

**U.S. Embassy Kabul
Human Resources Office**

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT: CULTURAL AFFAIRS SPECIALIST (FSN-10)

Announcement Number: 14-131/14-131T

OPEN TO: All Interested Candidates (Women are encouraged to apply)

POSITION: Cultural Affairs Specialist (FSN-10)
Trainee Level (FSN-09) **

OPENING DATE: October 8, 2014

CLOSING DATE: October 21, 2014

WORK HOURS: Full-time, 40 hours/week

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 Cultural Affairs Specialist in the Public Affairs Section (PAS).

BASIC FUNCTION OF POSITION:

Under the direct supervision of the A/CAO and the general supervision of the CAO, the incumbent uses expert knowledge in the educational and cultural fields and highly developed knowledge of all major fields of interest to the Mission (politics, foreign policy, economic development, trade, environment), and independently plans and implements the full range of Public Affairs exchanges in support of Mission Strategic Plan goals. Serves as a) the advisor and manager for post's exchange programs, b) the specialist and advisor on Afghanistan's education system and educational reform, c) the specialist for American Specialist Programs with focus on American literature, language, and civilization, d) Primary contact with the Minister of Higher Education, Ministry of Education officials, university rectors, deans and Department chairpersons, and with high level officials of various Ministries as required by a given type of program (e.g. exchange program). In carrying out these responsibilities, incumbent uses considerable independent judgment, working under the general supervision of the Cultural Affairs Officer and/or Public Affairs Officer. The cultural affairs specialist monitors the development and importance of exchange programs in Afghanistan, evaluates their importance, and recommends cost-effective strategies.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED

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

VA 14-131 – Full Performance Level:

Education: Four years of university degree or the local equivalent professional qualifications in liberal arts, education, social science or related fields recognized by the host country's higher education ministry is required.

Experience: Five years of progressively responsible professional experience in educational and cultural programs or program management. This includes a wide range duties related to the educational system of Afghanistan.

VA 14-131T – Trainee Level:

Education: Four years of university degree or the local equivalent professional qualifications in liberal arts, education, social science or related fields recognized by the host country's higher education ministry is required.

Experience: Four years of progressively responsible professional experience in educational and cultural programs or program management. This includes a wide range duties related to the educational system of Afghanistan.

The position has been approved for substitution, for one year of experience in lieu of one year of higher education.

Language: Level IV (Fluent) Speaking/Reading English, Dari and Pashto language is required.

Knowledge: Expert knowledge of Afghan society, educational system, cultural, social, political, and economic structure, history, cultural institutions, political parties, cultural movements, ethnic groups, tribes, and key figures in the government, mass media, educational institutions and professional circles. Thorough knowledge of universities and educational systems in the U.S. and Afghanistan. Thorough knowledge of Mission's exchange programs and guidelines is required.

Abilities and Skills: Ability to organize and manage the exchange programs. Ability to establish and maintain high level contacts in educational, govt, cultural institutions, & circles. Ability to communicate effectively with a wide variety of American & Afghan program participants & organizers. Must be a self-starter who displays strong initiative, follow-through, resourcefulness & organization. Ability to solve problems independently and provide recommendations for process improvements.

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

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: **(Cultural Affairs Specialist VA: 14-131/14-131T) or your application may not be considered.**

CLOSING DATE FOR THIS POSITION: (October 21, 2014)

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.

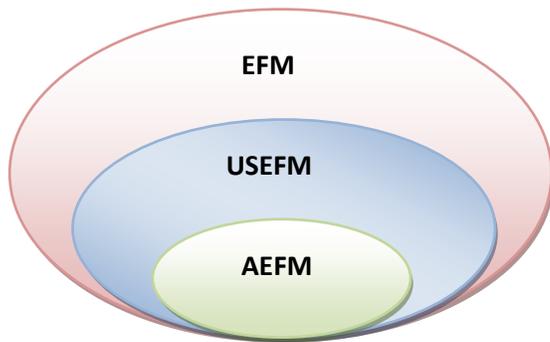
ADDITIONAL SELECTION CRITERIA

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.

The U.S. Mission in (insert post) 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, and 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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