

## Terms and Conditions for the Study of the US Summer Institute for Student Leaders

### OVERVIEW

The US-UK Fulbright Commission promotes educational and cultural exchange between the United States and the United Kingdom to enhance mutual understanding and strengthen relations between the two countries.

Please read carefully the following general terms and conditions which pertain to the following Study of the US Institute for Student Leaders Programme (SUSI):

- SUSI on Environmental Issues

Study of the U.S. Institutes (SUSIs) for Student Leaders are five-to-six-week academic programs designed for foreign undergraduate students between the ages of 18 and 25 to improve their understanding of the United States and to develop their leadership skills. The programme is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. Participants are selected in different European countries, usually nominated by US Embassy and/ or the Fulbright Commission. The 2024 SUSI programme will be organised by the Meridian International Center (a nonprofit, nonpartisan diplomacy centre in Washington DC) and Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.

### ELIGIBILITY AND RESTRICTIONS

Non-UK residents may not apply for this programme.

Those with dual US citizenship and people resident in the US may not apply for this programme. Those who hold or are due to receive a residence permit ('green card') for the US may not apply.

Participation in a Fulbright Study of the US Institute does not preclude participants from applying for a Fulbright Award later in their academic career.

The Fulbright Commission strives to operate a policy of equal opportunity and not discriminate against any person because of sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, religion, or age.

The Fulbright Commission is looking not only for academic excellence but a focused application, a range of extracurricular and community activities, demonstrated ambassadorial skills, a desire to further the Fulbright Programme and a plan to give back to the UK upon returning.

### PROGRAMME EXCLUSIONS

The programme does **not** provide for:

- Expenses in connection with passports including photographs
- Taxicabs
- Tips
- Shipment of baggage; baggage transfers
- Certificates of birth, health, or identity

The Fulbright Study of the US Institutes will cover round-trip airfare from the UK to the US, tuition and fees at the host university, accommodation and meals, a small daily allowance, health and accident insurance, a small book allowance and visa processing and participation in required Fulbright events.

### APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS

During the application process, references written for general purposes and not specifically, for a Fulbright Summer Programme or those written by family members or friends will not be accepted. Falsified references will invalidate the application.



Successful applicants will be invited for interviews facilitated jointly by the US-UK Fulbright Commission and the US Embassy on the date(s) specified on our website. Interviews will be held virtually and on the indicated date(s). Interviews cannot be rescheduled.

The Fulbright Commission does not give feedback and cannot comment on individual applications or give reasons why a candidate is or is not successful.

## **VISA REQUIREMENTS**

The use of the grant is contingent upon the availability of transportation and the candidate's ability to procure a passport and obtain the necessary exchange-visitor (J1) visa.

All Fulbright summer programme participants travel to the United States on a J1 visa which requires them, on completion of their programme, to return to their home country for a cumulative total of two years before they become eligible for a temporary worker's visa or for permanent residence in the United States. Tourist travel during this time is not affected. The Fulbright Commission undertakes to process all visa paperwork for the successful candidates and the visa fee is waived for Fulbright participants.

## **HEALTH AND ACCIDENT COVERAGE**

The limited accident and sickness insurance coverage is provided for the participant only. This insurance (ASPE) is purchased directly by US Department of State from:

- Seven Corners, Inc. P.O. Box 3724, Carmel, Indiana 46082-3724 USA
- Telephone: 1-800-461-0430 (toll free for grantees in the US)  
or 317-818-2867 (a collect call for grantees outside of the US)
- Email: [aspeinfo@sevencorners.com](mailto:aspeinfo@sevencorners.com)
- Website: [www.usdos.sevencorners.com](http://www.usdos.sevencorners.com)

You will be issued with an ASPE insurance ID card at the start of your programme. You will be notified of the amount and extent of your insurance coverage. All questions regarding health and accident insurance coverage should be directed to the insurer and not the Commission.

It is the participant's responsibility to ensure that ASPE provides adequate insurance for their needs, and to arrange additional insurance (at their own expense) if necessary. The Fulbright Commission is not liable for any loss, damage or injury which a participant may suffer during their time as a Study of the US Institutes participant and when accepting an award, the participant agrees to waive any right they may have to act against the Fulbright Commission to recover any loss or make any claim for damages.

## **CONTINGENCIES**

Neither the Commission nor the US Department of State assumes responsibility for any injury, accident, illness, loss of personal property or other contingencies which may befall the participant during or in connection with their stay abroad under this programme.

It is recommended that the participant personally obtain adequate personal and property insurance for them. The Commission and the US Department of State shall not be liable for any claim or claims which may arise from the participant's failure to enter upon or to complete a project as detailed in this programme even where such failure is due to circumstances beyond the participant's control.

## **EFFECTUATION OF PROGRAMME**

Effectuation of the SUSI is in every instance contingent upon the availability of transportation and enough funds, stable conditions in the USA and the participant's ability to legally enter the USA.

It is understood and agreed that if conditions beyond the control of the Fulbright Commission prevent or unduly hamper the timely or adequate implementation of the Special Programme in the USA, all obligations shall cease.

## **POSTPONEMENT OF PROGRAMME**

No programme participation may be postponed until a subsequent year. Participants would be required

to reapply in the following cycle.

### TERMINATION OF PROGRAMME

The Commission reserves the right to revoke or terminate this award, subject to the approval of the US Department of State, should non-compliance with the provisions of the programme warrant such action. Grounds upon which the Commission may revoke this programme include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Violation of the laws of the US or UK, including currency exchange regulations
- Violation of US immigration regulations
- Misconduct
- Engaging in any unlawful activity or that which may bring the Fulbright Programme into disrepute
- Engaging in unauthorised income-producing activities
- Abusive or disrespectful behaviour toward Commission or Host Institution staff or fellow participants
- Failure to complete the programme
- Premature departure from the programme
- Engaging in political or unauthorized income-producing activities
- Failure to submit the reports required by the Commission
- Physical or mental incapacitation

If the award is revoked or terminated on any of the above-mentioned grounds except the last two, the participant agrees to repay to the Commission all allowances and benefits received under the grant, including the cost of any transportation furnished to them by the Commission.

The US State Department also has authority to terminate an award on either of the following grounds: that the participant has exhausted all benefits of health and accident insurance provided to the participant by the US Department of State in connection with the award, and continued medical treatment would lead to the

- participant's becoming a public charge, or that the participant requires such
- protracted medical treatment that successful completion of the objectives of the programme is jeopardized.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

Participants are required to attend and participate fully in all organised sessions, including **all** lectures, seminars, field trips and social programmes. If any participants are absent from a session, they must seek approval from the Programme Manager **before** not attending and this will only be granted in extenuating circumstances. Any absences that are not approved in advance could result in expulsion from the programme.

Persons accepting a programme from the Commission under the Fulbright Programme are not by virtue thereof officials or employees of the Commission or of the US Department of State or of any other agency of the Government of the USA, or of any agency of the Government of the UK. They should avoid giving the impression that they are the official spokespeople of the US Government, the UK Government or of the Commission.

Nevertheless, participants should remember that their home institution and country may be judged by their actions and utterances, whether made in public or private.