

2020-2021 Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Research Program for U.S. Teachers (Fulbright DA)

Greece Country Profile

Partner organization: [United States Educational Foundation in Greece](#) (Fulbright Foundation – Greece)

Eligible program dates: Mid-January through mid-June (teachers going to Greece will start their programs in mid-January and end no later than mid-June; program lengths can vary from 3 to 5 months)

Language requirement: None

Host institution: U.S. teachers applying for the Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Program in Greece may propose to work on projects at host institutions in the following cities: Athens, Thessaloniki, Ioannina, Patras, Alexandroupolis, Rethymno (Crete) and Rhodes (Dodecanese).



Dependent Information: An allowance of \$2,000 per eligible dependent will be provided as part of the Fulbright DA grant. The Fulbright Foundation – Greece will provide guidance to U.S. teachers and their dependents to obtain visas and will assist in the residence permit application process. Visas and residence permits are required for stays longer than three months. When possible, dependents will be included in events of educational/cultural interest. Families with children in preschool, kindergarten, primary or secondary school will be assisted in locating a private school if such help is needed. Upon request, the Fulbright Foundation – Greece can also provide assistance in negotiating better prices rates at prospective schools. Tuition at private schools in Greece ranges from approximately 4,000 to 7,500 euro per semester.

Country Overview

Situated on the southern tip of the Balkan Peninsula, Greece is located at the crossroads of Europe, Asia, and Africa. It shares land borders with Albania to the northwest, North Macedonia and Bulgaria to the north, and Turkey to the northeast. The Aegean Sea lies to the east of the mainland, the Ionian Sea to the west, the Cretan Sea and the Mediterranean Sea to the south. Greece has the longest coastline on the Mediterranean Basin and the 11th longest coastline in the world, featuring many islands, of which 227 are inhabited. Eighty percent of Greece is mountainous, with Mount Olympus being the highest peak at 2,918 metres (9,573 ft). The country consists of nine geographic regions: Macedonia, Central Greece, the Peloponnese,



Thessaly, Epirus, the Aegean Islands (including the Dodecanese and Cyclades), Thrace, Crete, and the Ionian Islands. Its population is 10.7 million.

Greece is considered the cradle of Western civilization, being the birthplace of democracy, Western philosophy, Western literature, historiography, political science, major scientific and mathematical principles, Western drama and, notably, the Olympic Games. The Greek Orthodox Church, which emerged in the first century A.D., helped shape modern Greek identity and transmitted Greek traditions to the wider Orthodox world. Falling under Ottoman dominion in the mid-15th century, the modern nation state of Greece emerged in 1830 following a war of independence.

The sovereign state of Greece is a unitary parliamentary republic and developed country with an advanced high-income economy, a high quality of life, and a high standard of living. Its economy is the largest in the Balkans, where it is an important regional investor. A founding member of the United Nations, Greece was the tenth member to join the European Communities (precursor to the European Union) and has been part of the Eurozone since 2001.

Greece's unique cultural heritage, large tourism industry, prominent shipping sector and geostrategic importance classify it as a middle power. The country's rich historical legacy is reflected in part by its 18 UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Educational System Overview

Education in Greece is governed by the Ministry of Culture, Education and Religious Affairs and is therefore entirely centralized. The curriculum for all schools, both private and public, is provided by the Ministry. The aim of the government is to provide free and equal education for all.

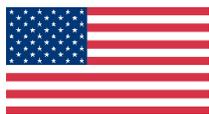
For more information on the Greek Educational System and Facts about Greece, review The Greek Educational System page on the Fulbright Foundation – Greece's website at: www.fulbright.gr/en/study-in-greece/the-greek-educational-system.

Further resources about Study in Greece can be found at:

- <https://www.fulbright.gr/en/study-in-greece>
- fulbright.gr/en/resources/study-in-greece

Possible topics of interest to U.S. educators:

- English is the second language in Greece and all pupils and students are expected to have a good grasp on the language. Teaching English as a foreign language requires constant innovation and application of new technologies and/or games in the classroom as an introduction to cinema, drama, and literature. The influx of immigrant and refugee children has increased the need for creative teaching.



- Revival of the Classics in American education: Greek language, ancient literature, oratory, philosophy, law, politics, history. How relevant is a classical education today? Greece is the perfect place to reflect on the virtues and setbacks of Western classical education.
- STEM education in Greece: for practically every scientific subject there is an ancient root in Greece. Follow in the footsteps of ancient medical students who flocked to Kos to learn from the father of medicine, Hippocrates. In mathematics and science there are countless examples to inspire young people back home, including Pythagoras with his Pythagorean Theorem, Democritus and his atomic theory of the universe, and Archimedes, the greatest mathematician of his time and one of the greatest of all time for his remarkable achievements, like his method for determining the volume of irregular shapes through displacement of water among others. STEM teachers in Greece are prone on improving their students' performances.
- For youth to become effective thinkers and ethical global citizens, preparation is a must and a wholesome view of education is needed to bridge the transition from secondary to tertiary education and from education to the workplace. New concepts have come to the fore such as soft skills, social entrepreneurship, and service learning. To that effect, students need to be trained in public speaking and presentation skills and in resume and curriculum vitae writing.
- On the global agenda is inclusive education and provision for students with diverse learning needs. Inclusiveness based on disability, race, language, religion, gender, and poverty is as much of an issue in Greece as elsewhere.
- Teachers will have the opportunity to participate in and contribute to Train the Trainers workshops for secondary school educators that are organized once to twice a year in various locations in the country. The Fulbright Education Network–Greece is an additional initiative with the objective of organizing annual get-togethers for the exchange of teaching practice methodologies, project outcomes, counseling case studies and pedagogical insights with the broader educational community. It particularly aims at forging connections and collaborations between educators, as well as promoting cross-cultural understanding and interdisciplinary education.

