

**2011-2012 NEAR EAST & SOUTH ASIA
UNDERGRADUATE EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Monday, January 31th, 2011

**Please submit your applications and supporting documentation
online at <http://www.apps.nesaugrad.org>**



**A program of the
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
U.S. Department of State**



ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The Near East and South Asia Undergraduate Exchange Program, NESAs UGRAD, is a part of GLOBAL UGRAD, a program of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State. NESAs UGRAD will award scholarships to outstanding students from countries of the Middle East, North Africa and South Asia for one-year, undergraduate, non-degree studies programs in the United States at a diverse network of accredited two- and four-year institutions. Participants will be enrolled full-time and will live on-campus with an American roommate. Participants will not select host institutions. Placements will not be changed. Preference will be given to those in the fields of humanities, social sciences and education although other fields will also be considered.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Community Service: To expose participants to the principles of community service and social responsibility in the United States, NESAs UGRAD participants will be required to perform a minimum of 20 hours of community service at local organizations during their first semester.

Part-Time Internship: Internships provide an essential opportunity for participants to gain professional experience and skills that can be applied to their future careers in their home countries. NESAs UGRAD participants will be required to intern 8-20 hours per week during their second semester. Each participant's internship must be related to their field of study. Internships will be unpaid and take place in the local community.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Candidates will be considered without respect to race, color, religion, national origin, or gender. Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. Competition for the NESAs UGRAD is merit-based and open to anyone who:

- Is a citizen, national or permanent resident qualified to hold a valid passport issued by the country from which applicant is applying;
- Is completing his/her final year of secondary school or enrolled in first-, second-, third-year full-time undergraduate study at the time of application for the classical educational system or enrolled in first-, and second year full-time undergraduate study for the LMD educational system at a registered academic institution in his/her country and is in good academic standing. Part-time students or correspondence students are not eligible;
- Submits a complete application with **all required documents** by the application deadline;
- Is able to begin the academic exchange program in the United States in August 2011;
- Is committed to returning to his/her home country after completion of the program; and
- Is proficient in spoken and written English at the time of application.



Individuals in the following circumstances are NOT eligible for the NESAs UGRAD Program:

- U.S. citizens and permanent residents of the United States;
- Individuals currently participating in academic, training, or research programs in the United States;
- Individuals currently residing or working outside of their home country;
- Individuals who have participated in an exchange visitor program sponsored or funded by the U.S. government for a period of more than six weeks and who have not fulfilled their two-year home residency requirement by the time of application;
- Individuals who have applied for U.S. permanent residency in the past three years;
- Local employees of the U.S. missions abroad who work for the U.S. Department of State during the period of their employment and for one year following the termination of employment;
- Immediate family members of U.S. Department of State employees for a period of one year following the termination of such employment. This provision does not disqualify self-supporting members of families who live apart from their parents;
- Persons arrested for, charged with, or convicted of a crime (excluding minor traffic violations);
- Current employees of affiliated cooperating agencies/consultants and their immediate family members (spouses, parents, children, and siblings) for a period of one year following the termination of such employment.

SELECTED APPLICANTS WILL NEED TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING WITH THE COMPLETED APPLICATION:

- **Two recommendation letters:** applicants must have a recommendation completed by two different people for a total of two recommendations. If the recommendation form is completed in a language other than English, there must be an accurate translation, which may be done by the applicant.
- **TOEFL or TOEFL-ITP official test report**
- **Personal statement in English, 450-550 words, typed**
- **A copy of applicant's passport or government-issued identification**
- **2 Passport-size Photos**

For those who have completed secondary school by the time of application submission:

- A copy of applicant's high school diploma and leaving exam results with an accurate English translation, which may be done by applicant;
- A copy of applicant's university transcript with an English translation

For those who have not completed secondary school by the time of application submission:

- A copy of high school transcripts (course list and grades) with an English translation.