

INFORMATION SHEET

THE FULBRIGHT JUNIOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM FOR FRANCOPHONE AND LUSOPHONE AFRICA (LFJSD or JSDEP)

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Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

What is this program?

This is a program specially designed for graduating 4th year university students or recent university graduates who have good English skills but who are not sufficiently fluent in English to pursue full-time graduate study in the U.S. The program allows such students to go to the U.S. for up to eight (8) months of intensive English language training and to then seek admission to a Masters (MA) degree program in the United States under the Fulbright Junior Staff Development Program (JSDP). If admitted to a graduate degree program, the student has up to two years to obtain his or her Masters degree. Funding for both the intensive English language training and the Masters **Degree** program is provided by the Government of the United States of America through the U.S. Department of State.

What kinds of people are eligible to apply?

Any person who is currently affiliated with and who is committed to continue working either at an **academic institution of higher education**, or at a **public or private educational, cultural, or professional institution** in their home country upon completion of their program.

What are the minimum requirements?

Only persons who meet the following minimum requirements can apply through the American Center in Ouagadougou:

- Citizens or permanent residents of Burkina Faso who are qualified to hold a valid passport issued by Burkina Faso;
- Persons who have or will have by the **end of 2013** a university degree awarded after at least four years of full-time study that is sufficient to qualify the person to be admitted to a graduate study program at a university in the U.S.;
- Persons who have the endorsement of their home institution; and
- Persons who have good written and spoken English.

Who are the most competitive applicants?

Anyone meeting the minimum requirements may apply. However, people who have the

following characteristics are the most competitive applicants and therefore the ones most likely to be selected:

- Persons who are complying with Burkina Faso Development Goals “SCADD” the Strategy for Accelerated Growth for Sustainable Development.
- 4th-year students who recently graduated or who will graduate before **the end of 2013** from an institution of higher education in Burkina Faso;
- Persons who wish to pursue a Masters (MA) degree in (**but not limited to**) the following fields: Economics; History; Information Sciences; Political Science; or Public Administration and who intend to return to Burkina Faso to work at an educational, cultural, or professional institution;
- Persons who have outstanding academic records, references, and academic preparation in their fields; and
- Persons who have not previously studied in the U.S.

Applications from women and graduating 4th-year students are encouraged.

What kinds of people are not eligible?

The following are examples of persons who are **not** eligible for this program:

- Persons who have already received a bachelor's or master's degree in the U.S.;
- Persons who have participated in a Fulbright program within the past three years;
- Persons wishing to pursue PH.D or Masters of Business Administration (MBA) degrees;
- Persons wishing to pursue Masters degrees or other study programs in English, Teaching English as a Foreign Language, Linguistics, or English Literature; and
- Persons who cannot score at least 480 on the TOEFL before starting intensive English language training in the U.S.

If I am eligible and meet the minimum requirements, how do I apply?

- You must complete a package of application materials. **Applications can be sent to you by e-mail. You should send an e-mail to: fulbrightouaga@yahoo.com from December 15, 2012 to February 15 2013 to request an application form.**
- **Application forms must be completed and returned to the American Embassy, Service CAC by February 15, 2013.**

How does the competition work?

- **In early March, candidates selected by the American Embassy will be interviewed. After the interviews, those candidates selected to continue in the competition will be required to take the Test of English Language Proficiency (the TELP test) by mid-March. The American Embassy will**

select the finalists and they must register for TOEFL that will be taken in Ouagadougou in May 2013 and GRE in October. The finalists must also fill out the online application and provide additional application materials (translated letters of reference , degrees and academic transcripts) **to the American Embassy by September 06, 2013.**

- **Finalists from Burkina Faso then compete against applicants from other countries, and the winners will be announced in late-2013 or early 2014 for a start date in the U.S. as early as January 2014.**

Please do not call to find out if you have been selected to be interviewed. If you have been selected, we will contact you by telephone or e-mail to schedule your interview. If you are not contacted by mid March this means that you were not selected to participate in the competition.

What if I am not a citizen or permanent resident of Burkina Faso?

If you are not a citizen or permanent resident of Burkina Faso you cannot apply for this program through the U.S. Embassy in Ouagadougou. You should contact the Public Affairs Section in the U.S. Embassy in your home country to find out whether your country participates in this program, and, if so, how to apply.

When will I go to the United States if I am selected?

The current competition is for English-language training commencing in the U.S. as early as January of 2014 and continuing through mid-August 2014 with the expectation that participants will then be placed in Masters Degree programs beginning in August and September 2014.

If I am selected can my spouse or children come with me to the U.S.?

No.

How do I get more information?

You can also find the application from on our web site: <http://ouagadougou.usembassy.gov>
If you have questions, the American embassy at Ouaga 2000, Ouagadougou will host information sessions every Wednesday from 10:00 am to 11:00, beginning Wednesday, December 19 2012 through February 13, 2012. (For security reason, please be at the embassy before 9:30. Come with your identity card, cell phone and lap tops and electronic devices are not allowed in the embassy.)