General Guidelines: Thoroughly review the country-specific information and desired candidate profile found at us.fulbrightonline.org. Don’t assume you know what the country is looking for. Highlight in your application the ways you fit the desired profile.

Be concise. Length isn’t as important as grabbing your reader’s attention. Choose what is most important and write passionately about that. Provide concrete examples.

Use every part of the application to provide information. Don’t repeat the same information in your personal statement and your statement of grant purpose.

Statement of Grant Purpose Research: This is where you talk about what your research will be, its importance for the field and for the host country, why you need to be in that specific country, and how your proposal fits into your future plans (max 2 pages).

1. Have you described your research project clear, jargon-free way?
2. Is your proposal clear to a well-educated reader who is not an expert in the field?
3. Have you shown that you have the background to conduct the research you are proposing? For example, if you are proposing to interview subjects, have you conducted that kind of research before?
4. Are you convincing that you need to do this project in the specific country and with the proposed affiliate organization/university, or does the country seem a somewhat arbitrary choice?
5. How will this proposed program enhance your future career and ideally lead to future valuable contributions?
6. If language facility is required, do you discuss your language background?
7. If there are special circumstances to consider, do you address how you are capable of adapting to them (for example safety, challenging living conditions, and the like)?
8. Is this a compelling narrative? You can break free from a strict chronological narrative to make your statement more interesting.

Personal Statement (1 page max)
The personal statement is meant to be an intellectual biography so it shouldn’t be TOO personal and stray away from the proposed experience.

1. Is your statement interesting? Do you use stories to describe important moments in your life and/or how you reached this point?
2. Do you describe intellectual and/or creative highlights and relate those moments to the research/study project?
3. Do you talk about ways you will engage with the community, including the academic community of your affiliate organization? Do the proposed ways of engagement fit with your interests and are they relevant to the proposed country? For example, if you want to work with a football league, have you played or coached football? Are football leagues common where you want to go?

4. Do you give examples of flexibility, initiative, and/or interest in other cultures? For example, if you’ve studied abroad do you give examples of meeting people, of seeking out additional cultural activities?

5. It is common for applicants to say they want to experience the culture of a country. How do you go beyond that and make a case for the specific country where you want to go?