



THE LANE KIRKLAND SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM

Polish-American Freedom Foundation

Founder of the Program
and

Leaders of Change Foundation

Program Administrator

announce an open competition for candidates from
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia and Ukraine

for

THE LANE KIRKLAND SCHOLARSHIPS in Poland in the 2018-2019 academic year

The Program is addressed to young leaders, holding Master's (or equivalent) university degrees, who are determined to be actively involved in the development of democracy, economy and civil society in their countries and the region. The program includes two semesters of study at Polish universities (in Warszawa, Kraków, Wrocław, Poznań and Lublin) and two or more weeks professional internships in public and private institutions.

The candidates who are planning to return to their countries of origin after the scholarship program for the purpose of implementing the newly acquired knowledge therein are welcome to submit their applications.

FIELDS:

- Economics and Management
- Administration / Management (i.e. business, NGOs, culture, environment protection and healthcare, education)
- Public Administration (Central and Local Government Administration)
- Law
- Social Sciences (Social Psychology, Sociology)
- Political Science and International Relations
- Development Policy and Humanitarian Aid

Receiving a diploma is conditional on preparing and defending diploma thesis. Diploma thesis shall be of theoretical or practical character.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

- Monthly stipend paid to Kirkland grantees for nine months: 1800 PLN/month.
- Free of charge access to academic courses is free of charge

In addition, the Program administrator provides the following (worth approx. 4200 PLN/month):

- Accommodation in Poland during nine months
- Health insurance for medical outpatient care, treatment costs in case of emergency and civil liability insurance
- one return ticket to Poland (up to agreed amount)
- public transportation cards;

- visa costs
- research materials (up to 2700/year)
- Participation in the orientation program and grantees conventions,
- Polish language course (October- May).

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:

- Inauguration of the Program (mid-Sept 2018)
- Orientation (10 days)
- Classes at universities (two semesters) in leading Polish academic centers, such as Warsaw, Kraków, Poznań, Lublin or Wrocław
- Preparation of two semester papers and one diploma paper
- Four conventions of all Kirkland grantees
- Personal development and animation activities
- 2-4 weeks of professional internship (usually upon completion of the academic program)
- Closing ceremony – final diplomas (end of June 2019)

CANDIDATES:

The 2018/19 Kirkland scholarships are addressed to individuals who represent the following professional groups:

- civil servants, employees of central and local government institutions
- lawyers
- entrepreneurs,
- managers in business, NGOs, culture, education, environmental protection, healthcare
- leaders of non-governmental organizations, animators in culture and civic activity
- academic teachers
- journalists

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- Citizenship and permanent residence in one of the targeted countries (holders of permanent residence card in Poland are ineligible)
- Master's degree
- Up to 35 years of age (in special cases up to 40)
- At least 2 years of professional experience
- At least two years between any previous foreign scholarships (lasting longer than 6 months) and your application
- Polish language proficiency adequate to effectively attend lectures and seminars as well as to prepare a diploma project. During the interview candidates are required to speak Polish at least at the B1 level.
- Studies within the Kirkland Program are realised in Polish or English (studies in English are not possible for candidates from Belarus and Ukraine), however, only in Polish it is possible to fully use the educational offer at Polish universities and the professional internship offered in program. Candidates from Belarus and Ukraine and the others planning to study in Polish, at the start of the scholarship must demonstrate knowledge of the Polish language at a level that allows the use of academic activities and allowing the writing of a diploma thesis (B2). During the interview, knowledge of Polish is advisable at least at level B1. Candidates who pass the qualification in terms of content, but do not know Polish well enough, will have the opportunity to continue learning the language (the Program Administrator provides study materials) and pass the language exam organized at the turn of July and August 2018.

Candidates from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Russia, planning to study in English are required to indicate a specific educational offer in that language in the above-mentioned five academic centers. These persons are required, during the interview, to speak English at

least at B2 level and have the basic knowledge of the Polish language - A1 level. Candidates who pass the qualification in terms of content, but not sufficiently know Polish, have the opportunity to continue learning the language (Administrator provides study materials) and pass the language exam organized at the turn of July and August 2018.)

PREFERENCES:

- candidates actively working in their professional and social fields
- candidates who have significant achievements
- candidates who have not studied in Poland yet

SELECTION PROCESS:

Approximately 45 best individuals will be selected in a 3-stage evaluation process of candidates:

- I. Review of applications with regard to eligibility criteria
- II. Review of candidates' proposed projects of study by independent experts
- III. Interviews (planned on 30 March-30 April 2018)

The candidates advanced to the third stage will be notified by e-mail or phone. Information on the final nominations will be mailed to the candidates in June 2018.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

1. Application form on-line
 - a) detailed personal questionnaire
 - b) proposed program of study in Poland explaining the purpose of participation in the Kirkland Program and including the future plans connected with its completion (not exceeding 4,000-6,000 characters with spaces)
2. Two letters of reference (in Polish, English or Russian), describing the achievements and qualifications of the candidate as well as the expectations connected with the candidate's further development and work in her/his professional or social field – to be submitted by e-mail
3. Copy of Master's degree diploma (or PhD diploma) – to be submitted by e-mail

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

Description of the program and detailed application instructions can be obtained directly from the following website: www.kirkland.edu.pl.

They can also be requested by e-mail, mail or phone from the Program Office.

Application forms should be filled on-line. After the on-line application is completed, the system will generate a confirmation document. The candidate is required to print out the document, sign it and send it to the Program Office by regular post with a photo of the candidate attached.

Two letters of reference and copy of diploma should be scanned and send by e-mailed at:

kirkland@kirkland.edu.pl

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Application forms and relevant documents should be received by the Program Office no later than:

March 1, 2018

Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

THE PROGRAM PATRON

The Program is named after **Lane Kirkland**, who passed away in 1999, the legendary trade union leader (AFL-CIO), member of the Polish-American Enterprise Fund Board of Directors and promoter of the Polish-American Freedom Foundation. In the 1980's, he wholeheartedly supported the Solidarity movement and backed it during the underground years. He also supported the aspirations for freedom of other peoples of Central and Eastern Europe. He was awarded the highest distinctions, including the American "Medal of Freedom" and the Polish "Order of the White Eagle".

CONTACT:

Leaders of Change Foundation

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POLSKO-AMERYKAŃSKA
FUNDACJA WOLNOŚCI



POLISH-AMERICAN
FREEDOM FOUNDATION

POLISH-AMERICAN FREEDOM FOUNDATION (Program Founder)

The Foundation launched its activity in 2000. The main goal of the Foundation is to advance democracy, civil society, equal opportunities and market economy in Poland, as well as share Polish experiences in transformation with Central and Eastern European countries. PAFF finances its activities from revenues generated by its endowment (\$250 million), the source of which are assets of the Polish-American Enterprise Fund. Since 2000, the Foundation has disbursed over \$140 million for its programs.

The Foundation's programs are administered by various Polish non-governmental organizations in line with the Foundation's principles and procedures.

The Lane Kirkland Scholarship Program, launched in 2000 is a long-term endeavor of the Polish-American Freedom Foundation. Additional information about the Foundation and its programs:

www.pafw.pl



LEADERS OF CHANGE FOUNDATION (FLP) – Program Administrator

The Foundation was established in February 2016 by the Polish-American Freedom Foundation. The main activities of the Foundation include administration of the long-term programs financed by the Polish-American Freedom Foundation: The Lane Kirkland Scholarship Program and "Study Tours to Poland" Program. The Foundation also co-organizes on behalf of the Polish-American Freedom Foundation the Warsaw Euro-Atlantic Summer Academy (WEASA).

All the Programs were transferred to the new Foundation together with the teams who have been responsible for their creation for years. A combination of programs with similar profiles and participation of new persons in their co-creation constitute an opportunity to expand and enrich our activities. We would like to have a broad offer addressed to those who are willing to benefit from experiences of active people from East Europe, the Caucasus region and Central Asia. In collaboration with academic facilities and institutions in the public and NGO sectors, we also hope to offer some new forms of internships and research stays in Poland.

We gather people who believe in the power of change.

Additional information about the Foundation is available online:

www.leadersofchange.pl