Make sure you have cited all sources in your samples correctly. Portfolios are required for students in the arts and architecture and should give a general impression of your creative work. Specific portfolios for the respective schools are submitted after nomination.



## Should I submit standardized American test results before the application deadline?

It is an advantage to submit valid [TOEFL](#); [GRE](#); [GMAT](#) test results by May 12, but applications are also accepted without them. If nominated, applicants are required to submit test results by September 15, 2023. TOEFL is required for all disciplines without waivers, GRE/GMAT are required for graduate studies in the humanities (except Law), STEM and Business without waivers. Free test preparation and test vouchers are offered to Fulbright nominees.

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If you have further questions, please review eligibility and application requirements at the Fulbright Bulgaria [website](#), or contact: Maria Kostova, Program officer for Bulgarian Grantees at [mkostova@fulbright.bg](mailto:mkostova@fulbright.bg).

