

Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program
RFA Number DTFH6414RA00001
2014 Questions & Answers

The Q&A period for RFA Number DTFH6414RA00001 ended on February 17, 2014 at 2:00PM Eastern Time. Following you will find a list of the questions that were asked during the 2014 RFA question period. An official response was returned to the individual and posted here to provide additional information.

Note: All personal and identifying information has been edited to maintain anonymity.

General Information

1. How can I find out more information and requirements about this educational opportunity?

Answers to General Information Question 1:

You can locate the materials on our website: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tpp/ugp.htm> or via Grants.gov

Eligibility:

1. Am I eligible to apply for the "Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program", if I do not have a US diploma?
2. I am now a US Citizen. I have received my B.S (Civil Engineering) and M.S (Transportation Engineering) from a foreign country. I am planning to start Ph.D Civil Engineering in Fall, 2014. Am I still eligible keeping in view the fact that my previous education is not from a US institution?
3. In the eligibility information section it says: "Recipient must possess a baccalaureate degree from an accredited U.S. Institution". Here's my situation: I graduate with a B.S. in another country, then enrolled in a U.S master program for one year and a half. Before I finished the M.S, I transferred to a Doctor program at another University in the US. Now I am in my third year in the doctor's program but have not received a US diploma. Am I eligible to apply for the "Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program"?
4. As defined in the Eisenhower Fellowship SECTION III - ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION, a qualified person must possess a baccalaureate degree from an accredited U.S. Institution. Does that mean that students who got bachelor degree from foreign countries and is currently pursuing PhD in the U.S. are not eligible for applying?

Answer to Eligibility Questions 1, 2, 3, and 4:

This message is in response to your interest in the Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program (DDETFP). Annually, the DDETFP guidelines are reviewed and approved. The program has been officially announced and the eligibility requirements are as follows:

Applicants of the Eisenhower Graduate Fellowship Recipients must:

- Possess a baccalaureate degree from an accredited U.S. Institution;
- Be enrolled in an accredited U.S. Institution of higher education
- Be pursuing a degree in a full-time program in a transportation-related discipline
- Have at least one full academic year remaining in program of study;
- Conduct ongoing research in one or more transportation-related disciplines; and
- Plan to enter the transportation profession after completing their higher level education.
- Non-U.S. citizens must attach a valid copy of their I-20 or I-551 ID issued by the U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Service (CIS).

If applicants cannot meet the aforementioned criteria, their application will not be eligible for consideration. Thank you for your interest in the Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program.

5. So the requirement of "must possess a baccalaureate degree from an accredited U.S. Institution if applying for a graduate award" means that foreign students cannot longer apply? Those that are in a doctoral program

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may have a master degree from a U.S. institution but not a baccalaureate degree. Definitely a major change. Am I interpreting this correctly?

Answer to Eligibility Question 5:

This message is in response to your request regarding eligibility of international students. The 2014 DDETFP requirements have changed and recipients at the **graduate level** are required to have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited U.S. Institution. This change does not exclude international students at all. It simply states that “**all applicants**” must have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited U.S. Institution to be considered for the award. Thank you for your interest in the Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program.

6. I need a clarification to the following with regard to the citizenship that is outlined on page 4 of the MIHE Guideline.

A list of transportation-related disciplines can be found in appendix D or on the U&GP website (<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tpp/ddetfp.htm#FellowshipsDiscip>). Foreign students who are not U.S. citizens must provide a certified copy of their student I-20 ID from the University or I-551 Permanent Resident Card that is issued by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (CIS).^[1] Applications without this information will not be considered complete.

Are the international students eligible for this internship?

Answer to Eligibility Question 6:

This message is in response to your request regarding eligibility of international students. The 2014 DDETFP requirements have changed and recipients at the **graduate level** are required to have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited U.S. Institution. This change does not exclude international students. It simply states that “**all applicants**” must have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited U.S. Institution to be considered for the award.

International students who are not U.S. citizens must provide a certified copy of their student I-20 ID from the University or I-551 Permanent Resident Card that is issued by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (CIS). This information will need to be submitted with the application. Those students that do not have the **student I-20 ID from the University or I-551 Permanent Resident Card** at the time of application cannot be considered.

7. I was just wondering if individuals selected for the Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship could attend classes part-time or would they have to attend full-time? I currently work full-time and would like to further my education in the transportation field.

Answer to Eligibility Question 7:

The 2014 requirements are as follows:

Applicants of the Eisenhower Graduate Fellowship Recipients must:

- Possess a baccalaureate degree from an accredited U.S. Institution;
- Be enrolled in an accredited U.S. Institution of higher education

^[1] A Permanent Resident Card (Form I-551), commonly known as a Green Card, is evidence of your status as a lawful permanent resident with a right to live and work permanently in the United States. It also is evidence of your registration in accordance with United States immigration laws. Once students are accepted by the school, the University / College provides students a form known as a Certificate of Eligibility (SEVIS I-20).

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- *Be pursuing a degree in a full-time program in a transportation-related discipline*
 - *Have at least one full academic year remaining in program of study;*
 - *Conduct ongoing research in one or more transportation-related disciplines; and*
 - *Plan to enter the transportation profession after completing their higher level education.*
- Non-U.S. citizens must attach a valid copy of their I-20 or I-551 ID issued by the U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Service (CIS).*

Part time students are not eligible to apply.

Faculty Advisor

1. I am co-advised by two professors. How I should fill the Faculty Advisor part int the application form -- part 1?

Answer to Faculty Advisor Question 1:

This is in your response to your question regarding the Faculty Advisor requirement for the Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship. You noted that you are co-advised by two professors. Please discuss the fellowship opportunity with both. It would be best for the two of them to determine who will take the lead in sponsoring you on this effort. If it is determined that both would like to sign, please feel free to add a second sheet accommodate the 2nd signature.

Recommendation Letters

1. I am a part-time research assistant at a Transportation Institute working on a sponsored study. Would this situation require me to present an endorsement letter? My relationship with the Transportation Institute is as an independent contractor.

Answer to Recommendation Letters Question 1:

While you are an independent contractor, you should plan to include a letter of recommendation from the Transportation Institute as part of your application package. I hope that this provides the necessary clarity that you were looking for. Thank you for your interest in the Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program.

2. Can the submitter place the original recommendation and the copy in the same envelope or they need to be submitted separately?

Answer to Recommendation Letters Question 2:

Yes. If the recommender prefers to mail the reference letters, One copy plus the original should be placed in a signed and sealed envelope since U&GP is not responsible for making copies.

Number of Classes / Credits

1. How many classes or credits does the applicant have to be enrolled in each semester?

Answer to Number of Classes/ Credits Question 1:

This message is in response to your request regarding the number of classes or credits an applicant has to be enrolled in. The 2014 DDETFP requirements state:

Applicants of the Eisenhower Graduate Fellowship Recipients must:

- *Possess a baccalaureate degree from an accredited U.S. Institution;*
- *Be enrolled in an accredited U.S. Institution of higher education*
- *Be pursuing a degree in a full-time program in a transportation-related discipline*
- *Have at least one full academic year remaining in program of study;*
- *Conduct ongoing research in one or more transportation-related disciplines; and*
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Non-U.S. citizens must attach a valid copy of their I-20 or I-551 ID issued by the U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Service (CIS).

Full time enrollment is defined by the institution that you will be attending. Please note that you must have one full academic year remaining in your program.

Transcript

1. I am in a Master Degree Program; do I need a transcript from my undergraduate institution?

Answer to Transcript Question 1:

Yes. You should provide a transcript from each institution you have received a degree from and the institution you are currently attending.

2. Do I need to submit two (2) copies of each transcript? Can the school mail these directly to you?

Answer to Transcript Question 2:

You are required to provide one (1) official sealed transcript (to the official address) and one (1) unsealed copy (sent with your application materials). The school can send the official transcript. You should include the unofficial copy with your submittal. Please note, your completed application must be received in the Universities and Grants Programs (U&GP) office by the due date. There are no exceptions for incomplete or late applications.

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