



December 06, 2019

Mrs. Rifka Cook
1820 Chicago Ave Apt 1033
Evanston, IL 60201-3984
United States

Dear Mrs. Cook:

It is a pleasure to inform you that the peer review process organized by the Institute of International Education's Council for International Exchange of Scholars (IIE/CIES) has concluded and that you are among those recommended for a Fulbright U.S. Scholar award (Costa Rica).

Please know that this peer review process constitutes only the first phase of the rigorous review process that Fulbright applicants undergo. Your application will be forwarded to: the host country, the U.S. Department of State, and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. Applications will be reviewed in light of program priorities and budget. Not all applications that were recommended in the peer review process will be selected for grants.

Given the multi-phased review process, it is important that you do not take any irreversible actions, such as travel arrangements or other grant-related commitments, based upon the expectation of receiving an award. Unfortunately, the number of meritorious applicants routinely exceeds the number of available grants. The next phase of the review process normally requires several months. We understand that you may have a number of important matters pending (e.g., sabbatical application, family considerations). As such, we will communicate with our colleagues abroad and at the State Department to ensure that you are notified as soon as possible. Please note that notifications will be made via email about the eventual outcome of your candidacy. Fulbright award decisions are complex, and selection timing can be influenced by a number of factors, including:

- Funds available: The contribution of each government toward the Fulbright Programs may not be determined until well into 2020.
- Number of recommended candidates in relation to the number of grants available: Particularly for countries where the level of competition is high, an initial round of select, alternate and non-select candidates will be notified. Alternate candidates may then have to wait until the selected candidates have accepted or declined awards or until the Fulbright program funding allocations are confirmed.
- Internal administrative procedures at prospective host institutions: Before they can agree to a request from the Fulbright foundation/commission or the U.S. embassy to host a candidate, the receiving institution may first be required to confirm cost sharing or other arrangements.

In the meantime, please inform us immediately if your plans change and you find you are unable to accept a Fulbright if awarded. Please note that, if you are selected for a Fulbright award, a necessary step before becoming a grantee is medical clearance. IIE/CIES will send scholars who are selected the medical-related information and access to the medical report form.

More information about the review and selection process is located on our [website](#). Should you have any questions

regarding the status of your application during the review process, please contact us by email at FulbrightScholarReview@iie.org. For further information on the administration of the Fulbright Scholar Program, please visit <http://www.iie.org/cies>.

On behalf of the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program, please accept my congratulations on having successfully completed the first stage of the Fulbright review process. Thank you for your interest in Fulbright and its important mission, and best wishes to you in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jordanna Enrich". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jordanna" written in a larger, more prominent style than the last name "Enrich".

Jordanna Enrich
Director, Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program