U.S. Embassy Kabul
Human Resources Office

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT: Political Assistant (FSN-8)

Announcement Number: 12-035

OPEN TO: All Interested Candidates

POSITION: Political Assistant (FSN-08)
Position is based in Baraki Barak district of Logar province.

OPENING DATE: March 8, 2012

CLOSING DATE: March 22, 2012

WORK HOURS: Full-time, 40 hours/week

Note: The duty position will be served under austere conditions with limited comforts. Individual will participate in both mounted and dismounted patrols. The possibility of hostile fire, both direct and indirect exists, as well as the potential exposure to IEDs. Movement over rough terrain for distances up to 8 km or more on foot is possible. Movement by aircraft is common. Movement outside the ISAF base is frequent. Individual may be required to wear body armor and carry additional personal gear for extended periods of time in varied weather conditions, from extreme heat to extreme cold.

NOTE: ALL ORDINARILY RESIDENT APPLICANTS MUST HAVE THE REQUIRED WORK AND/OR RESIDENCY PERMITS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION.

The U.S. Embassy in Kabul is seeking an individual for the position of Political Assistant with a District Support Team (DST) Office. The successful applicant will be assigned to a DST located in Logar Province.

BASIC FUNCTION OF POSITION:

Incumbent will serve as political assistant for the Department of State Governance Lead of DST Baraki Barak, located COP Baraki Barak in Baraki Barak District in Logar Province. Must be a proven self-starter and have the ability to work independently. Develop and maintain contacts with appropriate provincial Afghan officials, NGO experts, and civil society representatives related to the work of the U.S. governance and development team for DST Baraki Barak. Identify key figures and assist USG officers in establishing new relationships. Provide written and oral updates and analysis on sub-national governance policy, Afghan reintegration efforts, elections, domestic politics, and foreign relations. Flag important events reported in local media relevant to USG civilian and military efforts in Baraki Barak District.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED

NOTE: All applicants must address each selection criterion detailed below with specific and comprehensive information supporting each item.

Education: Completion of Secondary (High) School is required.
Experience: Two years political related experience with National or international organizations, foreign affairs offices, or as an official English language interpreter/translator or liaison for US or Afghan government offices is required.
Language: Level IV (fluent) speaking/reading in English and Pashto; level III (good working knowledge) speaking/reading in Dari language is required.

Knowledge: Should have general knowledge of Afghan government organization and functions; a working knowledge of international reconstruction and development efforts in Afghanistan and the ability to convey that knowledge to local government officials is required.
Abilities and Skills: Ability to communicate at a professional level, familiarity with political and military terminology. Ability to interact with a wide network of Afghan contacts to track events and issues. Ability to draft spot reporting on political and reconstruction issues. Ability to prioritize work assignments and projects. Ability to write reports in English, and good knowledge of Microsoft Office suite is required.

SELECTION PROCESS

When fully qualified, U.S. Citizen Eligible Family Members (USEFMs) and U.S. Veterans are given preference. Therefore, it is essential that the candidate specifically address the required qualifications above in the application.

ADDITIONAL SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Management will consider nepotism/conflict of interest, budget, and residency status in determining successful candidacy.

2. Current employees serving a probationary period are not eligible to apply.

3. Current Ordinarily Resident employees with an Overall Summary Rating of Needs Improvement or Unsatisfactory on their most recent Employee Performance Report are not eligible to apply.

4. Currently employed U.S. Citizen EFMs who hold a Family Member Appointment (FMA) are ineligible to apply for advertised positions within the first 90 calendar days of their employment.

5. Currently employed NORs hired under a Personal Services Agreement (PSA) are ineligible to apply for advertised positions within the first 90 calendar days of their employment unless currently hired into a position with a When Actually Employed (WAE) work schedule.

6. The candidate must be able to obtain U.S. Mission Regional Security Office (RSO) and Health Unit clearances.

HOW TO APPLY

Interested candidates for this position must submit the following for consideration of the application:

> 1. Universal Application for Employment as a Locally Employed Staff (DS-174). Candidates may also send a current resumé or curriculum vitae in addition to the Form DS-174, but in all cases, the DS-174 must be submitted in order for the candidate to receive consideration for this vacancy. The DS-174 form is available on the U.S. Embassy website http://kabul.usembassy.gov
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> 2. Candidates who claim U.S. Veterans preference must provide a copy of their Form DD-214 with their application. Candidates who claim conditional U.S. Veterans preference must submit documentation confirming eligibility for a conditional preference in hiring with their application.

3. Any other documentation (e.g., essays, certificates, awards) that addresses the qualification requirements of the position as listed above.

SUBMIT APPLICATION TO

Human Resources Office, U.S. Embassy Kabul

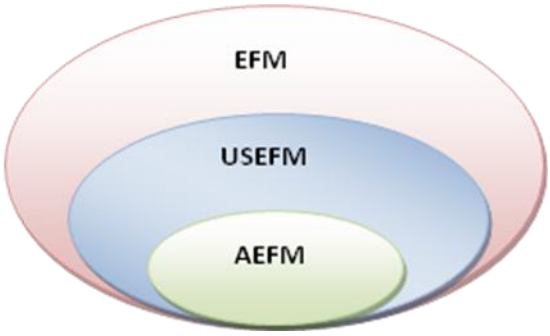
Applications should be submitted through e-mail to this address: kabuljobs@state.gov
Subject line must be: **(Political Assistant VA 12-035)** or your application may not be considered.

CLOSING DATE FOR THIS POSITION: (March 22, 2012)

The U.S. Mission in Kabul provides equal opportunity and fair and equitable treatment in employment to all people without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, political affiliation, marital status, or sexual orientation. The Department of State also strives to achieve equal employment opportunity in all personnel operations through continuing diversity enhancement programs.

The EEO complaint procedure is not available to individuals who believe they have been denied equal opportunity based upon marital status or political affiliation. Individuals with such complaints should avail themselves of the appropriate grievance procedures, remedies for prohibited personnel practices, and/or courts for relief.

Appendix A
DEFINITIONS



This diagram demonstrates how an Appointment Eligible Family Member (AEFM) is also a U.S.- citizen Eligible Family Member (USEFM) as well as an Eligible Family Member (EFM).

1. Eligible Family Member (EFM): An individual related to a U.S. Government employee in one of the following ways:

- Spouse or same-sex domestic partner (as defined in 3 FAM 1610);
- Child, who is unmarried and under 21 years of age or, regardless of age, is incapable of self-support. The term shall include, in addition to natural offspring, stepchildren and adopted children and those under legal guardianship of the employee or the spouse when such children are expected to be under such legal guardianship until they reach 21 years of age and when dependent upon and normally residing with the guardian;
- Parent (including stepparents and legally adoptive parents) of the employee or of the spouse, when such parent is at least 51 percent dependent on the employee for support;
- Sister or brother (including stepsisters and stepbrothers, or adoptive sisters or brothers) of the employee, or of the spouse, when such sibling is at least 51 percent dependent on the employee for support, unmarried, and under 21 years of age, or regardless of age, incapable of self-support.

2. U.S. Citizen Eligible Family Member (USEFM): For purposes of receiving a preference in hiring for a qualified position, an EFM who meets the following criteria:

- U.S. Citizen; and,
- EFM (see above) at least 18 years old; and,
- Listed on the travel orders of a direct-hire Foreign, Civil, or uniformed service member assigned to or stationed abroad with a USG agency that is under COM authority, or at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; and either:

    1. Resides at the sponsoring employee's or uniformed service member's post of assignment abroad or at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan; or
    2. Resides at an Involuntary Separate Maintenance Allowance (ISMA) location authorized under 3 FAM 3232.2.

3. Appointment Eligible Family Member (AEFM): EFM (see above) eligible for a Family Member Appointment for purposes of Mission employment:

- Is a U.S. citizen; and
- Spouse or same-sex domestic partner (as defined in 3 FAM 1610) or a child of the sponsoring employee who is unmarried and at least 18 years old; and
- Is listed on the travel orders or approved Form OF-126, Foreign Service Residence and Dependency Report, of a sponsoring employee, i.e., a direct-hire Foreign Service, Civil Service, or uniformed service member who is permanently assigned to or stationed abroad at a U.S.

mission, or at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT), and who is under chief of mission authority; and

- Is residing at the sponsoring employee's post of assignment abroad or, as appropriate, office of the American Institute in Taiwan.
- Does not receive a Foreign Service or Civil Service annuity

4. Member of Household (MOH): An individual who accompanies a direct-hire Foreign, Civil, or uniformed service member permanently assigned or stationed at a U.S. Foreign Service post or establishment abroad, or at an office of the American Institute in Taiwan. An MOH is:

- Not an EFM; and,
- Not on the travel orders of the sponsoring employee; and,
- Has been officially declared by the sponsoring USG employee to the COM as part of his/her household.

A MOH is under COM authority and may include a parent, unmarried partner, other relative or adult child who falls outside the Department's current legal and statutory definition of family member. A MOH does not have to be a U.S. Citizen.

4. Not Ordinarily Resident (NOR) – An individual who:

- Is not a citizen of the host country; and,
- Does not ordinarily reside (OR, see below) in the host country; and,
- Is not subject to host country employment and tax laws; and,
- Has a U.S. Social Security Number (SSN).

NOR employees are compensated under a GS or FS salary schedule, not under the LCP.

5. Ordinarily Resident (OR) – A Foreign National or U.S. citizen who:

- Is locally resident; and,
- Has legal, permanent resident status within the host country; and,
- Is subject to host country employment and tax laws.

EFMs without U.S. Social Security Numbers are also OR. All OR employees, including U.S. citizens, are compensated in accordance with the Local Compensation Plan (LCP).

Appendix B

If an applicant is submitting a resume or curriculum vitae, s/he must provide the following information equal to what is found on the UAE.

Failure to do so will result in an incomplete application.

A. Position Title
B. Position Grade
C. Vacancy Announcement Number (if known)
D. Dates Available for Work
E. First, Middle, & Last Names as well as any other names used
F. Current Address, Day, Evening, and Cell phone numbers
G. U.S. Citizenship Status (Yes or No) & status of permanent U.S. Resident (Yes or No; if yes, provide number)
H. U.S. Social Security Number and/or Identification Number
I. Eligibility to work in the country (Yes or No)
J. Special Accommodations the Mission needs to provide (Yes or No; if yes, provide explanation)
K. If applying for position that includes driving a U.S. Government vehicle, Driver's License Class / Type
L. Days available to work
M. List any relatives or members of your household that work for the U.S. Government (include their Name, Relationship, & Agency, Position, Location)
N. U.S. Eligible Family Member and Veterans Hiring Preference
O. Education
P. License, Skills, Training, Membership, & Recognition
Q. Language Skills
R. Work Experience
S. References

DISTRIBUTION: All Section Heads, FSN Bulletin Board, UN Agencies, International NGOs,

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