



Study of the U.S. Institutes (SUSIs) for Student Leaders

We welcome you to apply for the U.S. State Department's **Study of U.S. Institutes (SUSIs) for Student Leaders** program. SUSIs for Student Leaders are intensive academic programs whose purpose is to provide groups of undergraduate student leaders with a deeper understanding of the United States, while simultaneously enhancing their leadership skills.

The Institutes will consist of a balanced series of seminar discussions, readings, group presentations, and lectures. The coursework and classroom activities will be complemented by educational travel, site visits, leadership activities, and volunteer opportunities. The Institutes will include an academic residency component of approximately four weeks and a domestic study tour of approximately one week. During the academic residency, participants will also have the opportunity to engage in educational and cultural activities outside of the classroom.

*Please apply to **ONLY ONE** of the Institutes below.*

The deadline to apply is December 31, 2012.

Institute on Global Environmental Issues (May and June 2013)

This four week academic residency will explore the role that environmental policy has played in the economic and political development of the United States. The Institute will use experiential learning techniques to expose participants to current themes in the field, including natural resource management, sustainable development/sustainable agricultural practices, food security, ecotourism, energy generation (new and traditional forms), and water management and treatment. The issues will be explored from numerous angles: local grassroots activism and civic initiatives, market-oriented approaches, and federal government policies and regulation.

Finally, the Institute will explore environmental issues in the context of a globalized society, and draw comparisons between the United States and the participants' home countries. Students will also have the opportunity to leave the classroom to meet with community leaders, and representatives of non-profit organizations.

The academic residency will be complemented by an educational tour that will take participants to another area of the U.S. where they will meet with local, state, private, and nonprofit organizations working in the field. The Institute will then conclude with a 3 day program in Washington, D.C.

Institute on Public Policy and Government Leadership (June – Aug 2013)

The Institute on Public Policy and Government Leadership will include a four week academic residency at a U.S. university and a two-week study tour. The program will provide an overview of the U.S. system of federal government as well as the role of non-governmental institutions



such as civic organizations, the media, and the private sector in the making of U.S. public policy. Discussions will explore the responsibilities of the three branches of the U.S. government and the system of checks and balances. The Institute will examine how organizations, the media, and the private sector influence government policy. Within the broader frame of the public policy process, students will be exposed to specific public policy questions on topics such as public finance, rule of law, education, public health, environment, and foreign policy. All participants will spend at least two weeks in Washington, D.C., where they will have the opportunity to meet with public policy professionals and federal government officials.

Candidate Description and Qualifications:

- The participants are expected to be highly motivated first through third year undergraduate students from colleges, universities, and other institutions of higher education, who demonstrate leadership through academic work, community involvement, and extracurricular activities.
- Your field of study can include the sciences, social sciences, humanities, education, business, and other professional fields. However, we are looking for candidates from both rural and urban sectors and with little or no prior experience in the United States or elsewhere outside their home country.
- Strong candidates for this program will:
 - be proficient in English;
 - have a strong interest in the environment or public service;
 - be between 18 and 25 years of age;
 - have at least one semester left of their undergraduate studies, and therefore be committed to return to their home universities following completion of the program;
 - demonstrate strong leadership qualities and potential in their university and community activities;
 - indicate a serious interest in learning about the United States;
 - have a sustained high level of academic achievement, as indicated by grades, awards, and teacher recommendations;
 - demonstrate commitment to community and extracurricular university activities;
 - have little or no prior study or travel experience in the United States or elsewhere outside of their home country;
 - be mature, responsible, independent, confident, open-minded, tolerant, thoughtful, and inquisitive;
 - be willing and able to fully participate in an intensive academic program, community service, and educational travel; and
 - be comfortable with campus life, prepared to share living accommodations, and able to make adjustments to cultural and social practices different from those of their home country.



Other Important Information:

- The State Department will cover all participant costs.
- Housing and Meal Arrangements: Housing will be in university dorms or full service hotel. Participants may be expected to share a room and bathroom with another student of the same gender. Most meals will be provided at campus facilities, though participants may have access to a kitchen to cook some meals on their own.
- Care will be taken to ensure that any special requirements regarding diet, daily worship, housing, and medical care are satisfied.
- Program Requirements and Restrictions: Participants are expected to fully participate in all aspects of the program. They should attend all lectures and organized academic and cultural activities, and complete assigned readings. The Institute is very intensive and that there will be little time for personal pursuits unrelated to the program.
- Under no circumstances are participants allowed to arrive in the U.S. prior to the start date of the Institute or remain in the U.S. after its end date. Similarly, participants will not be allowed to leave the Institute to visit relatives or friends while in the U.S. If a relative or friend wishes to visit them, it will be addressed on a case by case basis.
- Violations of program rules, host institution rules, or local, state or federal laws can be grounds for immediate dismissal from the program.
- English Language Ability: All candidates should be proficient in English so that they can be active participants in the academic program. Host institutions will take into account that the level of comprehension and speaking ability of students may vary, and will prepare lectures and discussions that meet the highest academic standards while using language appropriate for students where English is their second or third language.

On-line applications must be submitted to RangoonUSECA@State.gov or hard copies must be sent to Public Affairs Section, The American Center, 14 Tawwin St., Dagon Township, Rangoon.

The deadline to apply is December 31, 2012.

For more information, please contact the Cultural Affairs Unit, Public Affairs Section, American Embassy, 110 University Avenue, Kamayut Township, Rangoon. Ph: 536509 / 534173, Ext: 4597/4369; email: RangoonUSECA@State.gov.