

Fulbright Austria chapters

“Chapter” is the new term! Starting a new chapter and getting that chapter off the ground entails work. If you are ready for that challenge and commitment, then we have created this guideline to help you.

How do we define a chapter?

A Fulbright Austria chapter is a community initiative to create a local branch in an area outside of Vienna, Austria. This initiative is supported by Fulbright Austria and organized and run by alum members, and it needs to be voluntary and free of charge. We understand our alum community is dynamic, and we know there are a number of topics and fields the community is interested in—and that our events and activities might not always be able to dive deep enough into the needs of a particular group within our community. As a result, if you are interested in bringing together members of the community in your local area to exchange experiences, swap know-how, or create thematically driven networking events, then a local chapter will be just the solution you’re looking for.

Why have a chapter in the first place?

A chapter is perfect for a group of like-minded individuals to meet and exchange on a number of topics, a group that, in essence, supports the community at large and upholds the Fulbright spirit. Whether it’s helping newly arrived program participants acclimate to their new surroundings, creating visibility for our program participants’ academic excellence, raising money for a grant, or creating symposia on a particular topic, the options are endless.

What is the objective of a chapter?

A chapter should meet on a regular basis (a minimal frequency of two times per year), organize activities to promote the Fulbright mission and support the community at large, meet online or in person, and be free of annual dues. Like Fulbright Austria, the chapter should also be committed to building meaningful relationships with Fulbright Austria’s current and future program participants, alums, partners, and local community members.

What steps are needed to start a chapter?

Once you decide to start a chapter, we require each chapter to:

- Sign a chapter agreement with Fulbright Austria
 - An agreement between both parties will stipulate
 - the chapter’s relationship with Fulbright Austria,
 - the use of Fulbright Austria’s trademarks by a chapter,
 - guidelines for the approval of an event/activity prior to the event/activity,
 - the chapter’s yearly reporting and recording of its activities and officers, and
 - how a chapter’s status may be revoked.
- Provide the names of the organizers/contact people
- Define the chapter’s focus (e.g., description and geography)
- Specify the meeting location or define the setup of a varying-location meeting arrangement