Why I Study in the USA

Video Competition Announcement

Are you an Iraqi student at a U.S. university? Or have you recently graduated from a U.S. university degree program? If so, we want to hear YOUR experiences as an Iraqi student in the USA through film! From now until March 1, 2014, EducationUSA Iraq is collecting your homemade videos about why you decided to study in the USA. So grab a video recording device, and get filming!

What Should My Video Be?

- Your video should be between 90 – 120 seconds long and include footage of the U.S. university where you study, or integrate pictures of your recent experience at a U.S. university.
- You should narrate in English during the video.
- Your video should answer two questions:
  1) Why I Study in the USA
  2) Why You (Other Students) Should Too!
- Your video should be your original work, and reflect your current or recently completed (2012 or more recent) full-time study experience in the USA.
- Your video should make sure to follow the criteria that will be used to score the submissions (see below for more info)!

I Want to Submit a Video! What Do I Do?

- Check out the submission details and requirements below.
- Upload your video to the YouTube channel of your choice.
- Send us a link to your video by emailing it to BaghdadEducationADV@state.gov. You have until March 1, 2014 to send us that link!

What Do I Get If I Win?

- Ten finalists will have their videos posted on our Facebook page for public voting on March 16, 2014. These ten finalists will receive EducationUSA logo materials and goodies.
- The public will vote on Facebook for the winner and two runners up from the 10 finalists. The winner will receive an iPod nano, and the two runners up an iPod shuffle.

Any Other Tips?

- Pay attention to the scoring criteria found below.
- Get started early! Polished, edited videos will score higher.
- By submitting an entry, you agree to the general terms of the competition, so make sure you read those, too ☺

Why I Study in the USA

Video Competition Score Sheet

"Why I Study in the USA" video competition submissions will be evaluated by the criteria listed below. The ten video submissions with the highest scores will be named finalists in the competition. Facebook fans will then select the top three from the finalists. PLEASE NOTE: ONLY VIDEOS WITH CLEAR VIDEO (240p minimum, 720p max) AND SOUND QUALITY, AND THAT ARE THE APPROPRIATE LENGTH (90-120 SECONDS), WILL BE CONSIDERED.

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Evaluation Criteria	Possible Points	Points Received
Includes original video footage of different places around the U.S. university campus, or several pictures of the university (copyright free). Videos that highlight more places around campus will receive a higher score in this category.	25	
Gives specific and creative reasons and examples why "I Study in the USA" and DOES NOT promote an individual U.S. university.	25	
Gives specific and creative reasons and examples of "Why You (Other Students) Should Study in the USA."	25	
The narrator is an Iraqi currently studying in the U.S. (or recently graduated from a U.S. university degree program – 2012 or more recent).	10	
The narration is done in first person, in the English language, and is enthusiastic, energetic, and captures the audience's attention.	10	
The narrator (student) states his/her first name (or nickname), city of origin, and the U.S. university and degree program within the first 10 seconds of the video.	10	
Promotes other benefits to study in the USA (other than academic reasons), such as extracurricular activities, leadership development, friendships, cross-cultural experiences, etc.	15	
Highlights the international student community at the U.S. university campus.	10	
The narrator states how he/she plans on using the U.S. education back in Iraq.	10	
The narrator speaks at least 25 seconds directly into the camera, with an attractive background behind him/her that is related to either the U.S. university or to an education theme.	10	
(BONUS) Videos with high technical execution, creativity, and editing will receive additional points for awesomeness ☺	Up to 50	
TOTAL SCORE:	200	

Why I Study in the USA

Video Competition

General Terms

By submitting an entry to the "Why I Study in the USA" Video Competition, you are agreeing to the following general terms.

- Entrants must send their entries as required in the contest announcement in order to be eligible. Video submissions must be uploaded to YouTube and the link to the video submitted by email to BaghdadEducationADV@state.gov.
- Entries received after the deadline set forth (March 1, 2014) in the contest announcement are ineligible.
- All finalists and the winner will be notified via e-mail. If the winner does not respond to the notification within five (5) business days, another winner will be chosen. Failure to respond within five (5) business days shall mean that the winner forfeits the prize.
- All stories, photos, drawings and any other content or information (collectively and severally, "Materials") submitted by you in your video shall become the sole and exclusive property of the U.S. Mission to Iraq, which has no obligation to preserve, return, or otherwise make available to you or others any Materials.
- The U.S. Mission to Iraq may use, reproduce, edit, display, transmit, prepare derivative works of, modify, publish, and otherwise make use of Materials in any and all media, whether now known or hereinafter created throughout the world and for any purpose without compensation to you of any kind.
- By submitting Materials to the U.S. Mission to Iraq, you represent and warrant that the Materials do not infringe any copyright, trademark, property rights, rights of privacy or publicity of any person, or any other right of any third party and that you have the full and unrestricted right to transfer the Materials to the U.S. Mission to Iraq free and clear of any claims or encumbrances.
- You acknowledge and agree that the U.S. Mission to Iraq shall have no obligation to post, display, or otherwise make publicly available any Materials submitted by you.
- You acknowledge and agree that Materials submitted by you may be made available by the U.S. Mission to Iraq for viewing, rating, reviewing, and commenting by the public. You acknowledge that comments or ratings that you disagree with or are unhappy about may be published or otherwise become associated with Materials that you submit to the U.S. Mission to Iraq. By submitting Materials to the U.S. Mission to Iraq, you waive any privacy expectations that you may have with respect to the Materials.
- You agree to hold YouTube and its officers, directors, employees, agents, successors, and assigns harmless from and against and hereby waive any right to pursue any claims of any nature arising in connection with the U.S. Mission to Iraq's use of the Materials submitted to the U.S. Mission to Iraq and used in any manner in the U.S. Mission to Iraq's sole and absolute discretion.

- Contests involving evaluations of Materials submitted as part of the contest will be judged entirely in the sole and absolute discretion of the U.S. Mission to Iraq. Decisions by the U.S. Mission to Iraq are final.
- All entrants and winners must be at least 18 years of age, unless otherwise stated or posted.
- The winner may not request substitutions of prize winnings. All winners are solely responsible for any and all taxes and/or fees as well as all additional costs that may be incurred.
- Neither the U.S. Mission to Iraq nor its officers, directors, employees, agents, successors, or assigns shall be liable for any warranty, costs, damage, injury, or any other claims incurred as a result of the usage of a prize by any winner including but in no way limited to each and every aspect of attending the school as part of the prize. The U.S. Mission to Iraq is not liable for any loss arising out of or in connection with any contest promoted by the U.S. Mission to Iraq.
- If the specified prize becomes unavailable for any reason, the U.S. Mission to Iraq in its sole and absolute discretion may substitute a prize of like or equal value.
- A contest is null and void in any jurisdiction where prohibited by law.
- The U.S. Mission to Iraq reserves the right in its sole and absolute discretion to terminate any contest at any time without prior notice.
- The U.S. Mission to Iraq reserves the right in its sole and absolute discretion to alter any contest rules at any time.
- By entering a contest, you conclusively are deemed to have agreed to be bound by these contest rules and terms and conditions as well as by any rules specific to such contest. This is an irrevocable condition of entry.
- In contests in which the U.S. Mission to Iraq solicits votes by the public to help decide the winner, while the results of such polls may be a considered factor in determining the winner, the winner will ultimately be selected by the U.S. Mission to Iraq in its sole and absolute discretion.
- No purchase or payment of any consideration is necessary to enter the contest.
- The U.S. Mission to Iraq reserves the right to condition the award of prizes upon the execution by the winner(s) of a publicity release. Notwithstanding this reserved right, entry is conclusively deemed to be permission by the entrant to use the entrant's name (without compensation to the entrant) if the entrant is a winner to publicize the contest and otherwise, as determined by the U.S. Mission to Iraq, unless prohibited by law.

The U.S. Mission to Iraq reserves the right to require the winner to execute an affidavit of eligibility as a sworn document and provide other proof of eligibility as a condition of receipt of the prize or award.