

## Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Program Pathways

The following information is not a checklist or blueprint to being selected for a national award, but is rather a list of experiences that an individual might pursue and mold to fit their individual interests. Students should not try to “collect” every type of experience, but should work within a defined area of focus and passion. Students should demonstrate a *sustained* commitment and attention to *documenting impact*, whether that is in a field of study, research, or difference made in the community.

**Award Profile:** ETA Programs place Fulbrighters in classrooms worldwide to provide assistance to the local English teachers. ETAs help teach English language while serving as cultural ambassadors for the U.S. The age and academic level of the students varies by country, ranging from kindergarten to university level.

**Career profile:** Fulbright ETAs go on to a number of academic and career profiles: law, politics, journalism, careers in education (elementary-secondary, speech language pathology, etc.) and careers in academia.

**Notable Fulbright Scholars:** NPR host Melissa Block, Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, composer Philip Glass, UTSA student Clarissa Moore (Colombia ETA, 2018)

**Student profile:** The big misnomer is that you need to have future career plans as a teacher to join this program. Any major is welcome to apply. Some majors that have been successful applicants to the ETA program include:

- Psychology
- Foreign language, linguistics, and bilingual education
- Political Science/Global Affairs majors
- Education (Elementary Education) majors
- STEM (some countries seek to train their STEM students in scientific English)

Students who have engaged in the following education experiences may be attractive ETA candidates:

- Teaching assistant, teaching aide, SI tutor, peer coach
- Teaching English as a second language in the US or abroad
- Debate coach or debate team
- After school program volunteer
- Summer camp volunteer or counselor
- Family and children’s services volunteer

Additional desired experiences might include:

- Service learning or interning while studying abroad
- Study abroad immersion and exchange programs (intensive foreign language programs)
- Working/volunteering at an internationally-focused NGOs
- Leadership posts (e.g. SGA) or civic engagement activity (e.g. founding a non-profit)



### Contact

Andrew Chapman  
Director, Office of Nationally Competitive Awards and Fellowships  
UTSA Honors College  
[Andrew.Chapman2@utsa.edu](mailto:Andrew.Chapman2@utsa.edu)