

Fulbright South Australia Scholarship Launched

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Talented young postgraduate and postdoctoral scholars in South Australia (SA) will now have the additional option to apply for a specific Fulbright Scholarship in their own state.

SA Minister for Employment, Training and Further Education, the Hon. Michael O'Brien MP announced on Thursday, 2 April that the SA Government will invest \$150,000 to establish the first Fulbright South Australia Scholarship.

Flinders University, the University of Adelaide, and the University of South Australia will each contribute \$100,000 to the Scholarship, with further support to be raised from companies and individuals.

The Fulbright South Australia Scholarship was launched at a reception held at Flinders University City Gallery in the State Library, North Terrace.

The new Fulbright South Australia Scholarship will enable a talented young person from the state to benefit from the opportunity to spend a year in the United States to further their research or study.

Minister O'Brien welcomed the establishment of a dedicated Fulbright South Australia State Scholarship.

"While South Australian students continue to be consistently successful in the national selection process, the competition for a limited number of awards is understandably very strong," Mr O'Brien said.

"The Fulbright South Australia State Scholarship is an opportunity for extraordinary South Australians to participate in a world-renowned program, with 12 months of postgraduate study in the United States."

U.S. Consul General in Melbourne and Australian-American Fulbright Commission Board member, Mr Michael Thurston, congratulated the SA Government and the SA universities on the establishment of the Fulbright SA Scholarship.

"I commend the SA Government and the SA universities for investing in this state Scholarship. It demonstrates their willingness to support both educational opportunities for their residents and to build further bilateral relations with the United States."

"Winners of this Scholarship will find that being in the U.S. will help to further their careers, broaden their cultural horizons, and develop long-term links that will benefit both themselves and their state."

The scholarship is valued at up to \$50,000 with the first applications to be invited in June this year. The winner will be a postgraduate or postdoctoral student whose project is judged to have the greatest potential benefit for SA.

The Fulbright Program is the world's largest bi-national education exchange program, operating in over 150 countries. More than 2,600 Australians and 2000 U.S. Scholars have already benefited from the Australian-American program.