

Jay Jordan IFLA / OCLC Early Career Development Fellowship Program: 2019 Guidelines

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Program Overview

The Jay Jordan IFLA / OCLC Early Career Development Fellowship Program provides early career development and continuing education for library and information science professionals from countries with developing economies. The program is jointly sponsored by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and OCLC.

On an annual basis, program sponsors select up to five individuals to participate in a four-week intensive Fellowship program based at OCLC's headquarters in Dublin, Ohio, USA. Topics and issues include information technologies and their impact on libraries, library operations and management, and global cooperative librarianship.

Fellows visit selected libraries and cultural heritage institutions, meet with leading information professionals and observe OCLC's governance structure in action. The Fellows gain insight into issues affecting global library cooperation and are exposed to the governance of a global library cooperative. Key services and activities of program sponsors IFLA and OCLC are highlighted. Fellows have numerous opportunities to meet leading practitioners and discuss real-world solutions to the challenges facing libraries today.

Fellows translate their learning and experiences into specific professional development plans that guide their continued growth as well as their personal contributions to their home institutions and country of origin.

Key Dates

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| 2019 Program Applications Accepted..... | August 2018 – 28 September 2018 |
| 2019 Application Deadline..... | 28 September 2018 |
| 2019 Applicant Selection Process | October – December 2018 |
| 2019 Award Announcement | January 2019 |
| 2019 Program..... | 16 March – 12 April 2019 |

Eligibility

Promising library and information science professionals who are in early stages of career development and who meet all of the qualifications are encouraged to apply.

Applicants must:

- Be employed in a library or information center.
- Be a legal national from a qualifying country (see Qualifying Countries) and be working as a librarian or information science professional in that country.
- Have a qualifying degree in library or information science. The qualifying degree may vary depending upon country of origin, but should be the general library or information science degree recognized in the country.
- Have obtained the qualifying degree within the past five years.
- Have at least three years, but no more than eight years, of library or information science experience.
- Read and speak English proficiently.
- Be prepared to work as a team member with other Fellows and to participate as required in this fast-paced program.
- Have a valid passport.
- Be able to obtain documentation permitting legal entry into the United States or any other country required for program participation.
- Provide documentation from your employer confirming support for your application and willingness to release you from work to travel to the United States for participation in the four-week Fellowship Program.

Application Procedures

For consideration, qualified applicants must prepare and submit a complete application package that includes the application form, two letters of recommendation with original signatures, and a letter from their employer confirming support for their application and willingness to release the applicant from work to travel to the United States for participation in the four-week Fellowship Program. Finalists will be required to submit an electronic copy of their qualifying library or information science degree before the Fellowship is awarded and a J-1 visa granted. The application, recommendation letters and employer support letter must be in English and received no later than 28 September 2018. Submit **ONLY** the four documents; no additional materials will be accepted or reviewed. Details are found in the 2019 Application.

Selection Process and Award Notification

All application materials received by the deadline will be reviewed for completeness and responsiveness to the application criteria. **Materials (applications, letters of recommendation and employer support letter) received after 28 September 2018 will not be considered.** Due to high volume, committee members will not respond to inquiries about application status.

A specially appointed Selection Committee, comprised of representatives from the sponsoring organizations, will evaluate and score the applications and propose award winners to the Program Director, Education and Professional Development, OCLC, who shall have final selection authority. Award recipients will be contacted via email in December 2018 to confirm their participation. Award recipients will be announced in January 2019 in an OCLC-issued news release. Names of award recipients will be posted on the OCLC website.

Provisions of Award

The award provides the following for each Fellow:

- Airfare, coach class, from the recipient's home country to the United States and return trip to the recipient's home country (transportation to and from the airport in the recipient's home country is the responsibility of the award recipient). Note: All travel arrangements must be made through OCLC's travel agency.
- Transportation related to library visits (arranged by OCLC).
- Lodging (arranged by OCLC).
- Subsistence, including meals.
- Medical insurance (arranged by OCLC).

The award does not provide for (and award recipient is responsible for):

- Any costs associated with preparing and submitting an application.
- Any costs associated with obtaining a valid passport, passport photo, visas, document processing, or other costs associated with entering the United States or any other country legally except as noted, above.
- Any costs associated with medical treatment that is not covered by medical insurance.
- Any costs associated with travel unrelated to Fellowship activities, entertainment, personal effects, clothing, toiletries, souvenirs, or other incidental expenses incurred by the award recipient.
- Any costs other than those specifically enumerated, above.

Limitations and Liabilities

Participation in the program is contingent upon the award recipient being able to obtain the legal documentation (passport, visas and other materials) needed for program participation. By accepting the award, the award recipient assumes all risk for illness, injury (including death) or other mishap that he or she may suffer during his or her presence in the United States and during travel to, from, or within the United States or any other country. IFLA and OCLC shall have no liability of any type for any such occurrence.

Qualifying Countries

Qualified applicants must be a legal national from a qualifying country and be working as a librarian or information science professional in that country. *Note: Fellows must be able to obtain documentation permitting legal entry into the United States or any other country required for program participation.*

Qualifying countries for the 2019 IFLA/OCLC Fellowship Program include all countries **except** those whose economies are listed as High Income on the World Bank List of Economies (June 2018). The table below lists those countries **excluded** for 2019 IFLA/OCLC Fellowship Program qualification. If your country is NOT listed below, and you meet all program qualifications, you are encouraged to apply for the Fellowship Program.

| World Bank List of Economies – High Income Countries, 2018 June Countries Excluded for 2019 IFLA/OCLC Fellowship Program Participation | | | |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Andorra | Antigua and Barbuda | Argentina | Aruba |
| Australia | Austria | Bahamas | Bahrain |
| Barbados | Belgium | Bermuda | British Virgin Islands |
| Brunei Darussalam | Canada | Cayman Islands | Channel Islands |
| Chile | Croatia | Curacao | Cyprus |
| Czech Republic | Denmark | Estonia | Faroe Islands |
| Finland | France | French Polynesia | Germany |
| Gibraltar | Greece | Greenland | Guam |
| Hong Kong SAR, China | Hungary | Iceland | Ireland |
| Isle of Man | Israel | Italy | Japan |
| Korea, Rep. | Kuwait | Latvia | Liechtenstein |
| Lithuania | Luxembourg | Macao SAR, China | Malta |
| Monaco | Netherlands | New Caledonia | New Zealand |
| Northern Mariana Islands | Norway | Oman | Palau |
| Panama | Poland | Portugal | Puerto Rico |
| Qatar | San Marino | Saudi Arabia | Seychelles |
| Singapore | Sint Maarten (Dutch part) | Slovak Republic | Slovenia |
| Spain | St. Kitts and Nevis | St. Martin (French part) | Sweden |
| Switzerland | Taiwan, China | Trinidad and Tobago | Turks and Caicos Islands |
| United Arab Emirates | United Kingdom | United States | Uruguay |
| Virgin Islands (U.S.) | | | |