

Announcement:

Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program (TEA) FY: 2012

The American Center of the U.S. Embassy, Dhaka is pleased to announce the Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program (TEA). This program is a six-week exchange program for secondary school teachers. The program will take place either in spring (February - March) or fall (September - November) 2012.

The TEA program is sponsored by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs at the U.S. Department of State and implemented by IREX, a Washington, DC-based nonprofit organization. TEA will provide 156 secondary school teachers from Europe and Eurasia, East Asia and the Pacific, the Near East, South and Central Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, and the Western Hemisphere with unique opportunities to develop expertise in their subject areas, enhance their teaching skills, and increase their knowledge about the United States. The international participants will travel to the United States in two cohorts of 75-78 teachers each in spring or fall 2012. The program will include coursework and intensive training in teaching methodologies, lesson planning, and teaching strategies for the participants' home environment, as well as the use of computers for Internet, word processing, and as teaching tools. The six-week program will also include a two-week internship at a secondary school to actively engage participants with American teachers and students. Trips to U.S. cultural sites and academic support will be provided for participants throughout the program.

Financial provisions of this fellowship include: J-1 visa support, a pre-departure orientation held in participant's home country, round-trip airfare to and within the U.S., a Welcome Orientation in Washington, D.C., academic program fees, housing (generally shared with other program fellows) and meals, accident and health insurance, transportation to the internship school (if necessary), a book/professional development allowance, a closing seminar hosted by one of the TEA host universities in the U.S., the opportunity to host a U.S. teacher for two weeks, and the opportunity to apply for follow-on grants.

Applicants must meet the following criteria in order to be eligible for the program:

- be a secondary-level, full-time teacher with five or more years of classroom experience in disciplines including **English as a Foreign Language, social studies, civics, mathematics and science;**
- be a citizen of Bangladesh;
- be, typically, under 45 years of age;
- have demonstrated leadership qualities and be committed to continue teaching for at least five years after completion of the TEA program;
- be proficient in written and spoken English. The program requires English language skills adequate to live and function independently in the U.S and the ability to express ideas clearly and effectively in university and professional settings;
- have skill in general use of computer such as use of mouse, keyboard type, word processing, creating and deleting files and folders, creating new documents in Microsoft Word and internet browsing.

- have passport that does not expire until at least December 2013
- have submitted a complete application which includes a completed application form, CV, completed recommendation and institutional support form, a photocopy of passport up to page 5 and a passport sized photo.
- have submitted the original application and four complete copies with passport sized photo attached to each.

Please note that this is a program for practicing teachers. Ministry of Education officials, educational administrators, and full-time teacher trainers, university faculty and private English language tutors are not eligible.

Short-listed candidates will need to sit for the iBT TOEFL test. A minimum iBT TOEFL score of 45-46 is required to participate in TEA program. However, a candidate having a valid iBT TOEFL score at least of 45-46 will not be required to take the test.

Applicants must follow the application instructions and submission guidelines. Applications not meeting the above technical eligibility requirements will not be forwarded to the selection committee.

Please nominate no more than two teachers who meet all of the above requirements from your school/college and send their applications to **the American Center**, (House #110, Road #27, Banani, Dhaka-1213) by **Thursday, March 10, 2011**. You will find the soft copy of the announcement and application form at the following website:
http://dhaka.usembassy.gov/educational_cultural_exchanges.html

Please note that the deadline of the competition will be strictly maintained. Please do not nominate teachers if you are not confident about their English ability. You may re-nominate individuals nominated last year. This is a worldwide competition and the candidates will have to go through a rigorous screening process. The finalists will be notified at the end of September 2011.

After a review of applications, short-listed candidates will be called for an interview. For further information about the program, please contact Cultural Affairs Assistant Ms. Tahniah Shahid at the American Center (Momenshahi House, House #110, Road #27, Banani, Dhaka-1212. Phone: 8837150-54, e-mail: ShahidTX@state.gov)

Sincerely



Ryan Bradeen
Cultural Affairs Officer for Education & Exchange