

U.S. Scholar Program: Common Terminal Degrees

[Award descriptions](#) specify where a Ph.D., other terminal degree, or comparable professional qualifications are required. Please read the award description carefully.

A terminal degree refers to the highest degree awarded in a field. The degree level can vary by academic and professional field, as not all terminal degrees are doctorates. If a terminal degree is required, degree conferment before the fellowship start date is mandatory. ([Eligibility](#))

The following is a list of common terminal degrees, organized by discipline group. For any questions, please contact the IIE staff member listed in the award description.

Arts*

Master of Fine Arts (MFA)
Master of Architecture (MArch)
Master of Arts in Journalism (MA Journalism)
Master of Arts in Museum Studies (MAMSt)
Master of Journalism (MAJ)
Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA)
Master of Music/Musical Arts (MM)
Master of Science in Architecture (MSArch)
Master of Science in Journalism (MSJ
Journalism)
Doctor of Arts (DA)
Doctor of Design (DD)
Doctor of Fine Arts (DFA)
Doctor of Music Education (DME)
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

*Also includes architecture, creative writing, and journalism.

Business

Doctor of Business Administration (DBA)
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
Juris Doctor / Doctor of Jurisprudence (JD)

Education*

Doctor of Education (EdD)
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
Doctor of Teaching Arts (DAT or DTA)

*For Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL), a Master of Arts or Master of Education may be accepted; see award for specifics.

Health

Doctor of Dental Science (DDS)
Doctor of Medicine (MD)
Doctor of Nursing/Nursing Practice (DN/DNP)
Doctor of Nursing Science (DNSci)
Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD)
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT)
Doctor of Psychology (PsyD)
Doctor of Public Health (DPH)
Doctor of Social Work (DSW)
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM)

Humanities

Doctor of Divinity (DDiv)
Doctor of Hebrew Letters (DHL)
Doctor of Modern Languages (DML)
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
Doctor of (Sacred) Theology (ThD/STD)

Sciences

Doctor of Engineering (DEng)
Doctor of Industrial Technology (DIT)
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
Doctor of Science (DSci or ScD)
Doctor of Technology (DT)

Social Sciences

Master of Library Science (MLS)
Juris Doctor / Doctor of Jurisprudence (JD/SJD)
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
Doctor of Psychology (PsyD)
Doctor of Public Administration (DPA)