



**GERMANY PROGRAM 2012
FOR BROADCAST JOURNALISTS
Summer & Fall 2012**

German-American Journalist Exchange

Program Application — Introduction

Since 1993 the RIAS sponsored journalist exchange in Germany has been a two week program for broadcast journalists who work in radio, television, or online. The program starts in Berlin with visits and meetings across this historic city, and moves to former East German cities such as Leipzig, Potsdam or Dresden to see changes that have transpired since unification.

The program itinerary always includes a stop in Brussels, home to both NATO and the European Union, where there are programs detailing the roles for each organization. The program often concludes with a day or two in another major German city.

Program applicants must be full time broadcast journalists, either staff or freelance hires. While knowledge and familiarity of German is preferred, it is not a requirement. We ask that applicants have a minimum of three years of continued professional journalism experience prior to applying for the program.

RIAS BERLIN COMMISSION offers a limited number of program places in the summer to journalism school graduates in broadcasting (M.A. recipients or outstanding B.A. recipients with prior working experience).

Program applicants may apply for an extension in Germany of up to one week to cover stories, pursue individual research projects, or intern in a division of a German radio or television station. This request must be made at the time of the initial application.

The RIAS exchange is a comprehensive fellowship, providing participants with r/t air travel from their home market to Germany, ground and air travel in and across Germany, and hotel accommodations during the program. Many meals are also provided during the program. Participants seeking extensions also receive travel and accommodation coverage.

APPLICATION PACKAGE

The following material should be included in your application package.

- 1: completed application forms
- 2: résumé / CV
- 3: nominating/recommendation letter from your supervisor
- 4: two essays (see application form page 2)

PROGRAM DATES & DEADLINES

Summer program 2012: June 11–24, 2012. **Application deadline: March 1, 2012.**

Summer program 2012 extension: June 24–30, 2012 (apply with your program application).

Fall program 2012: September 3–16, 2012. **Application deadline: June 1, 2012.**

Fall program 2012 extension: September 16–21, 2012 (apply with your program application).

Applicants are apprised of their status within one month of the application deadline.

SEND

All application materials should be sent either by mail or email to:

Jon Ebinger
Journalist Exchange Program Director
RTDNF
529 14th Street, NW, Suite 425
Washington, D.C. 20045
jon@rtdnf.org



**GERMANY PROGRAM 2012
FOR BROADCAST JOURNALISTS**
() Summer () Fall () request for extension

APPLICANT NAME _____
LAST FIRST MIDDLE

NEWS ORGANIZATION _____

POSITION _____

DIRECT SUPERVISOR _____
NAME TITLE EMAIL

INDIRECT SUPERVISOR _____
NAME TITLE EMAIL

BUSINESS ADDRESS _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____
BUSINESS HOME CELL

BUSINESS EMAIL _____

PRIVATE EMAIL _____

PREFERRED MAIL AND EMAIL ADDRESS () WORK () HOME

DATE OF BIRTH _____

CITIZENSHIP () U.S. () OTHER _____

DO YOU HAVE A VALID PASSPORT? () YES () NO



ACADEMIC HISTORY _____

COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE

GRADUATE DEGREE

OTHER FORMAL ACADEMIC STUDIES

NAME AND LOCATION OF HIGH SCHOOL

WORK EXPERIENCE _____ TOTAL YEARS OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISM

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY **PLEASE ATTACH RESUME / CV**



**GERMANY PROGRAM 2012
FOR BROADCAST JOURNALISTS**
() Summer () Fall () request for extension

APPLICANT NAME _____
LAST FIRST MIDDLE

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT RIAS? _____

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE _____

OTHER FELLOWSHIPS YOU HAVE APPLIED FOR OR HAVE BEEN SELECTED FOR _____

RATE YOUR GERMAN LANGUAGE SKILLS () EXCELLENT () GOOD () FAIR () POOR () NONE

I certify that all information in this application is correct and valid, and that, if accepted, I understand the RIAS BERLIN COMMISSION broadcast journalist exchange in Germany will require me to attend and participate in program activities over a two week period.

SIGNATURE DATE



ESSAYS TO SUBMIT

MAIN ESSAY Compose an essay of 500 words (or slightly less) on why you want to participate in the German-American Journalist exchange program, how it will benefit you, and how it will help your station.

- SELECT AND ANSWER ANY TWO OF THESE QUESTIONS IN NO MORE THAN 500 WORDS EACH**
1. What impact did the 2011 Japanese earthquake and tsunami have on German politics?
 2. How do you see the public debt loads and deficits affecting Germany, Europe, and the United States? In what way is the European response similar or different from American remedies to fix the debt problems?
 3. Germany has been reunited since October 3, 1990. Would you say, "mission accomplished" or are there still significant challenges in the region formerly known as the German Democratic Republic (GDR).
 4. What do you think are the most important political issues in today's Germany and today's Europe?
 5. As German Chancellor, Angela Merkel has been a regular visitor to the United States. If you had the chance to be at her press conference, which questions would you ask her?
 6. Do you think the trans-Atlantic relationship is still relevant, or will this shift to a closer Pacific cooperation between the United States and Asia in the 21st century, leaving "Old Europe" behind?