



ANNUAL REPORT 2024

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NEW DELHI | CHENNAI | HYDERABAD | KOLKATA | MUMBAI

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ABOUT USIEF

The Indo-U.S. Agreement on educational exchange, signed by Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and U.S. Ambassador Loy Henderson on February 2, 1950, in New Delhi, established the United States Educational Foundation in India to administer the Fulbright Program in India. On July 4, 2008, the Government of India (GOI) and the U.S. Government (USG) signed a new agreement to strengthen educational exchanges between the two countries. The Foundation was renamed as United States-India Educational Foundation (USIEF) awarding Fulbright-Nehru Scholarships and Grants. The USG and GOI are now equal partners for implementing the Fulbright Program in India. A 10 member Board of Directors, five Americans living in India nominated by the U.S. Diplomatic Mission and five Indians nominated by the Government of India, governs USIEF.

Since its inception in 1950, USIEF has awarded over 21,000 fellowships funded by the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Department of Education, the Indian Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), the Indian Department of Science and Technology (DST), and other entities.

USIEF's activities may be broadly categorized as follows:

- Administering Fulbright-Nehru, Fulbright-Kalam and other fellowships for Indian and American students, faculty, researchers, and professionals.
- Managing EducationUSA Advising Services for Indian students interested in pursuing higher education in the U.S.
- Supporting Fulbright Alumni related activities to further the educational and cultural linkages between the U.S. and India
- Serving as a resource for fostering linkages between institutions of higher education in the U.S. and India.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The United States–India Educational Foundation (USIEF) continues to play a pivotal role in advancing educational and cultural exchange between the United States and India through the flagship Fulbright Program and its complementary initiatives. During the 2024–25 academic year, the Fulbright Program is empowering 135 Indian Fulbrighters in the U.S. and 127 American Fulbrighters in India to conduct research, teach, and engage in other academic endeavors.

Between October 1, 2023, and September 30, 2024, USIEF facilitated over 200 events, including mentoring and capacity-building sessions, outreach programs, alumni engagements, conferences, and pre-departure orientations. These events collectively engaged more than 18,000 participants across diverse geographies in India through both online and in-person formats. USIEF ensured extensive outreach to major metros as well as underrepresented regions, providing opportunities to connect with participants nationwide.

USIEF proudly hosted two flagship events this year: the South and Central Asia Fulbright Conference for U.S. students and scholars and the Annual Pre-Departure Orientation for Indian grantees. The Fulbright Conference brought together over 90 participants from India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Uzbekistan, fostering cross-border collaboration and knowledge exchange. Meanwhile, the pre-departure orientation welcomed 139 Indian Fulbright–Nehru and other Fulbright scholars, representing disciplines such as agriculture, anthropology, climate studies, education, public health, science and technology, and women and gender studies, among others.

In 2023, USIEF joined the global celebration of the 45th Anniversary of the Humphrey Program, hosting a policy dialogue as part of the Global Policy Series. The event engaged over 75 Humphrey alumni to discuss critical issues such as climate change, sustainable development, education, and gender equality, reaffirming the program's commitment to addressing pressing global challenges.

Smaller, in-person orientation sessions for U.S. student researchers and Indian teacher development grantees further strengthened community bonds, offering tailored support as participants embarked on transformative journeys in new cultural contexts.

USIEF's alumni network played a crucial role in mentoring new grantees and prospective applicants, enriching the program's legacy. Through a grant from the U.S. Embassy, alumni and current fellows conducted over 20 engagement sessions across India. These sessions have been pivotal in showcasing the impact of Fulbright alumni and encouraging community engagement for social change.

The USIEF Board welcomed new members from both countries this year and made strategic recommendations to consolidate the Fulbright–Nehru program offerings. These include the discontinuation of Fulbright Visiting Chairs and the Fulbright Education Administrators Seminar programs to better align resources with key priorities for both nations.

USIEF also continued its work through EducationUSA, delivering advising services with support from a U.S. Embassy grant. The EducationUSA team conducted 780 events, reaching over 15,000 participants through fairs, outreach initiatives, and specialized sessions. The team's representation at global forums, including the South and Central Asia EducationUSA Regional Conference, the Annual EducationUSA Forum and the NAFSA conference further bolstered USIEF's international visibility.

As USIEF prepares to celebrate its 75th anniversary in 2025, the organization reaffirms its commitment to broadening outreach to diverse communities and institutions. Guided by its mission to expand access to educational opportunities, promote inclusivity, and address global challenges, USIEF remains a cornerstone of meaningful cultural exchange. The coming year presents exciting opportunities to deepen U.S.–India relations through education, research, and other collaborative initiatives.

USIEF HIGHLIGHTS

USIEF hosted a policy dialogue as part of the Global Policy Series to commemorate the 45th Anniversary of the Humphrey Program. The event brought together over 75 Humphrey alumni to address pressing global challenges in key policy areas, including Climate Change, Sustainable Development, and Livelihood Security; Education and Innovation; and Women's Empowerment and Gender Equality.



USIEF organized the Annual South and Central Asia Fulbright Conference in Jaipur in February 2024. The event was attended by over 90 American Fulbright scholars representing India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Uzbekistan, fostering regional collaboration and academic exchange.



The U.S. Fulbright-Nehru International Education Administrators Seminar Program hosted 10 participants for a two-week program in India in March 2024. The grantees visited universities and colleges in Delhi, Ahmedabad, and Hyderabad, engaging with Indian academic institutions and exploring opportunities for collaboration.



USIEF successfully organized mentoring workshops for prospective 2025-2026 Fulbright applicants across six cities—Delhi, Jaipur, Mumbai, Pune, Prayagraj, and Goa—between March and May 2024. Over 250 applicants participated in these capacity-building sessions, gaining valuable insights to strengthen their applications.

USIEF hosted a pre-departure orientation for the 2024-2025 Indian Fulbright-Nehru and Fulbright-Kalam scholars in May 2024 in New Delhi. Over 90 Fulbright-Nehru and Fulbright-Kalam scholars attended.



In July 2024, USIEF hosted a cohort of Fulbright Teachers for Global Classrooms (TGC) Program participants at Fulbright House, New Delhi. During the program, the cohort was introduced to additional Fulbright teacher development grant opportunities, encouraging them to deepen their engagement with the Indian academic community.



USIEF conducted pre-departure orientation sessions for three programs- Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA), Fulbright Teaching Excellence and Achievement (FTEA) and Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching (FDAI) in July 2024. 23 grantees attended these sessions.

EducationUSA in-person fairs witnessed participation from over 80 U.S. universities across eight cities this year. The events attracted more than 7,500 attendees, providing students and parents with valuable opportunities to explore higher education options in the United States.



USIEF welcomed the 2024-2025 U.S. Fulbright-Nehru Student Researchers to India in August 2024. Thirty-five student researchers participated in the in-country orientation program held in New Delhi from August 26-28, 2024.

USIEF, in collaboration with the Jyoti Dalal School of Liberal Arts (JDSOLA) at Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS), hosted the workshop "GenZ to GenAI: Visual Storytelling, Digital Communication, and Inclusivity" in September 2024. Students from various Mumbai colleges participated, guided by Fulbright alumni serving as mentors.



SCHOLAR STORIES

Radhakrishnan Balasubramanian

I pursued Master's in Public Administration at Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) through the Fulbright-Nehru Program, as part of the renowned Mason Program, which brings together policy practitioners from developing countries. My course focused on infrastructure finance, climate-resilient cities, multi-party negotiations, and the greening of the power sector. I was also engaged in various student-led community initiatives and collaborated with local leaders.

A significant takeaway from my Fulbright journey was the opportunity to engage with experts from diverse fields across the world. One of the key outcomes was my exposure to the use of AI and machine learning. This global exposure inspired me to rethink how I can integrate these learnings to bring sustainable and innovative solutions back to my community. Before Fulbright, I led the Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC), where I implemented technology-driven initiatives to bring transparency measures and make the administration more accountable to the common man. The international perspectives gained from my Fulbright experience have broadened my vision for improving public policy and service delivery in India.

The Fulbright program enabled me to build lifelong friendships, foster cross-cultural understanding, and connect with a diverse community of students. On the professional front, it enhanced my ability to navigate and lead cross-cultural collaborations, sharpened my analytical skills, and provided me with new perspectives on global issues. Personally, the program strengthened my adaptability and resilience, immersing me in a completely different environment.

Understanding the American culture through local festivals, travel, and interactions has deepened my appreciation for global



The program sharpened my leadership and analytical skills, deepened my understanding of global issues, and strengthened my resilience and adaptability



interconnectedness. The friendships I forged during this time, across various cultural and professional backgrounds, are relationships I will cherish for life.

As I look to the future, I am keen to continue my policy advocacy and knowledge-sharing initiatives, particularly in the public policy domain. I aim to foster collaborations that contribute to more effective and sustainable governance, ensuring that technology serves as a catalyst for change in the lives of citizens. As I integrate these learnings into my work in India, I am confident that the positive impact will resonate not only locally but also across borders through sustained international cooperation.



Year: 2023-2024

Grant Category:
Fulbright-Nehru
Master's Fellow at
Harvard
University,
Cambridge, MA

**Current
Designation:**
Joint Secretary to
the Chief Minister
of Maharashtra

Neha Khatri

My Fulbright program was not just an academic endeavour but an enriching and transformative journey. It provided me an unparalleled platform to conduct cutting-edge research at the Wyant College of Optical Sciences, University of Arizona. My work focused on the development of on-machine metrology protocols for the fabrication of optical surfaces, with a specific emphasis on fast measurements and analyses for closed-loop control and optimization. This research is critical for ensuring precision in the production of high-quality optical components, particularly in the field of smart manufacturing.

The Fulbright experience resulted in several significant outcomes. One of the major outcomes of my Fulbright experience was the successful completion of a comprehensive research study on measurements of mid-spatial frequencies by using on-machine metrology. During my time in the United States, I engaged in a variety of activities that enriched both my research and my professional network. These included attending and presenting at international conferences, such as the SPIE Optics + Photonics conference, where I shared my findings on mid-spatial frequency measurements. Additionally, I delivered a seminar at San Diego State University as part of the Fulbright Outreach Lecturing Fund Award, promoting cross-institutional knowledge sharing. One of the most significant outcomes was the publication of my research findings, which have contributed valuable insights to the field of optical metrology.

The collaborations initiated during my Fulbright tenure have laid the foundation for ongoing partnerships and future research projects. Moving forward, I plan to continue exploring the on-machine frequency analysis of optical surfaces, seeking funding to expand my research and develop more innovative solutions.

The Fulbright experience profoundly impacted my professional learning. It exposed me to a diverse array of methodologies and practices, broadening my understanding of global approaches to research and manufacturing. Beyond the professional sphere,

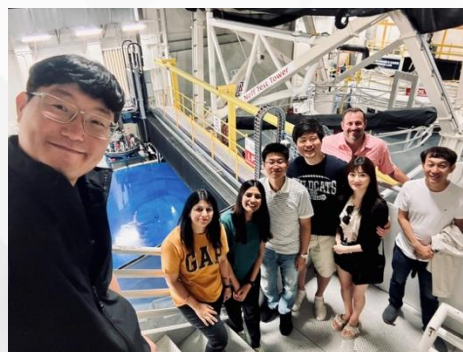


Fulbright broadened my perspective, exposing me to diverse methodologies and enhancing my problem-solving approach. Personally, it deepened my appreciation for cultural diversity and global collaboration



the program had a deep personal impact. It fostered a profound appreciation for cultural diversity and the importance of global interconnectedness. My time in the United States allowed me to engage with local communities, participate in cultural traditions, and explore the rich history and diversity of the region.

Overall, my time as a Fulbright scholar was a cornerstone of both my personal and professional development. I am eager to mentor future scholars, encouraging them to engage in international collaborations that will shape the future of research and technology.



Year: 2022-2023

Grant Category:
Fulbright-Nehru
Postdoctoral
Research Fellow
at University of
Arizona, Tucson,
AZ

Current Designation:
Principal Scientist
at the
Department of
Manufacturing
Science &
Instrumentation,
CSIR-CSIO,
Chandigarh

Manjushree Patil

I was honored to be selected as part of the Fulbright Distinguished Awards International (FDAl) program 2022, marking a pivotal moment in my career as a special educator. Since 2011, I have led an alternative school-based program designed for children with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities. The core mission of this initiative has been to create a nurturing environment where children facing learning challenges can thrive through a “pace-learning” approach, unlocking their full potential as engaged, productive citizens.

During my four-month Fulbright fellowship at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP), I had the opportunity to deepen my expertise in inclusive education. Through school visits, rural and urban field experiences, cultural presentations, and audit courses, I gained new perspectives on education and inclusivity. A key outcome of this fellowship was the development of my Inquiry Project titled iLEAD – Inclusive Leadership Embraces All Diversities. iLEAD is a structured staff development program designed to promote inclusivity in schools and higher education institutions through weekly workshops. After returning to India, I was determined to implement the project and applied for the Global Teacher Grant, which allowed me to pilot the program in 17 schools and one higher education institution. I am now working to expand iLEAD to schools and colleges across India, including developing a digital version of the program to scale its reach. I hope this program will foster a shift in school cultures toward greater inclusivity and sensitivity to individual learning differences.

The Fulbright Fellowship was a life-changing experience that not only enhanced my professional journey but also enriched my personal life.



Fulbright was a significant milestone in my mission to make educational institutions “inclusion-ready and through iLEAD, I hope to reach out to many more schools and higher education institutions to promote inclusivity.



On a personal level, the Fulbright experience gave me a deeper appreciation for American culture, especially the strong family ties and generosity I encountered. I also built lasting friendships with peers from all over the world. My time in the U.S. also provided valuable insights into the importance of an abundance mindset—where individuals freely share knowledge and resources for collective growth. This experience has shaped my approach to leadership and education, reaffirming my belief in the transformative power of inclusivity. As iLEAD continues to grow, it represents not just a program, but a movement toward creating a more inclusive future for education.



Year: 2022–2023

Grant Category:
Fulbright
Distinguished
Awards in
International
Teaching (FDAl)
Scholar at Indiana
University of
Pennsylvania,
Indiana, PA

**Current
Designation:**
Founder Director,
Aatman
Academy,
Mumbai,
Maharashtra

Ava Boussy

As a Fulbright-Nehru Researcher, I focused on the documentation and preservation of cultural heritage in Ladakh, India. My work included extensive fieldwork, collaborating with local organizations, creating digital models for heritage preservation.

Two significant milestones of my Fulbright experience were my work with the Kargil Museum, and with Shesrig Conservation. At the Kargil Museum, I documented over 150 historical artifacts using advanced photography and 3D scanning techniques, creating a comprehensive digital archive. This archive not only preserves the collection for future generations but also allows the museum to share its cultural assets with a global audience and collaborate with institutions worldwide. At Shesrig Conservation, I introduced the use of laser scans and 3D models for restoring historical sites. These innovations streamlined the documentation process, reducing costs and time while enabling detailed before-and-after records of restoration work. The project has had a lasting impact on the conservation efforts in Ladakh and serves as a model for integrating technology into cultural preservation.

Through Fulbright I was able to work with incredible institutes, organizations, and individuals looking to preserve the cultural heritage not only of Ladakh, but of India as a whole. Fulbright not only enhanced my professional expertise but also fostered resilience, adaptability, and a deepened appreciation for global collaboration. Today, I continue to apply geospatial and modeling techniques in new fields, and actively look for technology-based ideas that can bridge gaps between heritage preservation and future innovation.



Fulbright made me more courageous, adventurous, patient, and organized. The program significantly boosted my personal growth and broadened my horizons, exposing me to incredible work both in my field and by Fulbrighters around the world.



My time in Ladakh also allowed me to experience the warmth of the local community, from my host Madam Yangchenn to academic mentor Dr. Pattanayak and the many friends I made along the way. This project, which spanned from cultural documentation to personal growth, was shaped by the support of Fulbright and the incredible people I met in Ladakh.



Year: 2023-2024

Grant Category:
U.S. Fulbright-Nehru Student Researcher at Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Ladakh, Leh

Trevor Price

As a recipient of the Fulbright–Kalam Climate Fellowship, my research focused on understanding the effects of climate change on Himalayan biodiversity, with a specific emphasis on breeding birds and vital ecosystems. The project aimed to extend research in Himachal Pradesh, partnering with local students to broaden the study to include birch trees—crucial to local communities—and to monitor winter bird populations across the Indian peninsula.

Over five months, I visited five institutions (Wildlife Institute of India, IISER Pune, IISER Mohali, IISER Tirupathi, University of Ladakh) and conducted fieldwork in Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Himachal Pradesh, studying the breeding biology of birds. During this period, I led a two-day climate change meeting in Delhi, co-sponsored by the University of Chicago and Fulbright, where experts gathered to discuss the pressing issue of climate impacts on biodiversity. In addition, I attended two major scientific conferences, participated in the Fulbright conference in April, and contributed to a high school Earth Day competition as a judge.

A key insight from these institutional visits was the recognition of climate change as a key issue, but with local communities perceiving habitat loss, invasive species, and disease as more immediate threats to biodiversity. Our field research confirmed these concerns, showing how climate change interacts with these factors. One example of the growing threat came from an intense late storm which washed away the last nests. The most significant discovery from this research came through intensive nest monitoring using cameras, which unexpectedly revealed that a variety of mammals—including shrews, stoats, foxes, and even bears—preyed upon nestlings and eggs. As these predators occur at different elevations, which are predicted to shift due to climate change,



This rewarding experience provided invaluable insights and fostered connections with young scientists. While there is optimism for the future, urgent action is needed to address the mounting pressures on biodiversity.



this finding underscores the need to consider additional dimensions of biodiversity threats. Moving forward, I plan to publish these impactful findings to contribute to the broader understanding of climate change and biodiversity conservation.

This Fulbright experience has been incredibly rewarding, not only for the scientific insights gained but also for the relationships and friendships built. I had the privilege of working with energetic young scientists from India and the U.S., whose passion gives me hope for the future of biodiversity research.



Year: 2023–2024

Grant Category:
U.S. Fulbright–Kalam Climate Fellow at Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun, Uttarakhand

Current Designation:
Professor of Ecology and Evolution, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL

Nikhila Raol

In 2023, I embarked on a transformative journey as a recipient of the prestigious Fulbright–Nehru Scholar Award. As a pediatric otolaryngologist and head and neck surgeon my research focused on infant feeding difficulties associated with ankyloglossia (tongue tie), a controversial topic in the U.S., making it challenging to study there. India, however, offered the perfect opportunity to explore this issue further.

During my time in Hyderabad, I collaborated with Niloufer Hospital for Women and Children, Osmania Medical College, and the University of Hyderabad to evaluate the impact of untreated tongue tie on breastfeeding maintenance and infant weight gain. Over the course of nine months, we recruited nearly 500 mother–infant pairs and followed them closely to assess breastfeeding patterns and infant growth. Our study found that nearly 80% of mothers, regardless of whether their infants had tongue tie or not, exclusively breastfed for the recommended six months, as per World Health Organization guidelines. The most common reason for early cessation was concern about low milk supply, a shared challenge for both groups. These findings set the stage for my future research, which will explore when surgical intervention for tongue tie may be most beneficial to improve feeding outcomes.

Beyond the research, I embraced the cultural exchange, building lasting relationships with local healthcare providers and learning new perspectives on patient care. I gained insights into the strong support systems within multigenerational households in India, which played a pivotal role in supporting new mothers and infants.



Through my interactions and research, I learned to recognize, and even embrace, the various—and equally valid—definitions of health, happiness, and harmony.



On a personal level, I and my family fully immersed ourselves in the local culture. My children learned to speak, read, and write Telugu, participate in Bharatanatyam dance and cricket, and engaged with the local community. As a family, we also volunteered in local schools, helping with English education and skill-building programs for unskilled workers. The Fulbright journey has had a lasting impact on me; fostering connections that will shape my global outlook for years to come. It has also helped me connect with India and its people – who have always been part of me.



Year: 2023–2024

Grant Category:
U.S. Fulbright–Nehru Academic & Professional Excellence Award Scholar at Osmania Medical College, Hyderabad, Telangana

Current Designation:
Associate Professor, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, TX

FELLOWSHIPS FOR U.S. CITIZENS

USIEF FUNDED GRANTS FOR U.S. CITIZENS

Fulbright–Nehru Student Research Fellowship*:

These nine-month fellowships provide opportunities to recent graduates (a minimum of a bachelor's degree is required) and to graduate students (master's and Ph.D. degree-seeking candidates) to conduct research in India.

Fulbright–Nehru Academic and Professional Excellence Fellowship*:

These four to nine months fellowships provide opportunities for faculty and professionals for either research or teaching, or a combination of research and teaching activities. Depending on the host institution it is also possible that the grantee will work with faculty to develop curriculum and participate in conferences, seminars, and workshops. Applicants may determine the percentage of the grant dedicated to each activity and should define this in the project proposal. Opportunities for guest lectures at other universities in India may also be available.

Fulbright–Nehru Distinguished Scholar Fellowship*:

These four-month fellowships provide opportunities to full professors to teach students at their host institution and to travel to prominent higher education institutions around India to give guest lectures and take part in conferences, seminars, and workshops. Distinguished scholars also work with faculty members at the host institution on program development and curriculum design.

***Eligible fields of study:**

While applications in all fields will be considered, strong preference will be given to the following academic disciplines: Agricultural Sciences; Anthropology; Bioengineering; Chemistry; Computer Science (including, but not limited to, cyber security, digital economy, quantum computing, artificial intelligence, machine learning and big data analytics); Earth Sciences; Economics; Education Policy and Planning; Energy Studies; History; Language/Literature/Linguistics; Materials Science (with emphasis on environmental applications); Mathematical Sciences; Neurosciences; Performing Arts; Physics; Political Science (including, but not limited to, International Security and Strategic Studies); Psychology; Public Health (including, but not limited to, pandemic preparedness and comprehensive surveillance (genomic surveillance, sewage surveillance, sero-surveillance)); Public Policy; Sociology; Urban and Regional Planning (with emphasis on smart cities and waste management); Visual Arts; and Women's and Gender Studies.

Fulbright–Kalam Climate Fellowship:

These four to nine months fellowships provide

opportunities to build long-term capacity to address climate change related issues by engaging scientific and technical research scholars. The fellowship is open to faculty and professionals for either research or teaching, or a combination of research and teaching activities. Depending on the host institution it is also possible that the grantee will work with faculty to develop curriculum and participate in conferences, seminars, and workshops. Applicants may determine the percentage of the grant dedicated to each activity and should define this in the project proposal. Opportunities for guest lectures at other universities in India may also be available.

Fulbright–Nehru International Education Administrator Seminar:

These fellowships are designed for international education administrators or senior-level university administrators in strategic positions of decision-making with substantial responsibility for enhancing the international dimension of their institutions. Over the course of the two-week program, participants will gain first-hand knowledge of a cross-section of Indian institutions and meet with high-ranking university administrators and public sector officials who play key roles in the planning and administration of higher education in India. Participants will become familiar with academic program designs, organizational structures, quality assurance procedures and credit and degree expectations in Indian higher education.

Fulbright–Nehru Specialist Program:

These fellowships are designed for U.S. academics and established professionals to engage in two- to six-week, project-based exchanges at host institutions in India. Specialists, who represent a wide range of professional and academic disciplines, are competitively selected to join the Fulbright Specialist Roster based on their knowledge, skill sets, and ability to make a significant contribution to projects overseas. Those individuals that have been approved to join the Fulbright Specialist Roster are then eligible to be matched with approved projects designed by Indian institutions.

Note on Affiliations:

U.S. Fulbrighters to India are required to be affiliated with institutions of higher education approved and listed on the website of the Ministry of Education, Government of India, including those accredited by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), University Grants Commission (UGC), Medical Council of India (MCI) and other apex level bodies of the Ministry.

NON-USIEF FUNDED GRANTS FOR U.S. CITIZENS

Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Program (DDRA)

USIEF assists doctoral students traveling to India under the DDRA program. These PhD candidates are engaged in full-time dissertation research in modern foreign languages and area studies. The U.S. Department of Education disburses funds directly to scholars through their universities. USIEF provides programmatic, administrative, and logistical support.

Fulbright Global Scholar Award

The Fulbright Global Scholar Award allows U.S. academics and professionals to engage in multicountry, trans-regional projects. As a truly worldwide award, U.S. scholars will be able to propose research or combined teaching/research activity in two to three countries with flexible schedule options; trips can be conducted within one academic year or spread over two consecutive years.

Distinguished Award in Teaching – Research Program

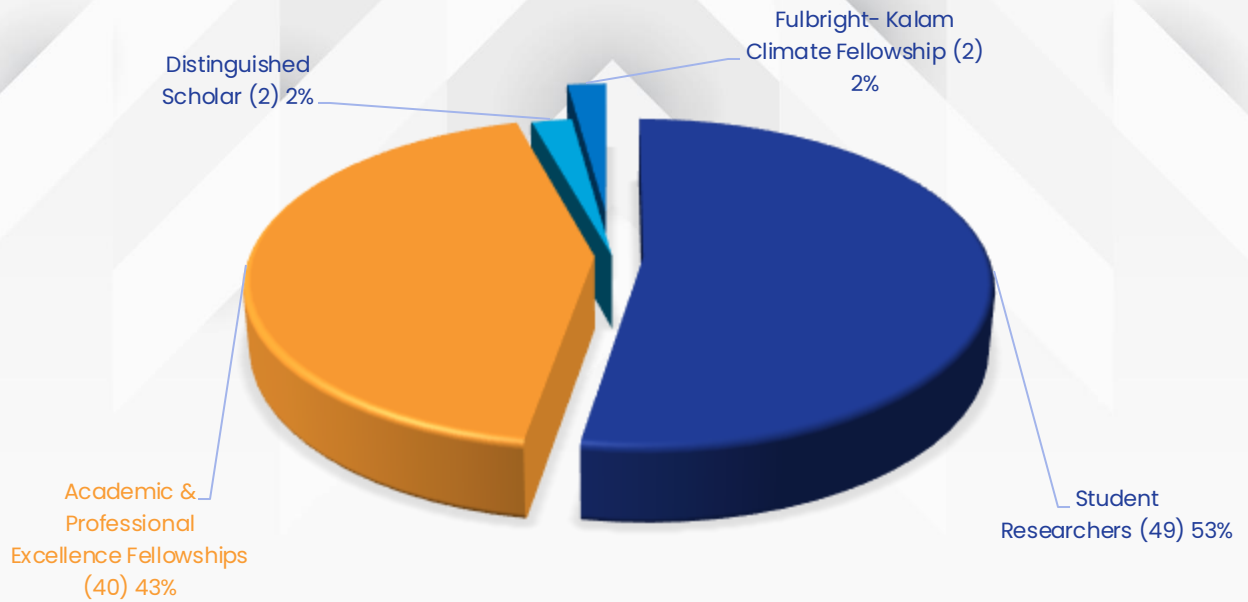
This program brings highly accomplished teachers from the U.S. to India on an independent study program of 3-6 months. Distinguished Teachers can enroll in graduate level courses, conduct research, lead classes and seminars for international teachers and students, and work toward the completion of their self-designed capstone project. Additionally, they may team teach or guest lecture at local secondary schools or at the university level. USIEF provides programmatic, administrative, and logistical support.

FULBRIGHT-NEHRU AND OTHER FULBRIGHT FELLOWSHIPS FOR U.S. CITIZENS

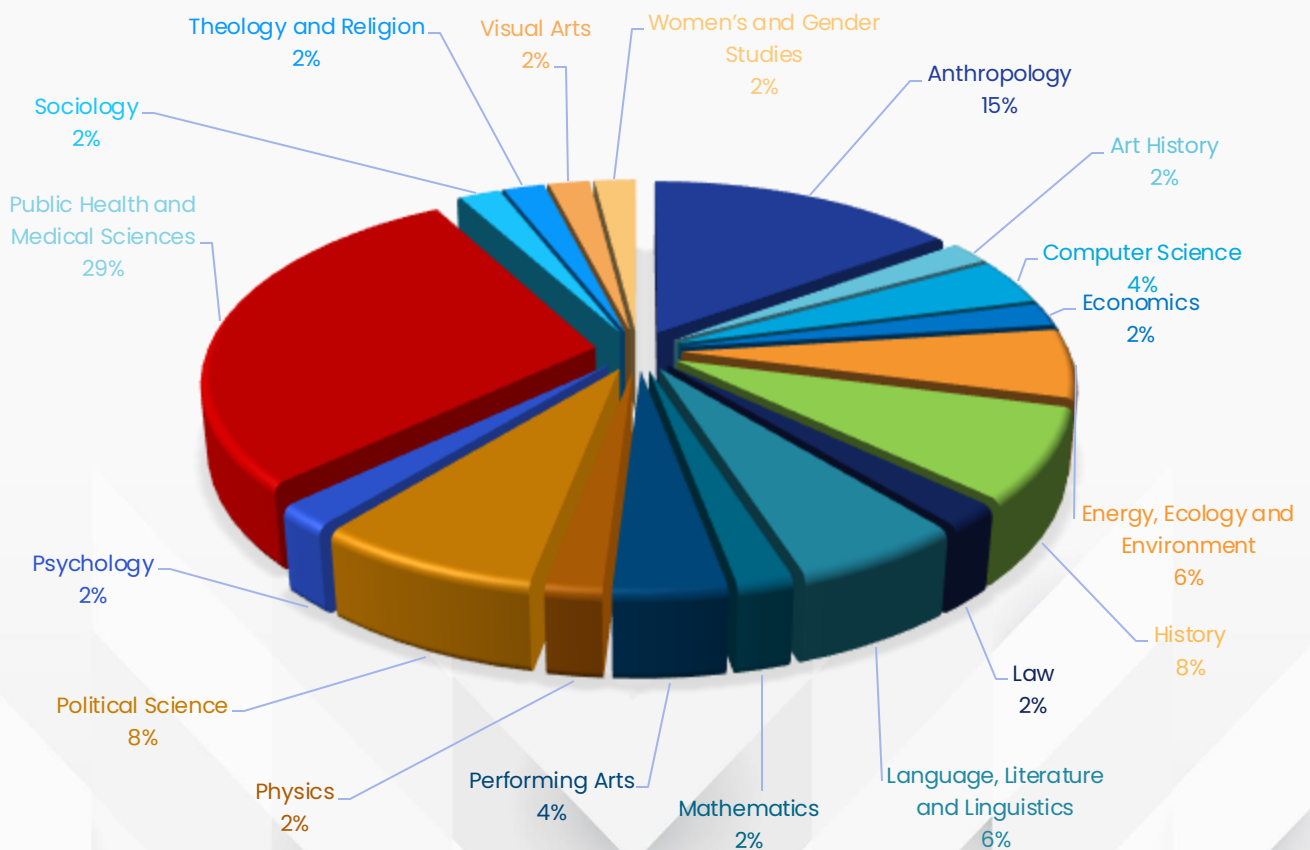
Fellowship Programs	2023-24	2024-25
Fulbright-Nehru Fellowships		
Fulbright-Nehru Student Research Award	47	49
Fulbright-Nehru English Teaching Assistantship	6	-
Fulbright-Nehru Academic and Professional Excellence Fellowships	34	40
Fulbright-Nehru Int'l Education Administrators Seminar	10	10* projected
Fulbright-Nehru Distinguished Scholar Awards	2	2
Fulbright- Kalam Climate Fellowship	4	2
Fulbright Fellowships		
Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching	2	-
Fulbright Distinguished Teacher Short-term Program	1	-
Fulbright Distinguished Award in Teaching Research Program	-	1
Fulbright-Nehru Specialists	30	20
Fulbright-Hays DDRA	7	3
Fulbright Global Scholar	1	-
TOTAL	144	127

USIEF awarded Fellowships for 93 U.S. Citizens (Including Fulbright-Nehru and Fulbright - Kalam Fellowships) in FY24

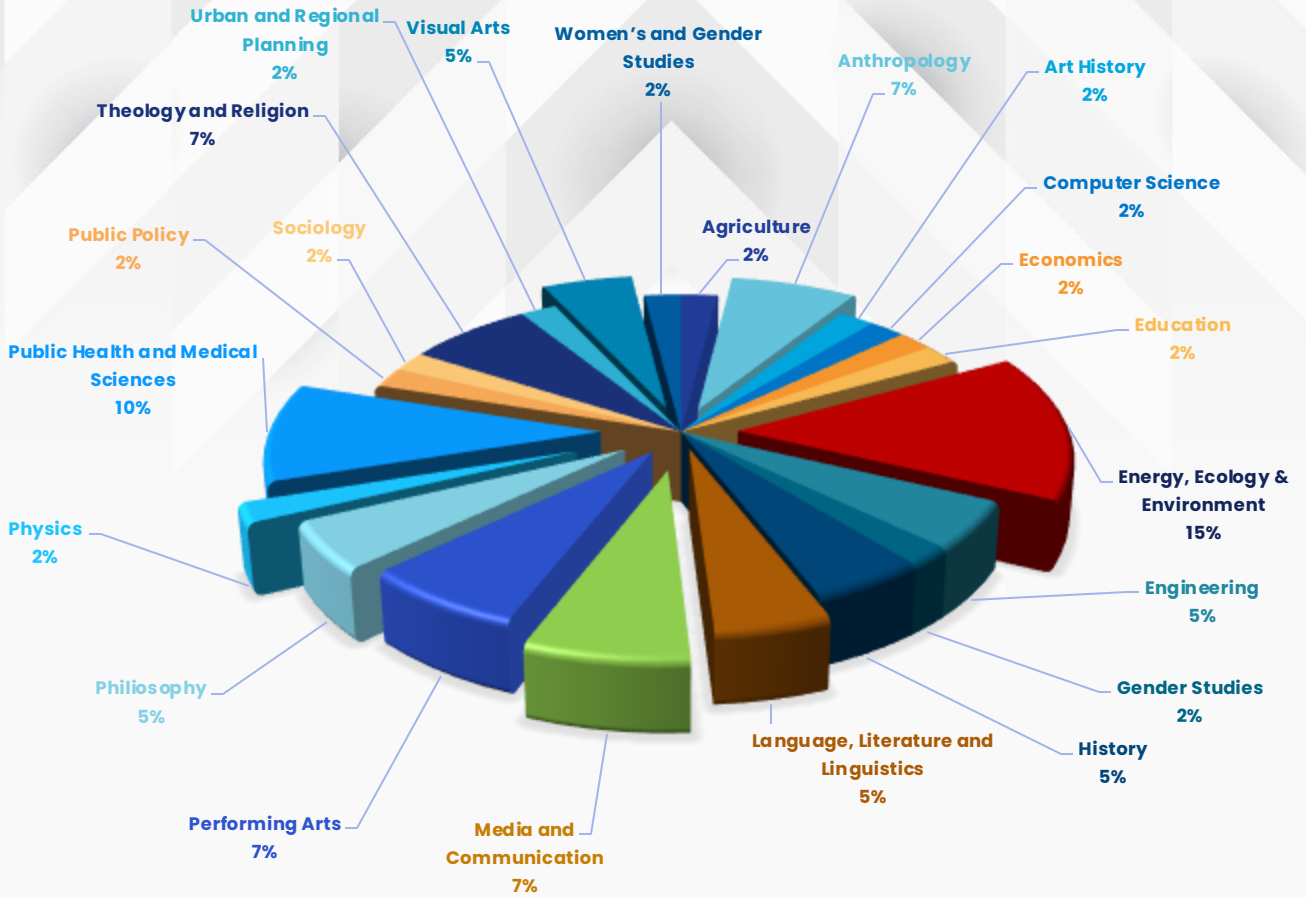
GRANT-WISE BREAKDOWN (GRANTS: 93)



2024-25 STUDENT RESEARCHERS-DISCIPLINES (GRANTS -49)



2024-25 SENIOR SCHOLARS-DISCIPLINES (GRANTS - 44)



FELLOWSHIPS FOR INDIAN CITIZENS

USIEF FUNDED GRANTS FOR INDIAN CITIZENS

Fulbright–Nehru Master’s Fellowships:

These fellowships are for outstanding Indians who demonstrate leadership qualities, have completed the equivalent of a U.S. bachelor’s degree, and have at least three years’ full time (paid) professional work experience, to pursue a master’s degree program at select U.S. colleges and universities in the areas of Arts and Culture Management including Heritage Conservation and Museum Studies; Economics; Environmental Science/Studies; Higher Education Administration; International Affairs; Journalism and Mass Communication; International Legal Studies; Public Administration; Public Health; Urban and Regional Planning; and Women’s Studies/Gender Studies.

Fulbright–Nehru Doctoral Research Fellowships*:

These pre-doctoral level research fellowships, for six to nine months, are designed for Indian scholars who are registered for a Ph.D. at an Indian institution.

Fulbright–Nehru Postdoctoral Research Fellowships*:

These fellowships, for eight to 24 months, are designed for Indian faculty and researchers, who have a Ph.D. or D.M. degree within the past four years.

Fulbright–Nehru Academic and Professional Excellence Fellowships*:

These fellowships, for four to nine months, aim to provide Indian faculty, researchers, and professionals the opportunity to teach, conduct research, or carry out a combination of teaching and research at a U.S. institution.

***Eligible fields of study:**

Agricultural Sciences; Anthropology; Bioengineering; Chemistry; Computer Science (including, but not limited to, cyber security, digital economy, quantum computing, artificial intelligence, machine learning and big data analytics); Earth Sciences; Economics; Education Policy and Planning; Energy Studies; History; Language/Literature/Linguistics; Materials Science (with emphasis on environmental applications);

Mathematical Sciences; Neurosciences; Performing Arts; Physics; Political Science (including, but not limited to, International Security and Strategic Studies); Psychology; Public Health (including, but not limited to, pandemic preparedness and comprehensive surveillance (genomic surveillance, sewage surveillance, sero-surveillance)); Public Policy; Sociology; Urban and Regional Planning (with emphasis on smart cities and waste management); Visual Arts; and Women’s and Gender Studies.

Fulbright–Kalam Climate Fellowships:

These fellowships are offered to build long-term capacity to address climate change related issues in India and the U.S. These grants are offered at three levels: (1) Doctoral Research; (2) Postdoctoral Research; and (3) Academic and Professional Excellence.

Fulbright–Nehru International Education Administrators Seminar:

The Fulbright–Nehru International Education Administrators Seminar aims to provide Indian college and university administrators the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the U.S. higher education system. The two-week visit enables participants to learn about various facets of U.S. higher education, including the types of institutions, accreditation, curriculum development, fund-raising, student services and international education on U.S. campuses, as well as share knowledge on Indian higher education.

Fulbright–Nehru Visiting Chair Program at Emory University:

The Visiting Chair Program is designed for Indian scholars for the purpose of teaching, lecturing, and/or conducting research at Emory University’s main campus in Atlanta in selected thematic area.

Fulbright–Nehru Visiting Chair Program at University of Massachusetts:

The Visiting Chair Program is designed for Indian scholars for the purpose of teaching, lecturing, and/or conducting research at the University of Massachusetts Amherst in selected thematic area.

NON-USIEF FUNDED GRANTS FOR INDIAN CITIZENS

Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program:

This program, funded directly by the U.S. Department of State, is designed to meet the requirements of policy makers, planners, administrators and managers in the government, public and private sectors and non-governmental organizations, who have a public service commitment and have demonstrated leadership potential, and are committed to their own country's development. USIEF recruits and nominates Indian applicants for final selection in Washington, D.C.

Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant Program (FLTA):

The FLTA Program, funded by the U.S. Department of State, is a nine-month, non-degree program for young and early career English teachers at the college level, or other educators in related fields. Fulbright FLTA participants have the opportunity to refine their teaching skills, increase their English language proficiency and extend their knowledge of the society and culture of the United States, while strengthening the instruction of foreign languages at U.S. colleges and universities. Selected Fulbright FLTA participants from India serve as teaching assistants in Hindi or Urdu classrooms at select U.S. campuses.

Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence (S-I-R) Program:

Through the Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence (S-I-R) Program, U.S. colleges and universities collaborate with scholars from other countries to assist in internationalizing U.S. campuses, curricula, and communities. Fulbright S-I-Rs teach courses or guest lecture on topics in their areas of expertise and provide a cross-cultural or international perspective to promote curricula and program development. U.S. colleges and universities apply through the Institute of International Education (IIE) to host a Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence for either one semester or an academic year. The Scholar can be in most academic disciplines provided

that the courses taught offer an international perspective. Institutions can propose a specific candidate by name, or IIE can work with U.S. Embassies and Fulbright Commissions abroad to recruit a scholar.

Fulbright Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program (FTEA):

FTEA is a six-week non-degree, non-credit academic program at a U.S. university which provides selected teachers with a unique opportunity to develop greater expertise in their subject areas, enhance their teaching skills, and increase their knowledge about the United States. The program provides academic seminars on new teaching methodologies and strategies, student-centered learning, content-based instruction, lesson planning, and instructional technology training for teachers. For India, the program is open for full-time schoolteachers (6th to 12th grades) teaching English, English as a Foreign Language (EFL), Social Studies, Mathematics, Science, or Special Education at schools in India.

Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Program for International Teachers:

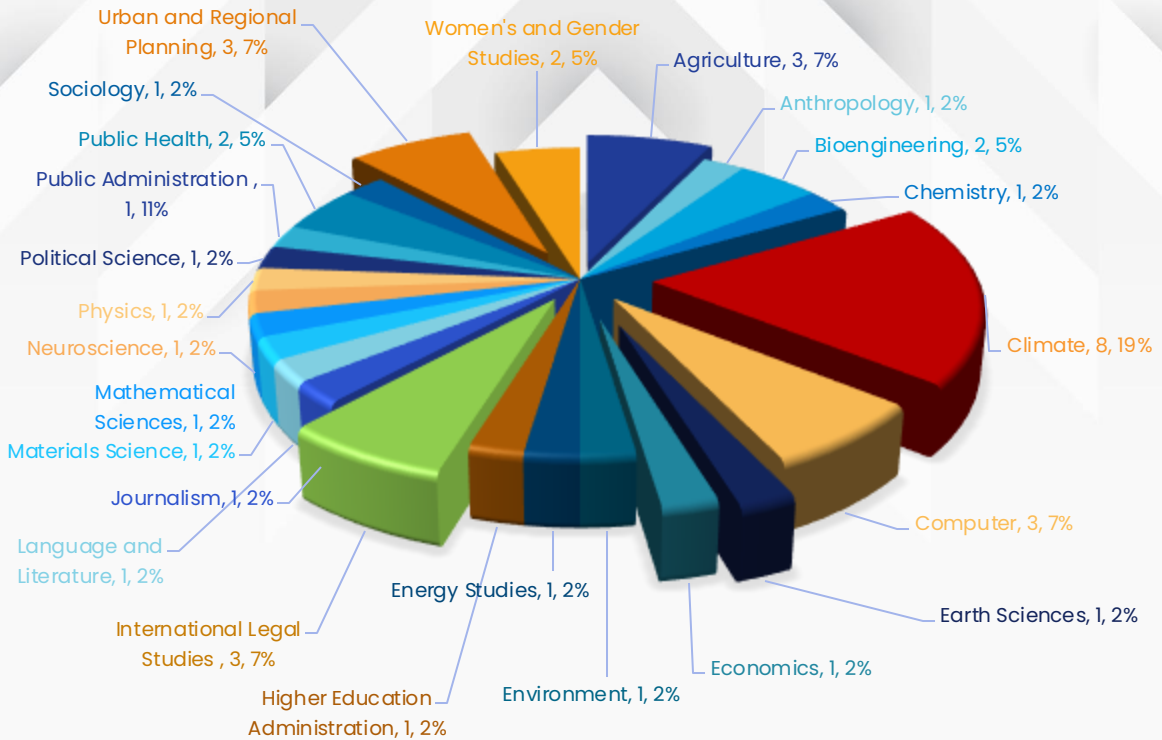
FDAL, a semester long program, is designed for full-time Indian teachers teaching any subject at any level (primary, middle, or secondary) at a school in India. This program is also open to primary and secondary level library media specialists, guidance counselors, curriculum specialists, special education coordinators, teacher trainers, and administrators who spend at least fifty percent of their time teaching or working directly with students. The program provides with a unique opportunity to pursue individual or group projects, take courses for professional development at a host university, and observe and share their expertise with teachers and students at the host university or local primary and secondary schools. Cultural enrichment, mentoring, and support is provided throughout the program

FULBRIGHT-NEHRU AND OTHER FULBRIGHT FELLOWSHIPS FOR INDIAN CITIZENS

USIEF funded Fulbright-Nehru and Fulbright-Kalam Fellowship Programs	2023-2024	2024-2025
Fulbright-Nehru Master's Fellowships	16	10
Fulbright-Nehru Doctoral Research Fellowships	33	24
Fulbright-Nehru Postdoctoral Research Fellowships	21	21
Fulbright-Nehru Academic and Professional Excellence Fellowships	25	24
Fulbright-Nehru Visiting Chair Program at Emory University	1	0
Fulbright-Nehru Visiting Chair Program at the University of Massachusetts Amherst	1	1
Fulbright-Nehru International Education Administrators Seminar	10	10
Fulbright-Kalam Doctoral Research Fellowships	3	8
Fulbright-Kalam Postdoctoral Research Fellowships	3	2
Fulbright-Kalam Academic and Professional Excellence Fellowships	2	8
Other Fulbright grants (non-USIEF funded)		
Hubert H. Humphrey	1	3
Foreign Language Teaching Assistants Program (FLTA)	11	11
Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching for international Teachers (DAI)	5	4
Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Program	7	2
Fulbright Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program	7	7
Grand Total	146	135

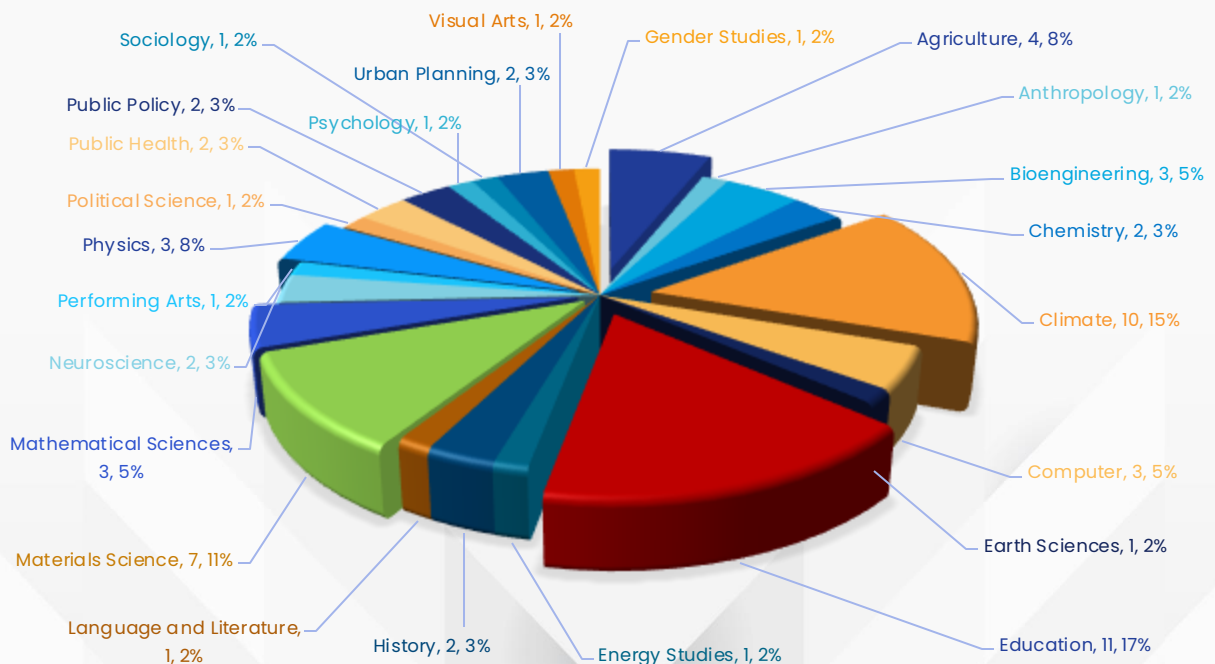
2024–2025 STUDENT DISCIPLINES (GRANTS: 42)

(Fulbright–Nehru Master’s Fellowships, Fulbright–Nehru Doctoral Research Fellowships, and Fulbright–Kalam Doctoral Research Fellowships)



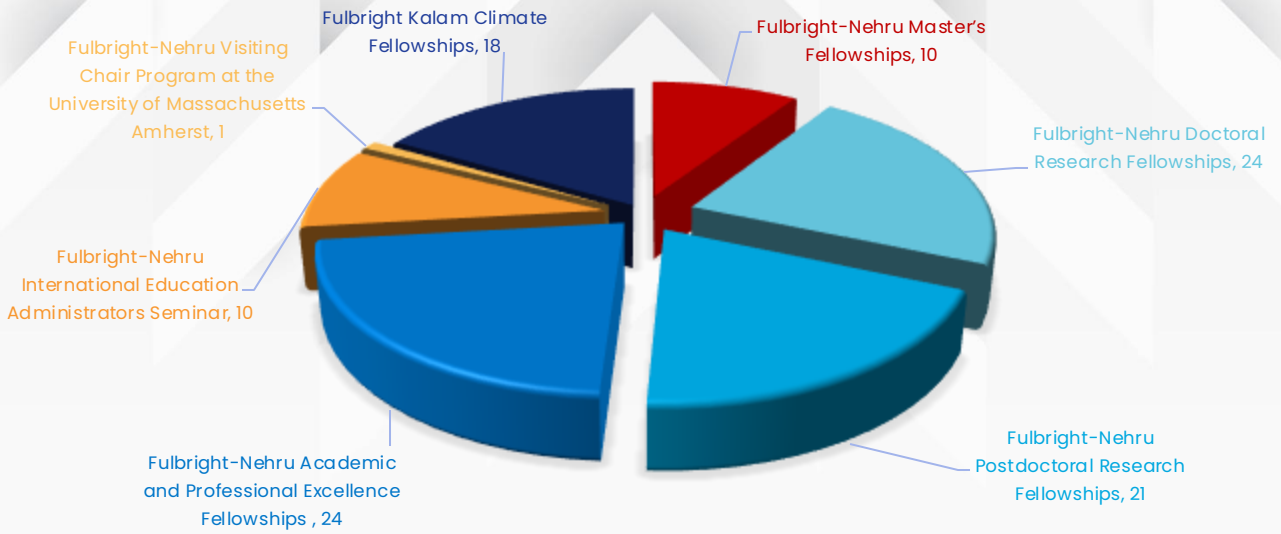
2024–2025 Scholar Disciplines (Grants: 66)

(Fulbright–Nehru Postdoctoral Research Fellowships, Fulbright–Nehru Academic and Professional Excellence Fellowships, Fulbright–Nehru Visiting Chair Program at UMASS, Fulbright–Kalam Climate Fellowships for Postdoctoral Research, and Fulbright–Kalam Climate Fellowships for Academic and Professional Excellence)

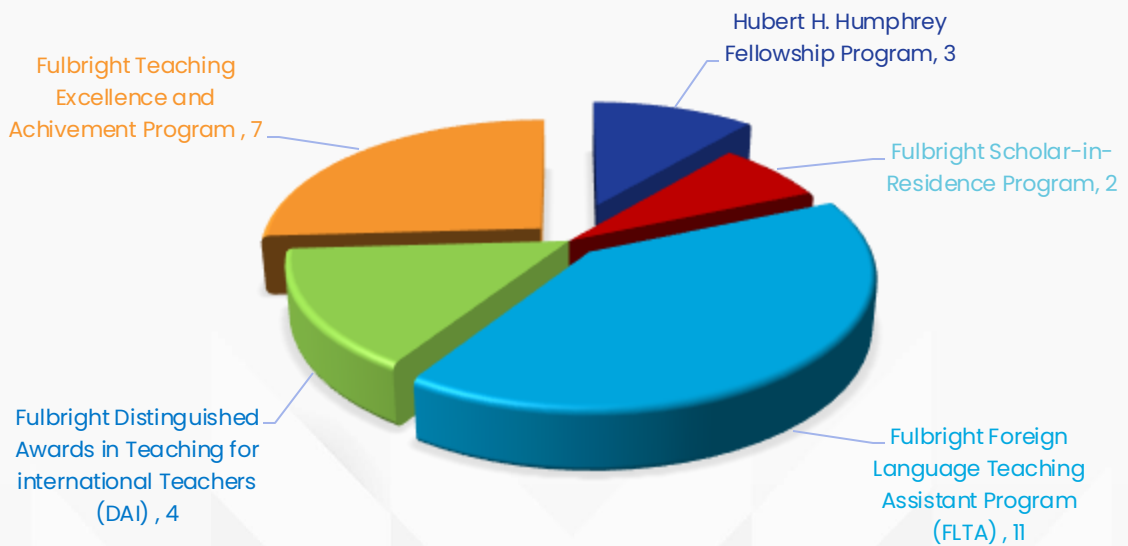


USIEF AWARDED 108 GRANTS TO INDIAN CITIZENS (FULBRIGHT-NEHRU AND FULBRIGHT-KALAM FELLOWSHIPS) IN FY24

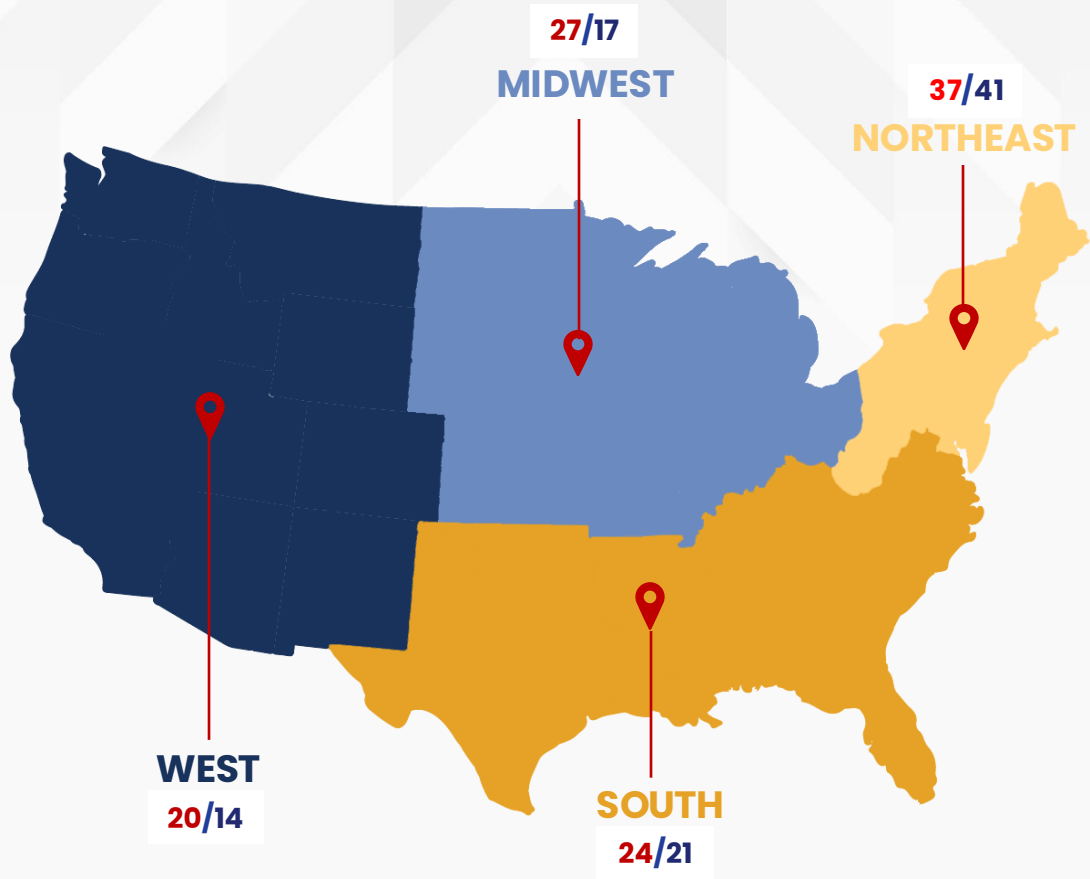
2024-2025 Fulbright-Nehru and Fulbright-Kalam Fellowships



2024-2025 OTHER FULBRIGHT FELLOWSHIPS



DISTRIBUTION OF FULBRIGHT-NEHRU AND FULBRIGHT-KALAM GRANTEES IN THE U.S.



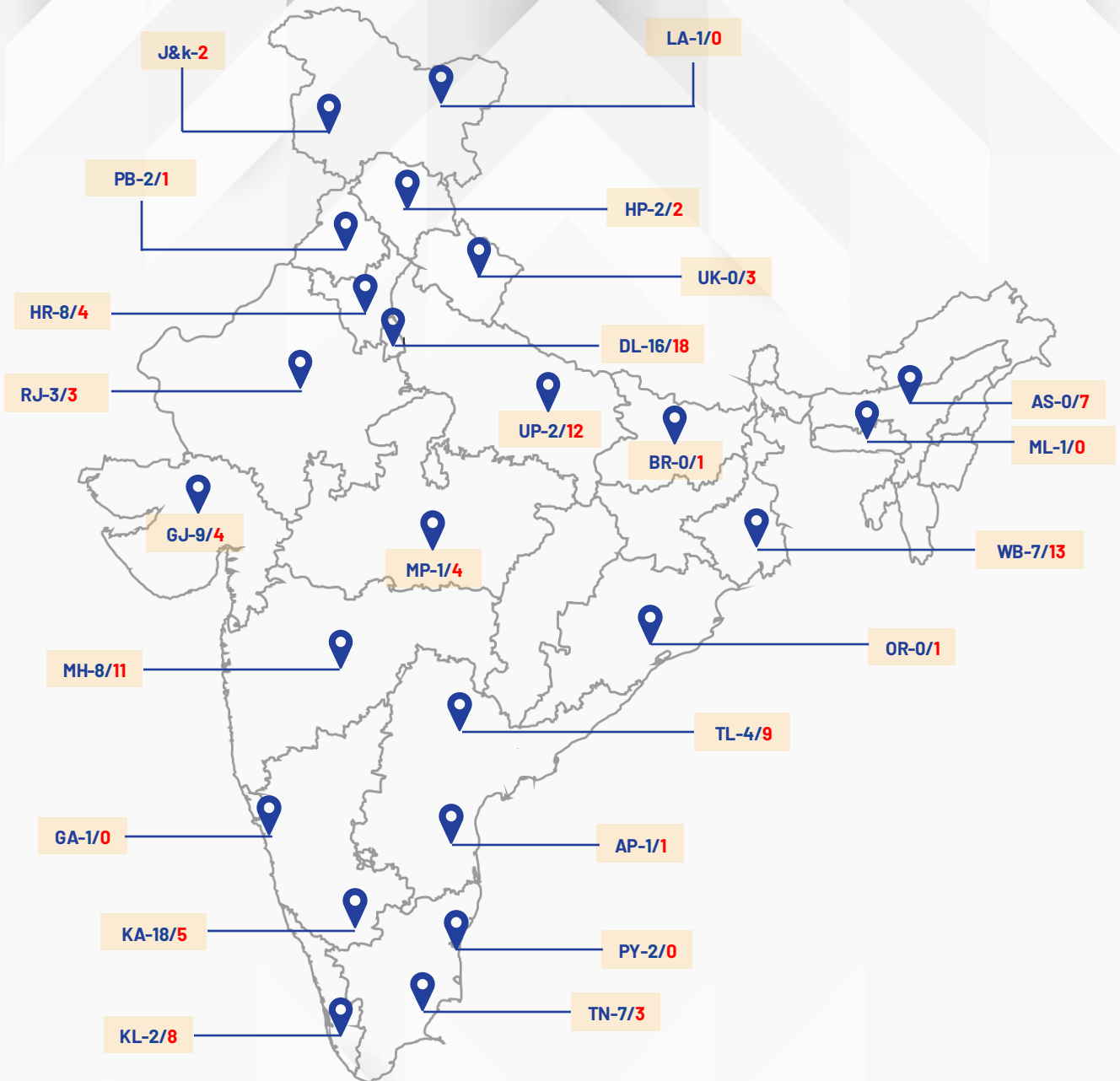
INDIANS GOING TO

108

AMERICANS COMING FROM

93

DISTRIBUTION OF FULBRIGHT-NEHRU AND FULBRIGHT-KALAM GRANTEES IN INDIA



AMERICANS GOING TO

93

INDIANS COMING FROM

108

(F-N IEAS is not included as the grantees visit multiple institutions located at different cities)

ALUMNI ACCOLADES AND MILESTONES

In collaboration with U.S. Consulates across India, USIEF organized a series of impactful programs under the Fulbright Alumni Engagement Series (FAES) grant. These initiatives covered diverse topics such as Women in Science, Artificial Intelligence in Education, Climate Sustainability, and Social Entrepreneurship. The series also featured screenings of inspirational films like Call Me Dancer and Wild Nights with Emily, sparking meaningful discussions on resilience, creativity, and leadership.



U.S. Fulbright-Nehru alumna Elizabeth Kadetsky has been awarded a prestigious National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grant under the “Public Scholars” program. This fellowship provides her with a full year of dedicated writing time to develop a storytelling-driven nonfiction book for a general audience. Additionally, Elizabeth has been awarded a writing residency at the MacDowell Colony in New Hampshire, where she will spend two to eight weeks working on her book project, which is inspired by her Fulbright research. The residency offers time and resources to support artists across various disciplines.



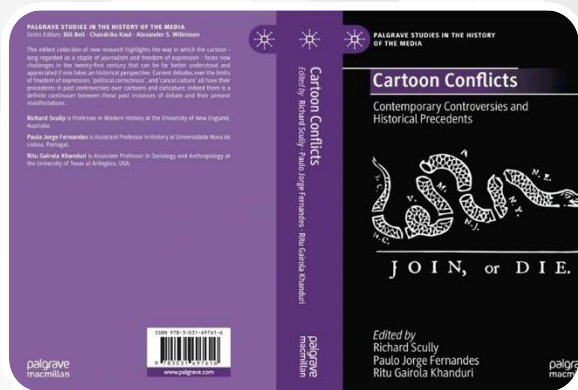
Indian Fulbright teachers Vijay Kumar and Mujib Rahiman received the 2023 National Awards to Teachers (NAT) conferred by the President of India on the Teachers' Day at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

Vijay, a mathematics teacher in Himachal Pradesh, was honored for using ICT tools and blended and flipped classroom pedagogies, while Mujib, a librarian in Kerala, was recognized for promoting reading habits through innovative activities and developing library software for free access to school libraries.



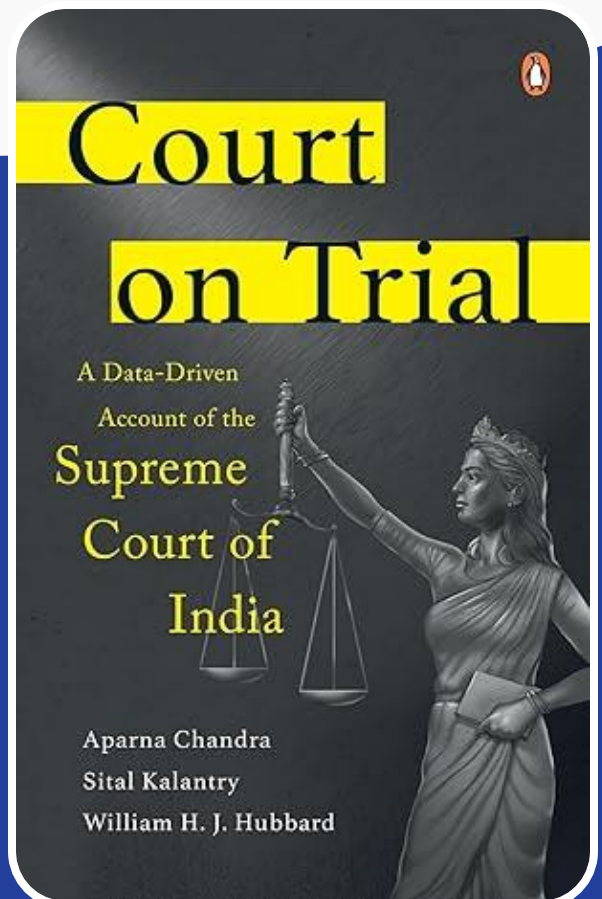
Harssh A Poddar, an officer of the Indian Police Service (IPS), pursued his Master's in Public Administration at Harvard University under the Fulbright-Nehru Master's Fellowship. At the Harvard Kennedy School, he specialized in National Security and Artificial Intelligence. During his time at Harvard, Harssh earned the Raymond and Josephine Vernon Award for Academic Excellence and the Lucius N. Littauer Fellows Award for Leadership—becoming the first Indian to receive both of these highly coveted awards.





U.S. Fulbright-Nehru alumna Ritu Khanduri, a distinguished cultural anthropologist, has made a notable contribution to the co-publication *Cartoon Conflicts* (2024) alongside historians Richard Scully from the University of New England (Australia) and Paulo Jorge Fernandes from Universidade Nova de Lisboa. This interdisciplinary work explores the intriguing role of cartoons in shaping political and social conflicts. The book brings together contributions from scholars across the globe, showcasing a diverse range of perspectives within this emerging field.

U.S. Fulbright-Nehru alumna and international lawyer Sital Kalantry has co-authored the book "Court on Trial: A Data-Driven Account of the Supreme Court of India" with Aparna Chandra and William H.J. Hubbard. This work, grounded in empirical research conducted during her Fulbright project, offers a comprehensive analysis of the Indian Supreme Court's institutional structures and processes, highlighting areas in need of reform to better align with its foundational goals.





Indian Fulbright-Nehru alumna Naiyya Saggi, co-founder of The Good Glamm Group and founder of BabyChakra, has launched a joint venture, WYN Beauty, with global sports legend Serena Williams. Naiyya Saggi is recognized as one of India's top emerging leaders by Entrepreneur, The Economic Times, and Business World.

Indian Fulbright-Nehru and Fulbright-Kalam alumnus, Dr. Chillayil, co-founder and Managing Director of EQUINOCT, led a start-up recognized by UNICEF as one of only eight global ventures offering innovative climate change solutions. The project, implemented with active community participation, installed 100 rain gauges along Kerala's Periyar and Chalakudy river basins to support climate resilience efforts.



Indian Fulbright-Nehru alumnus and scientific officer at BARC, Santosh Gupta, was appointed as a member of the Global Young Academy. His research focuses on photonic materials, defect and doping engineering, and designing materials for health, energy, and environmental applications.



U.S. Fulbright-Nehru alumnus Morry Rao Hermon has joined the Board of Directors at the Center for Employment Training (CET), a nonprofit organization providing comprehensive job training and placement services to thousands of low-income immigrants and established residents in California and beyond. Morry also serves as the Senior Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations at the UC Berkeley School of Public Health. His Fulbright-Nehru project focused on strengthening the capacity of Indian NGOs to sustain their operations by diversifying funding streams.

U.S. Fulbright-Nehru Specialist Barry Stewart Mann shared arts integration practices with educators and students across various districts in Kerala during his time in India. He also conducted workshops, storytelling sessions, and theater activities in Chennai, Vellore, Bangalore, Kochi, and Coimbatore, collaborating with fellow Fulbrighters Chandra Dasan and Kritika Dhiwahaar in Kochi and Bangalore.

Based in Atlanta, Barry is a versatile actor, storyteller, and teaching artist who has performed at theaters across the U.S. and shared his stories in schools, libraries, camps, museums, and festivals both domestically and internationally.



EDUCATIONUSA@USIEF

According to the 2023 Open Doors Report, 268,923 Indian students were enrolled in U.S. higher education institutions during the 2022–23 academic year, making India the second-largest source of international students in the U.S.

As the official source for U.S. higher education information, EducationUSA at USIEF centers provides accurate, up-to-date, unbiased, and comprehensive guidance to prospective students exploring opportunities in the U.S. To enhance accessibility, EducationUSA has launched a Mobile App that has already surpassed 122,500 downloads, offering round-the-clock advising support.

In 2023, EducationUSA India organized over 785 events, including virtual and in-person fairs, outreach sessions with Indian schools and universities, orientation sessions, "ask-an-adviser" forums, and thematic discussions on specialized U.S. higher education topics. EducationUSA also facilitates connections between U.S. higher education institutions (HEIs) and key Indian stakeholders through meetings, sessions, and events. During the reporting period, EducationUSA at USIEF engaged with 210 U.S. HEIs, including multiple constituent schools within the same institutions.

One of the highlights was the successful organization of the 12th edition of the EducationUSA India Tour. For the first time, the itinerary expanded to include Pune, a Tier II city near Mumbai, alongside fairs in major metropolitan cities. A total of 81 U.S. universities participated. The fairs attracted over 11,600 registered students and saw 7,300 participants, including students, parents, school counselors, and Indian educational administrators.

At these fairs, attendees engaged with U.S. HEIs and participated in information sessions on topics such as the "five steps to U.S. study," funding opportunities, and the student visa process, conducted by EducationUSA Advisers and U.S. Consular Officers. Over 4,133 attendees took part in these sessions.

"Born and raised in a small, conservative town, Saran in Bihar, I always dreamed of pursuing higher education in the United States. However, finding authentic information and navigating the process seemed daunting—until I discovered EducationUSA. From the moment I started attending their sessions, both with advisers and university representatives, everything became clearer and more achievable. Their regular guidance, comprehensive resources, and constant motivation played a pivotal role in turning my aspirations into reality. This journey to the U.S. wouldn't have been possible without their unwavering support. My family and I are deeply grateful to EducationUSA for helping make this dream come true."

Niraj Kumar, Class of 2026
M.S. Education, University of Pennsylvania



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35		Pradeep Singh	Driver-Cum-Office-Boy
36		Maman Singh	Driver-Cum-Office-Boy
37		Rajesh	Office Boy
38		Ram Pratap Singh	Gardener
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