

Student Name: _____
Graduation Year: _____
Major 1: _____
Major 2: _____
Major 3: _____
Minor(s): _____
Academic Advisor(s): _____

Student ID: _____

Hometown: _____
Concentration: _____
Concentration: _____
Concentration: _____

Fulbright U.S. Student Program

Award Details:

Emphasis:

Academic

Research

Language

Experiential

International

Brief Description:

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program provides grants for individually designed study/research projects or for English Teaching Assistant Programs. A candidate will submit a *Statement of Grant Purpose* defining activities to take place during one academic year in a participating country outside the U.S.

During their grants, Fulbrighters will meet, work, live with and learn from the people of the host country, sharing daily experiences. The program facilitates cultural exchange through direct interaction on an individual basis in the classroom, field, home, and in routine tasks, allowing the grantee to gain an appreciation of others' viewpoints and beliefs, the way they do things, and the way they think. Through engagement in the community, the individual will interact with their hosts on a one-to-one basis in an atmosphere of openness, academic integrity, and intellectual freedom, thereby promoting mutual understanding.

Study/Research Awards: Offered for projects in all Academic and Creative & Performing Arts fields. Applicants can propose their own independent study/research projects or, in some countries, can propose to enroll in a graduate program. Arts applicants.

English Teaching Assistant (ETA) Awards: Programs that place grantees in schools overseas to supplement local English language instruction and to provide a native speaker presence in the classrooms.

Fulbright-National Geographic Digital Storytelling Fellowships: Offered for proposals to undertake an in-depth examination of a globally relevant issue or issues in one country, or in multiple countries, comparing and contrasting how that issue is experienced from one country to another.

Grant Benefits for All Fulbright U.S. Student Grants Include:

- Round-trip transportation to the host country
- Funding to cover room, board, and incidental costs, based on the cost of living in the host country
- Accident & Sickness Health Benefits

In Some Counties, Grants May Also Include:

- Book and research allowances. Grantees with projects that require extensive research support, in-country travel, study materials, or equipment should explore additional funding from other sources to supplement the Fulbright funding.
- Mid-term enrichment activities
- Full or partial tuition
- Language study programs
- Pre-departure and in-country orientations

Can The Award Be Deferred? No

Can The Award Be Renewed? No

Application Process:

The Fulbright Program Adviser (FPA) will set a campus application deadline for the institution's students, which is typically 4-6 weeks earlier than the final October deadline. Please confirm the campus deadline with the FPA. All candidates applying through a U.S. institution must submit the Fulbright application through the Embark online application system by the campus deadline; all supporting materials as outlined in the Application Components section, must also be included by the campus deadline date. Once your application has been submitted for institutional review, the Fulbright Program Adviser will schedule a campus interview for you. Following the interview and before the final deadline in October, you may have the opportunity to revise your application based on feedback provided by the Fulbright Program Adviser and the campus interview committee. You must work with the Fulbright Program Adviser to ensure that your application is officially submitted and that all supporting documents are attached by the final deadline.

Eligibility:

Applicant Education Level:	Graduating Seniors
Specified Majors:	None
Open to (Non-US) International Students:	No
Required to Demonstrate Financial Need:	No
Minimum GPA:	No

Candidate Profile: Key Characteristics Sought By Review Committee

Selection is made on the basis of:

- Quality and feasibility of the proposal as described in the Statement of Grant Purpose
- Academic or professional record
- Personal qualifications
- Language preparation
- Preference factors as established by the J. William Fulbright foreign Scholarship Board (FFSB) and the Fulbright Commissions/Foundation
- Extent to which the candidate and the project will help to advance the Fulbright aim of promoting mutual understanding among nations through engagement in the host community, among other activities
- Ability of the supervising agencies abroad to arrange/confirm supervision and facilitate research clearance, if necessary.
- Requirements of the program in individual countries. In some countries, advanced-degree candidates are preferred, and in some countries, certain fields of study are not recommended. Check with IIE before filing an application if you do not meet country specifications
- Desirability of achieving wide institutional and geographical distribution

Selection:

Number of Candidates Awarded Each Year:	2,000
Interview:	Varies by Program and Country
Approximate Date Selected Candidates Are Notified:	April

Contact Information:

Name:	Lora Seery
Position:	FPA Liaison
Street Address:	809 U.N. Plaza
City / State / Zip:	New York, NY, 10017
E-mail:	FBStudent@IIE.org
Phone:	1-800-272-6994

Information Sessions:

Webinars for Candidates: Yes, April through October

Webinars for Advisors: Yes, April through October

Website:

Official Website: <https://us.fulbrightonline.org/fulbright-us-student-program>

Application Instructions: <https://us.fulbrightonline.org/applicants/getting-started>

Application Tips: <https://us.fulbrightonline.org/applicants/application-tips>

Application:

Date Application is Available: April 1, 2017

Application Due Date: October 6, 2017

Application Must Be Submitted By: Candidate or Adviser on candidate's behalf

Institutional Endorsement Required: Yes

Institutional Cover Letter Required: No

Application Components for Study/Research (Academic):

Each application must include the following materials:

	Deadline	Date Completed																
Register and create online application account.	10/6/2017	_____																
Biographical Data ¹	10/6/2017	_____																
Statement of Gant Purpose ²	10/6/2017	_____																
Affiliation Letter ³	10/6/2017	_____																
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Transcripts ⁷	10/6/2017	_____																
Critical Language Enhancement Award Statement ⁸	10/6/2017	_____																

1. The first pages of the application ask for all of your basic personal information, such as your name, contact information, birth date, etc. They also ask for the details of your academic background, occupational experience, extracurricular activities, publications, and previous foreign experience. Here, on the Program Information page, you must include a project title and an abstract of the Statement of Grant Purpose, along with a brief explanation of your future plans upon returning to the U.S.

2. Statement of Grant Purpose is a 2-page document outlining the Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How of what you are proposing for your Fulbright year. If you are pursuing a research project, developing a strong, feasible and compelling project is the most important aspect of a successful Fulbright application. The first step is to familiarize yourself with the program summary for your host country in order to verify the type of grant you can propose. Depending on the country, applicants may also propose to complete a graduate degree program. Some countries have specific arrangements or awards for graduate study and applicants may propose to complete a graduate degree program. In this case, applicants should focus on demonstrating the reasons for pursuing the proposed program at a particular institution in the host country. Whether you are applying for a research project or a degree program, the proposal should indicate a clear commitment to the host country community and a description of how you will engage with it. Format: single spaced, 12 point Times New Roman, 1 inch margins.

3. A majority of Fulbrighters undertaking study/research awards will affiliate with universities, although in some countries it is possible to affiliate with other types of organizations, such as research institutes or government ministries. Affiliation requirements vary by country, so before starting the application you should note the specific requirements for the proposed host country. The affiliation letter should come from the institution/individual in the host country with whom you are proposing to work. It should be written in or translated to English, printed on official letterhead and should be signed by the author. Email correspondence is not acceptable.

4. Personal Statement is a 1-page narrative designed to give the reviewers a picture of you as an individual. It is an opportunity to tell the committee more about the trajectory that you have followed and what plans you have for the future. Whereas the *Statement of Grant Purpose* focuses on what you will be doing in the host country, the Personal Statement concentrates on how your background has influenced your development and how that relates to the Fulbright opportunity. The statement can deal with your personal history, family background, intellectual development, and the educational, professional, or cultural opportunities to which you have or have not been exposed; explain their impact. This should not be a reiteration of facts already listed in the Biographical Data sections or an elaboration of the *Statement of Grant Purpose*. Format: single spaced, 12 point Times New Roman, 1 inch margins.

5. Language requirements vary by country, so before starting the application you should note the specific requirements of the proposed host country. You must possess the necessary language skills to successfully complete the project you are proposing. For programs where language skills are Strongly Recommended, you must submit both a Language Self Evaluation and a Foreign Language Evaluation Form, which is completed by a professional language teacher. Submission of both forms is mandatory, even if you have advanced skills or native-speaker ability. Failure to submit the forms may affect your eligibility. For programs where language skills are Recommended or Not Required, if you possess some language skills you should submit both a Language Self Evaluation and a Foreign Language Evaluation Form. It will be advantageous to have your language ability documented, even though it is not required. Remember, even if a country indicates that English will be sufficient for carrying out the proposed project, for purposes of Community Engagement, at least a basic level of language skill should be obtained prior to leaving the United States for the host country. For programs in countries where English is one of the national languages, you do not need to submit any foreign language forms unless a foreign language is required for your project.

6. You must submit three recommendation letters as part of the application. The authors should be the three individuals who can best speak to your ability to carry out the project being proposed; they should discuss your intellectual and professional preparation, and your ability to represent the U.S. abroad. You should provide the recommender with a copy of your Statement of Grant Purpose before requesting the recommendation letter. The recommendation letter should NOT simply be a character reference, as this will be of no value in assessing your ability to complete the proposed project. All recommendations must be written in English. If the original recommendation letter is written in a language other than English there must be an official English translation. Because the recommendation letter is confidential the translation cannot be done by the applicant. Both the original recommendation letter and the English-language translation must be uploaded into the Fulbright application.

7. The Fulbright Program requires a complete academic record of your higher education. You must provide transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate institutions from which you received degrees. Transcripts must also be submitted from other institutions where you studied and received credit for coursework. Failure to submit any required transcripts will result in your being declared ineligible.

8. The Critical Language Enhancement Award is available to:

China	Egypt	India	Indonesia
Jordan	Morocco	Russia	

If you are applying for a Critical Language Enhancement Award, you must complete the Critical Language Enhancement Award Statement which details your language preparation, the host country language program desired, and a brief explanation of how the additional language training will impact your Fulbright experience and future career plans.

Application Components for Study/Research (Creative & Performing Arts):

Each application must include the following materials:

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Register and create online application account.	10/6/2017	_____																
Biographical Data ¹	10/6/2017	_____																
Statement of Gant Purpose ²	10/6/2017	_____																
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Transcripts ⁷	10/6/2017	_____																
Critical Language Enhancement Award Statement ⁸	10/6/2017	_____																
Supplementary Materials ⁹	10/6/2017	_____																

1. The first pages of the application ask for all of your basic personal information, such as your name, contact information, birth date, etc. They also ask for the details of your academic background, occupational experience, extracurricular activities, publications, and previous foreign experience. Here, on the Program Information page, you must include a project title and an abstract of the Statement of Grant Purpose, along with a brief explanation of your future plans upon returning to the U.S.

2. Statement of Grant Purpose is a 2-page document outlining the Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How of what you are proposing for your Fulbright year. Developing a strong, feasible and compelling project is the most important aspect of a successful Fulbright application. The first step is to familiarize yourself with the program summary for the host country. The program design will vary somewhat depending upon the country and the field of study. The proposal should indicate a clear commitment to and description of how you will engage with the host country community. Format: single spaced, 12 point Times New Roman, 1 inch margins.

3. A majority of Fulbrighters undertaking study/research awards will affiliate with universities, although in some countries it is possible to affiliate with other types of organizations, such as a theatre troupe or an arts academy. Affiliation requirements vary by country, so before starting the application you should note the specific requirements for the proposed host country. The affiliation letter should come from the institution/individual in the host country with whom you are proposing to work. It should be written in or translated to English, printed on official letterhead and should be signed by the author. Email correspondence is not acceptable.

4. Personal Statement is a 1-page narrative designed to give the reviewers a picture of you as an individual. It is an opportunity to tell the committee more about the trajectory that you have followed and what plans you have for the future. Whereas the *Statement of Grant Purpose* focuses on what you will be doing in the host country, the Personal Statement concentrates on how your background has influenced your development and how that relates to the Fulbright opportunity. The statement can deal with your personal history, family background, intellectual development, and the educational, professional, or cultural opportunities to which you have or have not been exposed; explain their impact. This should not be a reiteration of facts already listed in the Biographical Data sections or an elaboration of the *Statement of Grant Purpose*. Format: single spaced, 12 point Times New Roman, 1 inch margins.

5. Language requirements vary by country, so before starting the application you should note the specific requirements of the proposed host country. You must possess the necessary language skills to successfully complete the project you are proposing. For programs where language skills are Strongly Recommended, you must submit both a Language Self Evaluation and a Foreign Language Evaluation Form, which is completed by a professional language teacher. Submission of both forms is mandatory, even if you have advanced skills or native-speaker ability. Failure to submit the forms may affect your eligibility. For programs where language skills are Recommended or Not Required, if you possess some language skills you should submit both a Language Self Evaluation and a Foreign Language Evaluation Form. It will be advantageous to have your language ability documented, even though it is not required. Remember, even if a country indicates that English will be sufficient for carrying out the proposed project, for purposes of Community Engagement, at least a basic level of language skill should be obtained prior to leaving the United States for the host country. For programs in countries where English is one of the national languages, you do not need to submit any foreign language forms unless a foreign language is required for your project.

6. You must submit three recommendation letters as part of the application. The authors should be the three individuals who can best speak to your ability to carry out the project being proposed; they should discuss your intellectual and professional preparation, and your ability to represent the U.S. abroad. You should provide the recommender with a copy of your Statement of Grant Purpose before requesting the recommendation letter. The recommendation letter should NOT simply be a character reference, as this will be of no value in assessing your ability to complete the proposed project. All recommendations must be written in English. If the original recommendation letter is written in a language other than English there must be an official English translation. Because the recommendation letter is confidential the translation cannot be done by the applicant. Both the original recommendation letter and the English-language translation must be uploaded into the Fulbright application.

7. The Fulbright Program requires a complete academic record of your higher education. You must provide transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate institutions from which you received degrees. Transcripts must also be submitted from other institutions where you studied and received credit for coursework. Failure to submit any required transcripts will result in your being declared ineligible.

8. The Critical Language Enhancement Award is available to:

China	Egypt	India	Indonesia
Jordan	Morocco	Russia	

If you are applying for a Critical Language Enhancement Award, you must complete the Critical Language Enhancement Award Statement which details your language preparation, the host country language program desired, and a brief explanation of how the additional language training will impact your Fulbright experience and future career plans.

9. All candidates applying in the creative and performing arts must submit examples of their artistic work; this work, along with the written portions of the application, will be evaluated by the screening committee members. Arts applicants should understand that they will be evaluated first and foremost on their technical and artistic skills within their artistic disciplines and that the supplementary materials need to be compiled in a professional manner. Consult the Required Supplementary Materials For Arts Applicants page for more information. **Applicants to Germany** are required to submit additional materials **in hard copy** by the competition deadline.

Application Components for ETA:

Each application must include the following materials:

Register and create online application account.

Deadline

Date Completed

10/6/2017

Biographical Data¹

10/6/2017

Statement of Gant Purpose²

10/6/2017

Personal Statement³

10/6/2017

Foreign Language Forms⁴

10/6/2017

Three Letters of Recommendation⁵

10/6/2017

Name

Position

Date Notified

Date Completed

Transcripts⁶

10/6/2017

Critical Language Enhancement Award Statement⁷

10/6/2017

1. The first pages of the application ask for all of your basic personal information, such as your name, contact information, birth date, etc. They also ask for the details of your academic background, occupational experience, extracurricular activities, publications, and previous foreign experience. Here, on the Program Information page, you must include a project title and an abstract of the Statement of Grant Purpose, along with a brief explanation of your future plans upon returning to the U.S.

2. Statement of Grant Purpose is a 1-page document outlining why you are interested in teaching English to non-native speakers as well as why you have chosen to apply to a particular country. You should describe clearly what you will be able to bring to the classroom in the host country, as well as explain any ideas you have on how to reach students coming from a different pedagogical tradition. The proposal should indicate a clear commitment to and description of how you will engage with the host country community. Format: Single spaced, 12 point Times New Roman, 1 inch margins.

3. Personal Statement is a 1-page narrative designed to give the reviewers a picture of you as an individual. It is an opportunity to tell the committee more about the trajectory that you have followed and what plans you have for the future. Whereas the Statement of Grant Purpose focuses on what you will be doing in the host country if offered a grant, the Personal Statement concentrates on how your background has influenced your development and how that inspired you to apply for an English Teaching Assistant Program. The personal statement can deal with your personal history, family background, intellectual development, and the educational, professional, or cultural opportunities to which you have or have not been exposed; explain their impact. This should not be a reiteration of facts already listed in the Biographical Data sections or an elaboration of the Statement of Grant Purpose. Format: Single spaced, 12 point Times New Roman, 1 inch margins.

4. Language requirements vary by country, so before starting the application you should note the specific requirements of the proposed host country. You must possess the necessary language skills to successfully complete the project you are proposing. For programs where language skills are Strongly Recommended, you must submit both a Language Self Evaluation and a Foreign Language Evaluation Form, which is completed by a professional language teacher. Submission of both forms is mandatory, even if you have advanced skills or native-speaker ability. Failure to submit the forms may affect your eligibility. For programs where language skills are Recommended or Not Required, if you possess some language skills you should submit both a Language Self Evaluation and a Foreign Language Evaluation Form. It will be advantageous to have your language ability documented, even though it is not required. Remember, even if a country indicates that English will be sufficient for carrying out the proposed project, for purposes of Community Engagement, at least a basic level of language skill should be obtained prior to leaving the United States for the host country. For programs in countries where English is one of the national languages, you do not need to submit any foreign language forms unless a foreign language is required for your project.

5. You must submit three recommendations as part of the application. The recommenders will be provided an electronic form that they will use to respond to a series of short-answer questions regarding items such as your communication skills, interest in teaching, and ability to work in unstructured environments. Recommenders for English Teaching Assistant Program applicants do not submit their own narrative letters. The recommenders completing the ETA reference forms should be the three individuals who can best speak to your ability to teach English in a classroom abroad based on your intellectual and professional preparation. You should provide the recommenders with a copy of your Statement of Grant Purpose before requesting the recommendations. The recommendation should NOT simply be a character reference, as this will be of no value in assessing your ability to be a successful English Teaching Assistant. All recommendations must be completed in English.

6. The Fulbright Program requires a complete academic record of your higher education. You must provide transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate institutions from which you received degrees. Transcripts must also be submitted from other institutions where you studied and received credit for coursework. Failure to submit any required transcripts will result in your being declared ineligible.

7. Critical Language Enhancement Awards for English Teaching Assistants are available in Russia only. If you are applying for a Critical Language Enhancement Award, you must complete the Critical Language Enhancement Award Supplementary Statement which details your language preparation, the host country language program desired, and a brief explanation of how the additional language training will impact your Fulbright experience and future career plans.

Application Components for Fulbright-National Geographic Storytelling Fellowship:

Each application must include the following materials:

Deadline Date Completed

Register and create online application account. 10/6/2017 _____

Biographical Data¹ 10/6/2017 _____

Statement of Gant Purpose² 10/6/2017 _____

Affiliation Letter³ 10/6/2017 _____

Resume and Digital Storytelling Portfolio⁴ 10/6/2017 _____

Personal Statement⁵ 10/6/2017 _____

Foreign Language Forms⁶ 10/6/2017 _____

Three Letters of Recommendation⁷ 10/6/2017 _____

Name	Position	Date Notified	Date Completed
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Transcripts⁸ 10/6/2017 _____

1. The first pages of the application ask for basic personal information, such as name, contact information, birth date, etc. Applicants must provide details of academic background, occupational experience, extracurricular activities, publications, and previous foreign experience. Here, on the Program Information page, applicants must include a project title and summary of the Statement of Grant Purpose, along with a brief explanation of future plans upon completion of the award and return to the U.S. You must indicate that you are applying for the “Fulbright-National Geographic Fellowship” for Question 3 on the Preliminary Information page and for Question 22 on the Program Information page.

2. Statement of Grant Purpose is a document of no more than three (3) pages should outline who, what, when, where, why, and how of your Fulbright project proposal. Developing a strong, feasible and compelling project proposal is the most important aspect of a successful Fulbright application. This aspect of your application is reviewed not only for the content that it conveys, but also as the various review committees’ first impression of your writing style and ability as a storyteller to convey a story about the Fellowship that you envision carrying out.

Candidates for this Fellowship should propose projects that focus on storytelling related to one or more of the eligible themes (listed below). Storytellers are expected to explore their chosen theme through research, observation, analysis and interviews, and relate their findings on a dedicated National Geographic blog utilizing one or a combination of storytelling tools and media, which may include text, photography, video, audio, graphic illustrations, and/or social media. Projects may be based in one to three countries.

The National Geographic Society believes in the power of science, exploration, education and storytelling to change the world. The broad themes of this year’s competition fall under National Geographic’s three lenses: The Human Journey, Our Changing Planet, and Wildlife & Wild Places.

The Statement of Grant Purpose must include:

- A detailed project description within one or more of the approved themes;
- A description of methods of storytelling that will be used for the purpose of posting on the National Geographic blog; and
- A detailed timeline that clearly describes activities and proposed destinations within all host country or countries.

The project description should be creative, feasible, well-written, and innovative. Applicants should describe in their Statement of Grant Purpose the story, problem or set of questions they will set out to understand or answer as well as the methods and tools (text, photography, video, audio, graphic illustrations, and/or social media) that will be used to present the story on the National Geographic blog. Also, applicants should briefly address why the story should be told in their proposed format. Proposals should describe the applicant’s background knowledge or experience working on the proposed issue or in the proposed destinations as well as any skills (i.e. languages), academic or professional contacts, or other resources the applicant may have or expect to leverage.

All proposals should make a strong case for the chosen topic and proposed country/countries (i.e. Why is this story important? Is this story underreported? Is this story timely? Are there unique or compelling factors that characterize the environment surrounding this topic in all proposed countries?). All proposals should make a strong argument for completion of the project in the proposed host country or countries to which the applicant proposes to travel. While applications for two or three countries are allowed, proposed projects for more than one country must provide a detailed project description and meet a high standard in each country. Applicants must clearly outline their skills which would allow them to effectively and efficiently launch into their grant activities upon arrival in each country. In the proposal, applicants must provide a clear plan for how they propose to successfully carry out their grant in each country, including securing affiliations, providing a plan for settling into each country which allows for sufficient time to make contacts, do research, carry out the aspects of their project effectively. For multi-country proposals, countries should be strategically selected to show comparative and/or contrasting parts of a story or innovations in multiple countries.

Applicants should address how they will benefit from the mentorship provided by National Geographic staff. National Geographic Society mentoring draws from a range of experts in many disciplines, including researchers, explorers, regional specialists, and storytellers. The mentoring program for this fellowship is an extended version of the Society’s storytelling bootcamp, as part of the dedicated Fulbright Pre-departure Orientation, in which experts in photography, videography, writing, social media, exhibits, and public speaking share best practices and tips for effective communication of complex science. There are also opportunities for consultations with National Geographic’s scientists, educators, explorers, photographers, cartographers, writers, and filmmakers.

Applicants should describe how they intend to share and promote their Fulbright experience and stories with audiences, both U.S. and global, during and after their Fulbright grant period abroad. All proposals should indicate a clear commitment to and description of engagement with a community or communities within each host country during the award period as well as any benefit that the local, U.S., and global communities will experience as a result of their participation in this project.

3. For this Fellowship, it may be more useful for a project to affiliate with an organization that can provide support in the areas of the topic that you wish to pursue. Local media outlets, National Geographic Offices, and U.S. Embassies or Fulbright Commissions are not options for affiliations. Affiliation requirements vary by country, so before starting the application you should note the specific requirements for the proposed host country(ies). The affiliation letter must be provided for each country that you propose to travel and should come from the institution/individual in each host country with whom you are proposing to work. Each affiliation letter should be printed on the organization’s official letterhead and should be signed by the author. Copies of e-mail correspondence will not be accepted. Affiliation letters must be included at the time the application is due.

4. Applications must include a current, one-page resume. In addition to a resume, applications must also include a storytelling portfolio which consists of work samples, a portfolio narrative and self-assessment of specific skills related to digital storytelling (strict two-page limit for portfolio narrative and self-assessment). The portfolio must include URLs and hyperlinks to samples of your multimedia work or other examples of storytelling and a portfolio narrative which indicates why each sample was included, the context for developing each sample (i.e., class project...) and your role in the production of each sample. Include work that is relevant to your proposed project and demonstrates your ability to tell a story using multi-media for a blog. All applicants for the Fulbright-National Geographic Storytelling Fellowship must submit two to three examples of their work in digital storytelling or similar medium. In addition to the portfolio narrative, an applicant's self-assessment of specific skills related to digital storytelling is required that addresses the applicant's experience with Audio, Video and Still Photography; any other audio/video/editing software proficiency; a list of Still, Video and Audio equipment the applicant currently uses. In your narrative, indicate which skill is highlighted in each sample.

5. Personal Statement is a 1-page narrative designed to give the reviewers a picture of you as an individual. It is an opportunity for the applicant to tell the committee more about the trajectory that he/she has followed and what plans he/she has for the future. Whereas the *Statement of Grant Purpose* focuses on what the applicant will be doing in the host country or countries, the Personal Statement concentrates on how the applicant's background has influenced his/her development and how that relates to the Fulbright opportunity. The statement can address personal history, family background, intellectual development, and the educational, professional, or cultural opportunities to which the applicant has or has not been exposed and explain the impact. This should not be a reiteration of facts already listed in the Biographical Data sections or an elaboration of the *Statement of Grant Purpose*.

6. While foreign language skills are not strictly required for the Fulbright-National Geographic Storytelling Fellowship, the ability to communicate effectively is critical to success in any country to which Storytellers will travel on this program. In some countries and for some subjects, language skills are necessary to function effectively and successfully complete a project. Applicants with relevant language skills may receive preference in the application review process. Project feasibility assessment will be based, in part, upon applicant language capabilities. In cases in which applicants propose to work in a language that they do not have proficiency, they must address how they will be able to successfully carry out their proposed project, in the project statement of the application. Language requirements vary by country, so before starting the application you should note the specific requirements of the proposed host country(ies). You must possess the necessary language skills or have a feasible plan to successfully complete the project you are proposing.

For programs where language skills are Strongly Recommended, you must submit both a Language Self Evaluation and a Foreign Language Evaluation Form, which is completed by a professional language teacher. Submission of both forms is mandatory, even if you have advanced skills or native-speaker ability. Failure to submit the forms may affect your eligibility.

For programs where language skills are Recommended or Not Required, if you possess some language skills you should submit both a Language Self Evaluation and a Foreign Language Evaluation Form. It will be advantageous to have your language ability documented, even though it is not required. Remember, even if a country indicates that English will be sufficient for carrying out the proposed project, for purposes of Community Engagement, at least a basic level of language skill should be obtained prior to leaving the United States for the host country.

For programs in countries where English is one of the national languages, you do not need to submit any foreign language forms unless a foreign language is required for your project.

7. You must submit three recommendation letters as part of the application. The writers should be the three individuals who can best speak to the applicant's ability to carry out the project being proposed; they should discuss the applicant's intellectual and professional preparation, and his/her ability to represent the U.S. abroad. Applicants should provide the recommenders with a copy of their Statement of Grant Purpose before requesting the recommendation letter. The recommendation should NOT simply be a character reference, as this will not allow reviewers to assess the applicant's ability to complete the proposed project. All recommendations must be written in English. If the original recommendation letter is written in a language other than English there must be an official English translation. Because the recommendation letter is confidential the translation cannot be done by the applicant. Both the original recommendation letter and the English-language translation must be uploaded into the Fulbright application.

For the Fulbright-National Geographic Storytelling Fellowship, it is recommended that at least two of these recommenders evaluate the applicant's ability to produce the type of digital storytelling proposed in the Statement of Grant Purpose.

8. The Fulbright Program requires a complete academic record of your higher education. You must provide transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate institutions from which you received degrees. Transcripts must also be submitted from other institutions where you studied and received credit for coursework. Failure to submit any required transcripts will result in your being declared ineligible.