



Youth Ambassadors Program-Freeport Student Application

Program Description: The Youth Ambassadors Program is a three-week exchange, October 6-29, 2013, in the United States for high school students and adult mentors. The primary program themes are civic education, community service, and youth leadership development. Participants live with host families for the majority of the exchange and engage in leadership and civic education workshops, community service activities, visits to local schools and community organizations, project planning and development, and local cultural activities with American peers. Participants return home with action plans to bring their exchange experience to their home communities in the form of a wide range of community service projects.

Student applicants must:

- ✓ Be a Bahamian citizen and live in Freeport/Grand Bahama, The Bahamas (applicants with dual U.S. citizenship will not be considered)
- ✓ Possess a valid Bahamian passport
- ✓ Be between 15 and 18 years old by August 1, 2013;
- ✓ Have proficiency in English;
- ✓ Demonstrate good academic performance, leadership potential, an interest in and commitment to community service and volunteer activities;
- ✓ Demonstrate initiative, good communication, and an energetic, positive attitude;
- ✓ Have the ability to work cooperatively in a team and tolerate the opinions of others;
- ✓ Have permission from a parent or legal guardian to participate in the program.

There is no application fee. The United States Government will pay for all costs to participate in the program, including international travel to and from the United States, orientations, visa fees, and the exchange activities in the United States, including meals and lodging. program, including international travel to and from the United States, orientations, visa fees, and the exchange activities in the United States, including meals and lodging.

Application Deadline: June 14, 2013

Applications should be submitted to:

NassauExchanges@state.gov

Questions should be addressed to:

Adrienne B. Hurley, Education and Cultural Specialist

Hurleyab@state.gov 242-322-1181 ext. 4251

U.S. Embassy Nassau

Instructions for completing this application: Please fill out the application and answer all questions carefully and completely, in English. The information you provide on this application will provide the basis for selecting participants for this program. Semi-finalists will be contacted for an in-person or telephone interview.

Youth Ambassadors Program: Freeport

Student Application

Please complete the application in **BLUE** ink and print legibly.

Paste or staple a recent passport-size photograph here
(May be emailed)

Personal Information

Name _____
Last (Family) First Middle

Current Address _____

City, State, Postal Code _____

Home Phone _____ Mobile Phone _____

Email _____

Date of Birth (Month/dd/yyyy) _____ Age _____

City and Country of Birth _____

Country of citizenship or permanent legal residence _____

Gender Male Female

Parent/Guardian Information

****Your parent or guardian must sign the application at the end****

Parent/Guardian 1

Name _____ Relation to you _____

Address (if different from yours) _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Occupation _____

Parent/Guardian 2

Name _____ Relation to you _____

Address (if different from yours) _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Occupation _____

Brothers/Sisters

Name Gender Age Occupation

Passport Information

Do you have a valid passport? Yes No

If yes, please attached a copy of your passport-passport number page and photo/bio page

Passport Number _____ Expiration Date (mm/dd/yyyy) _____

Issuing Country _____

Travel Information

Have you ever traveled to the United States or another country? Yes No

If yes, please provide a brief description of dates, length and nature of your stay(s):

Education and Activities

****Please attach your most recent transcript or academic record****

School name _____

School address _____

City, State, Postal code _____

Current grade _____ Year you will graduate _____

How many years have you studied English? _____

List other languages you have studied below.

Language _____ Number of years studied _____

Language _____ Number of years studied _____

Academic subjects you are most interested in _____

Future studies and/or possible occupations you've considered _____

Please list all extracurricular activities you currently take part in (school clubs, sports teams, youth organizations, community service activities, leisure time activities), how long you have been involved with each, any awards or honors. **Use additional space as needed on a separate sheet.**

SHORT ESSAYS: *Please respond to the following short essay questions in one paragraph. You may attached a separate sheet of paper.*

Why do you want to participate in this program?

The program requires a home stay component, where you will stay with an American family, attend school and participate in cultural activities. How do you feel about the home stay component?

You will be required to do a community service project in a small group when you return home. Do you have an idea for a project that would improve your community?

In what ways are you an effective leader? Using two examples, describe how you are a leader in your school, community, or home.

During this exchange, participants will act as ambassadors for their countries. What qualities do you have that would help you fulfill this role?

Participant Agreement/Parental Consent

I agree that all of the information in this application is true and I agree that if chosen to participate, I will participate in ALL program activities in the United States and my country, including the pre-departure orientation and follow-on activities. I also understand that I must remain with the program throughout the entire exchange and that personal travel within the United States during the program is not permitted.

Applicant Signature

Date

I permit my child to apply for and, if selected, to participate in this program.

Parent/Guardian signature(s)

Date

Parent/Guardian signature(s)

Date

YOUTH AMBASSADORS PROGRAM: Freeport Reference

Applicant Name _____

For the Applicant: Please submit two references with your application. The forms should be from a teacher or other adult outside your family who knows you well. You may submit this form in paper with your application OR your reference can return the signed and completed form to Hurleyab@state.gov.

For the Reference: The student named above is applying to take part in the Youth Ambassadors Program, a three-week exchange program in the United States for students and adult mentors. The selected students will be in a challenging academic environment and intensive leadership training. To succeed, the participants must be highly motivated, and be able to adjust to living and working with people of different social and cultural backgrounds. We value your honest assessment of the applicant in helping us select the most appropriate participants. If you would like to add additional comments, we encourage you to do so. Your answers will remain confidential.

Please indicate your opinion of this applicant's ability to meet the challenges of this program

- _____ I strongly recommend this student
- _____ I recommend this student
- _____ I have minor reservations about recommending this applicant
- _____ I have major reservations about recommending this applicant
- _____ I do not recommend this student

How long, and in what context or capacity, have you known this applicant?

What are the applicant's strengths?

What are the academic or personal areas in which this applicant needs improvement?

Please describe the applicant's behavior or attitude with respect to authority, peer relationships, responsibility, and work activities.

Do you think the applicant would adapt well to unfamiliar environments and new situations? Why or why not?

Name (printed) _____

Signature _____ Date _____