FULBRIGHT SLOVAK STUDENT PROGRAM

Instructions for Completing the Fulbright Slovak Student Program Application

The J. William Fulbright Commission for Educational Exchange in the Slovak Republic supervises and administers the Fulbright Program for Slovak citizens.

Office Contact Information:

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Please, read all instructions carefully before completing the application!

STEP 1: Learn eligibility requirements for the Fulbright Slovak Student Program

Be sure you understand the program requirements for submitting the application. Please note that since this online application is general, you must follow country-specific instructions for the Slovak Republic while completing your application.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Slovak citizenship and permanent residency in Slovakia.
- Masters degree (Slovak equivalent Mgr./Ing.).
- Excellent academic record.
- English proficiency
    - Proof of English language proficiency if required by the U.S. host institution and specified in the Letter of Invitation (typically through TOEFL or IELTS test results).
- Candidates may apply in any field except clinical medicine (direct contact with patients is not possible).
- Candidates must be enrolled in a Ph.D. program. Artists are exempted from this requirement, and additional exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Candidates may not travel on a Fulbright Visiting Student Researcher grant after completing their Ph.D. degree. Candidates who are in the final stage of their doctoral studies must remain enrolled and postpone completion of their Ph.D. until after the grant period.

STEP 2: Register and record your password in a safe place

Your email address is your username. When you create an account for this online application, record your password in a secure place. You can log in and out of the application as frequently as you like using your username and password. In case you have already applied for this program in the past, you do not need to create a new account, you can use your old log-in information.

STEP 3: Complete the application

You do not need to complete this application in a single session. You can re-enter at any time and edit your application. However, once you submit your application, you CANNOT make any changes to it. All forms in this application are to be completed in English. Items must be answered completely and carefully.

STEP 4: Submit your application

Once you have entered all required information, including recommenders, review your application for errors. If all information is correct, submit your application. Please note that after submitting your application, you will be able to access it in a viewable PDF format. However, you will not be able to make any changes to your application.

FULBRIGHT Slovakia

CREATING YOUR ONLINE ACCOUNT

1. To start, click Create an account.
2. Enter your email address, first name, last name, and select your date of birth (Month-Date-Year) from the drop-down menus. Your name must be entered exactly the way it appears (or will appear) on your passport.



Note: Use an email address that you will be able to access for at least two years after submitting your application. This is the email address you will use to log in to your application account. We recommend you do NOT use a work email address if you will not have access to it during your grant in the U.S.

3. Click Continue. You will receive an email from apply@iie.org confirming that you have started the application. The email will include a temporary PIN. Follow the instructions in the email to activate your account using the temporary PIN.

4. You will be prompted to enter your pin and then create a password to complete login.

5. Returning users: Click Log in and enter your email address and password. If you do not remember your password, click Forgot your password? and follow the resulting instructions.

FULBRIGHT Slovakia

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE 2027 – 2028 FULBRIGHT SLOVAK STUDENT PROGRAM APPLICATION FORM

Please read all instructions carefully before completing the application!

- Do not use diacritics.
- You do not need to complete this application in a single session. You may log in again at any time to review and edit your application.
- Once you submit your application, you cannot make any changes to it.

Read the Welcome Section Carefully!

Please confirm that you have read the Fulbright Policy Guidelines. The guidelines related to the Fulbright Slovak Student Program are under Chapter 500 "Students from partner countries".

Section: PRELIMINARY QUESTIONS

Program Country Through Which You Are Applying
Make sure that you select the **Slovak Republic** as the program country through which you are applying.

Academic Year
Please select **2027-2028**.
Important: The application submission deadline is **December 1, 2026**.

U.S. Citizenship, Dual Citizenship, and U.S. Permanent Residency
Candidates for Fulbright Slovak Student Program must **not** hold U.S. citizenship or U.S. permanent resident status (a Green Card).

Program Eligibility Requirements
To proceed with the application, you must answer Yes to confirm that you meet all program eligibility requirements.

If you are unsure whether you meet all eligibility requirements, please contact the Slovak Fulbright Commission: lucia@fulbright.sk, +421-911 046 123.

IIE Data Privacy Consent for Applicants in IIE-Managed Programs
Please read the Program Privacy Statement carefully before providing your consent.

Employment Eligibility
Select Yes or No to indicate whether you meet all employment eligibility requirements.

Please note that neither candidates nor their immediate family members may have been employed by the specified organizations and/or agencies during the one-year period preceding the application date. If you select Yes, please provide details regarding the employment or association.

Waiver of Access to Recommendation Letters

We recommend that you waive your right of access to recommendation letters. Recommendation letters are typically considered confidential documents, and waiving your right of access assures reviewers that referees have provided their honest and candid assessment of your qualifications.

Please note that waiving your right of access is not mandatory and will not affect your eligibility for the Fulbright Program. However, confidential recommendations are generally the standard practice in academic and scholarship applications.

Section: COUNTRY INFORMATION

Please review the country and program information carefully. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the Slovak Fulbright Commission: lucia@fulbright.sk, +421-911 046 123.

Section: PERSONAL INFORMATION

Enter your name exactly as it appears (or will appear) on your passport. Do not use diacritical marks (accented characters). Use standard capitalization (uppercase and lowercase letters), for example: Ron Smith. If your passport contains special Slovak characters, enter their non-accented equivalents (e.g., Š → S, Č → C, Á → A).

Please complete all required fields in this section, including your biographical information and citizenship details.

Section: CONTACT INFORMATION

Enter all required contact information, including your emergency contact details. If your current mailing address differs from your permanent address in Slovakia, be sure to provide your current mailing address.

Email

The email address used to create your account will appear in the Primary Email Address field and cannot be edited. You may provide an Alternate/Secondary Email Address, which may be used to contact you if we are unable to reach you via your primary email address. Note: All system-generated emails will continue to be sent to your primary email address.

Emergency Contact
Please provide the contact information of an emergency contact located in Slovakia.

Section: ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

This section collects information about your academic and professional background, including your curriculum vitae/resumé, academic qualifications, professional experience, awards and honors, and international experience.
Please prepare and upload all required documents in PDF format. Be sure to review any applicable page limits and ensure that your documents do not exceed them.

Curriculum Vitae/Resume
Include all information regarding your education, publications, membership, and activities in professional associations, professional honors, awards and fellowships, work experience, volunteering, community service, traveling, and hobbies as well.

Academic Background
List all post-secondary educational institutions you have attended in reverse chronological order. You MUST include any educational institutions you are currently attending (even if you have not yet completed your educational program) and provide the expected date of graduation/completion.
To add additional post-secondary educational institutions, click *Add Institution*.

Professional Experience
List your current and any relevant previous professional experience. If you have more than one current position, click *Add Experience*.

Awards & Recognitions
Enter a list of any scholarships/fellowships, academic honors and prizes, books/articles/theses published by you, teaching experience, and research activities into the text boxes provided (all text boxes have a 250-word limit). If you do not have anything to add, leave the text boxes blank.

Experience Abroad
List any travel, study, or residency you have had abroad (in any country other than your own) for more than one month. This can include time overseas for education, research, business, vacation, etc. If you have more than one trip abroad to enter, click Add New. If you have previously entered the United States on a J-1 or J-2 visa, indicate the J category of sponsorship. If you have previously been awarded a Fulbright grant, indicate the award type and academic year.
Be sure to include any relevant professional, research, internship, teaching, volunteer, or other work experience gained in the United States as well as in other countries. International experience is an important part of your profile and should be reported.

Section: ACADEMIC MATERIALS

This section collects copies of your official transcripts and/or diplomas. Please upload scanned copies of all available transcripts and diplomas from every post-secondary institution you have attended.
Whenever possible, please provide documents in English. If your documents are not in English, you may upload the Slovak-language versions.

Section: LANGUAGE SKILLS

This section collects information about your native language, English language proficiency, and any other languages in which you have competence.

Section: STANDARDIZED TEST SCORES

This section collects information about any standardized tests you have taken or plan to take in the future. Standardized tests include TOEFL, GRE, GMAT, and IELTS.

For the Fulbright Slovak Student Program, candidates are generally not required to submit standardized test scores. Standardized tests are required only if requested by the U.S. host institution.

You are required to provide proof of English language proficiency **if your U.S. host institution requires it**. This requirement should be specified in the Letter of Invitation.

Requirements vary by institution and may differ with respect to:

- The accepted English-language test (e.g., TOEFL, IELTS, or Duolingo English Test).
- The minimum score required for affiliation.

If your host institution requires proof of English language proficiency, please contact the Slovak Fulbright Commission for guidance and information about the possibility of receiving a testing voucher.

Section: PLAGIARISM AGREEMENT

Carefully review the Plagiarism Agreement and indicate your answer. Please note that plagiarism in any part of your application will result in your disqualification from participating in the Fulbright Foreign Student Program.

Section: STUDY PLAN

This section collects information about your proposed research plan in the U.S. We strongly encourage you to consult the Slovak Fulbright Commission regarding your project

proposal and any other aspect of your application.

Intended Degree Objective
Please select *Visiting Student Researcher* as your intended degree objective.

Intended Field of Research/Intended Specialization/Sub-field of Study
Select the most appropriate academic discipline and primary specialization from the dropdown menus.
For some fields, the application system may ask whether you would like to submit portfolio materials as part of your application. If you select *yes*, you will be prompted to upload the required materials on the following page.

Provide also:
A brief description of the field in which you plan to specialize during your stay in the United States.
A brief description of your future academic and professional goals, including how the Fulbright experience will contribute to them.

Intended Grant Period
Enter your proposed period of stay in the U.S.
Please note that grants under the Fulbright Slovak Student Program are awarded for a period of six to nine months, typically beginning in August or September. Ensure that your proposed dates are consistent with these program requirements.

Research Objective
The Research Objective is one of the most important components of your application. Take care to prepare a clear, focused, and detailed description of the research you intend to pursue during your six- to nine-month stay in the U.S.

Clearly identify the area within your field in which you wish to specialize and describe your research plan in detail.

Your essay should address:

- The purpose and objectives of your proposed research.
- The significance of the proposed work and its expected outcomes.
- Why the research should be conducted in the U.S.
- How the host institution, resources, and academic environment will contribute to your project.
- Your academic, professional, and research plans following your return to Slovakia.

The Research Objective should be limited to one and a half pages.

Personal Statement
The Personal Statement is a narrative essay that provides an opportunity to present your

background, experiences, motivations, and future aspirations. You may include information about:

- Your educational background.
- Professional, research, and practical experience.
- Special interests and achievements.
- Career goals and long-term plans.
- Your reasons for applying to study or conduct research in the U.S.
- How participation in the Fulbright Program will contribute to your personal, academic, and professional development.

The Research Objective should be limited to one and a half pages.

Contacted U.S. Institution and Letter of Invitation:

As part of the requirements of the Fulbright Slovak Student Program, you must obtain and upload a Letter of Invitation. The letter should be uploaded in the *Additional Information* section of the application. Before uploading the letter, complete the *Contacted U.S. Institution* section and provide the requested information about your prospective host institution.

The Letter of Invitation should be printed on the host institution's official letterhead and signed by an institutional official authorized to approve academic affiliations, such as a Provost, Dean, Department Chair, or a comparable representative. The letter may include more than one signatory.

There is no required format for the Letter of Invitation. However, it should include the following information:

- Candidate's name.
- Country of origin.
- Research activity, including the project title or topic.
- Proposed start and end dates of the stay (noting that these dates may change following nomination for the scholarship).
- Expected outcomes of the proposed research or collaboration.
- Description of both existing and planned future cooperation between the candidate and the host institution.
- Nature of the planned in-person activities.
- Facilities and resources available to the candidate during the stay (e.g., library access, laboratory facilities, or other institutional support).
- Any in-kind support or arrangements provided by the host institution.
- Whether the candidate will be required to pay any affiliation or administrative fees.
- Whether the candidate is required to provide proof of English language proficiency (or any other standardized test)
- Name of the primary faculty host and the hosting department.
- Any conditions or contingencies associated with the invitation.

Candidates are welcome to submit more than one Letter of Invitation.

Important: The Fulbright Commission does not cover affiliation or administrative fees charged by host institutions. Any such costs must be covered by the candidate or another funding source. If a candidate is unable to cover these costs, the Fulbright Commission will work with the candidate to identify a suitable alternative host institution or placement.

Section: GRANT & TRAVEL PLANS

This section collects information about your personal finances, additional sources of funding, passport details, and any accompanying dependents.

Financial Information
The Fulbright award provides monthly maintenance, travel expenses, and basic health coverage for a period of up to nine months. The scholarship is intended to cover your basic living expenses in the U.S. during your grant period.

Please note that this application system is used for Fulbright programs worldwide, and requirements may vary by country. For the Fulbright Slovak Student Program, you are not required to demonstrate personal financial resources. Therefore, this section is for informational purposes only.

However, if you expect to receive any additional funding or financial support, please provide all relevant details.

Passport/Travel Document
Please upload a copy of your valid passport.
If your passport is due to expire soon, you may upload your current passport and provide an updated copy if you are selected for the program.

Accompanying Dependents
Indicate the number of dependents you expect to accompany you to the U.S.

Please note that the Slovak Fulbright Commission does not cover any expenses related to accompanying dependents. If you intend to bring dependents with you, you must provide documentation demonstrating that sufficient financial resources are available to cover their living expenses during the grant period.

We recommend consulting the Commission.

Section: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional Documentation
Please read, sign, and upload the following country-specific supplemental documents:

- Authorization to Process Personal Data
- Declaration of Generative AI Use in the Fulbright Application

Documents may be signed electronically or printed, signed, and scanned before uploading.

Both documents should preferably be electronically fillable and available for digital signature. If this is not the case, please contact the Slovak Fulbright Commission and request the supplemental materials by email.

Outreach Survey
Please fill out the survey.

Section: RECOMMENDATIONS
Use this section to register your recommenders. Once you register a recommender, they will receive an automated email with instructions for completing and submitting the online recommendation form.
Through the application system, you can:

- Track the status of recommendation letters.
- Send reminder emails to recommenders.
- Add or delete recommenders as needed.

It is your responsibility to ensure that all recommendation letters are submitted by the application deadline. Recommendation letters must be submitted directly by the recommenders, either through the online application system or by email to the Fulbright Program Officer.

If your recommender experiences any technical difficulties, please contact the Slovak Fulbright Commission.

You must submit three letters of recommendation. Recommendations should be provided by individuals who have taught, supervised, or mentored you academically, conducted research with you, or supervised you in a professional capacity relevant to your proposed field of research.

Whenever possible, letters of recommendation should be written in English.
Please note: Before registering your recommenders, you must complete the Reference Materials Waiver on the Study Plan page of the application.

Section: SIGNATURE

Certify that the information provided in your application is accurate, complete, and truthful by typing your full legal name in the Signature Box.

Section: REVIEW

The application system will review your responses and identify any incomplete questions or missing required attachments. Before submitting your application, carefully review all of your responses to ensure that the information provided is accurate and complete. Once you are satisfied with your application, submit it through the online system. You may print a copy of your completed application for your records.