



# The American Center, Dhaka

## Global UGRAD Exchange Program

**The Global UGRAD Program** is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs. It provides emerging Bangladeshi student leaders with one academic year of non-degree study at an American university. UGRAD students will develop relationships with their American peers based on mutual interests and respect for one another as individuals, while dismissing assumptions and stereotypes based solely on an individual's nationality or ethnic origin.

### What will UGRAD students experience during the program?

Global UGRAD participants will be enrolled in full-time undergraduate courses they select from the host institution's existing curriculum for a semester or 10 month academic year. To ensure students are successful in their new academic environments, host institutions offer tailored instruction on academic writing, critical thinking, time management, note-taking, examination preparation, and study techniques. Participants will live on-campus with American students in undergraduate university dormitories. Students will also become active members of the community through weekly participation in volunteer projects and local community events. Students also participate in two month internships that allow students to explore their specific field of study through practical experience.

### Who is eligible to apply?

To be eligible to apply for the Global UGRAD scholarship, interested candidates must:

- Be Bangladesh citizens under 25 years of age and not dual citizens or permanent residents of the U.S., or any other country.
- Be currently enrolled university students in good standing in their second to third year of undergraduate study.
- Be proficient in both written and spoken English at a level sufficient to engage in university-level study.
- Have demonstrated leadership skills.
- Be committed to returning to their Bangladesh universities upon completion of the program.
- Have little or no prior experience in the United States.
- Be willing and able to fully participate in an intensive academic program and community service.
- Be adaptable and ready to engage in American university life, prepared to share accommodations with Americans of varied backgrounds, religions, and ethnicities, and able to adjust to cultural and social practices different than those in Bangladesh.
- All fields of study welcome.



### PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

- Since 2007, 65 Bangladeshis have participated in this program, at an average of five per year in the last three years.
- 20% of participants have been women.
- 20% of participants have come from outside of Dhaka including students from Chittagong and Sylhet.
- Bangladeshi participants have been hosted at American universities such as: University of Wyoming, Farleigh Dickinson University (New Jersey), University of Arkansas, Washington University (Missouri), Humboldt State University (California), Jackson State University (Mississippi), Old Dominion University (Virginia), St. Catherine University (Minnesota).
- UGRAD students have come from Bangladeshi Departments of Physics, Journalism, International relations, Environmental Management, Women Studies, Development Studies and other disciplines.

### APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications are typically due December—January for programs which start in May. Application materials can be found at: [dhaka.usembassy.gov/educational\\_cultural\\_exchanges.html](http://dhaka.usembassy.gov/educational_cultural_exchanges.html)

### For more information:

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