



**GERMANY PROGRAM
FOR BROADCAST JOURNALISTS
Summer & Fall 2009**

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 to journalism school graduates in broadcasting (MA recipients or outstanding BA 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 2009: **June 13/14 – 28, 2009. Application deadline: March 1, 2009.**

Summer program 2009 extension: **June 28 – July 3, 2009** (apply with your program application).

Fall program 2009: **September 12/13 – 27, 2009. Application deadline: June 1, 2009.**

Fall program 2009 extension: **September 27 – October 2, 2009.** (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 by a chosen means to:

Jon Ebinger
Journalist Exchange Program Director
RTNDF
1025 F Street, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20004

(202) 467-5250 direct, (202) 223-4007 fax
jon@rtndf.org



**GERMANY PROGRAM 2009
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/FAX _____
BUSINESS HOME FAX

BUSINESS EMAIL _____

PRIVATE EMAIL _____

PREFERRED MAIL AND EMAIL ADDRESS () WORK () HOME

DATE OF BIRTH _____

CITIZENSHIP () US () 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 _____ TOYAL YEARS OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISM

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY **PLEASE ATTACH RESUME / CV**





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() Summer () Fall () request for extension

APPLICANT NAME _____
LAST FIRST MIDDLE

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT RIAS? _____

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE _____

OTHER FELLOWSHIPS YOU 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 FOUR QUESTIONS IN NO MORE THAN 500 WORDS EACH

1. How would you characterize German-US relations at the moment?
2. How do you see the global financial crisis affecting Germany and Europe, and what do you see being done in Europe to address the situation? In what way is the European response similar or different from what the Americans are attempting to do to fix these problems?
3. Germany has been reunited since October 3, 1990, and even today work continues to make the country whole. What are the primary challenges that continue to make unification a talking point these years after the fall of the wall on November 9, 1989?
4. Highly industrialized and developed nations like the United States and Germany face similar economic and social challenges. Please cite those which you see posing the greatest challenge, and about which you would be interested in exploring further during your European study program.