



YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

ANNOUNCEMENT

U.S. EMBASSY

FY2015 YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM WITH SOUTHEAST ASIA FOR EDUCATORS/COMMUNITY LEADERS

Host Institution: Northern Illinois University

April 2015

Deadline for Applications: November 28 , 2014



1. Program Description

Malaysian educators (teachers/community leaders) are invited to apply for participation in the 2015 Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP). One adult educator and five student leaders from Malaysia will join similar groups from other countries in Southeast Asia in a three-week, U.S.-based exchange focused on leadership and youth development.

This year, the SEAYLP program will focus on the themes of civic education, leadership, tolerance and respect for diversity, and community engagement. The exchange will take place in April 2015 and participants will implement follow-on projects in their home communities after the exchange.

Exchange activities will include workshops, interactive sessions, simulations, leadership training, and team-building exercises. Extracurricular activities will round out the program with volunteer service opportunities as well as interactive site visits with relevant organizations in the host communities. Participants will have homestays with American families and a study tour to a different region of the country than the exchange's primary location. Additional details will be provided by the host institution once selection has been made.

Adult participants in this program take on a unique role as a participant role model and active program participant, as well as a chaperone. The adult participants will have special sessions with their peers designed to help the adults to foster leadership and civic education programs at home. Adult participants are expected to be fully engaged in program activities while serving as a liaison between youth participants and program staff, should problems arise. The adult participants will also act as a mentor to the student participants during the follow-on projects.

2. Institute Objectives

This is an intensive program with three segments: (1) A pre-departure orientation; (2) a 3-week exchange program that will offer students the opportunity to explore the principles of leadership and community engagement in the United States; and (3) follow-on activities, where participants will conduct projects in their home communities.

Youth Leadership Programs are designed to advance mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries as well as to promote high-quality leadership, civic responsibility, and community engagement among our countries' future leaders. The program will employ a highly interactive approach both in workshops and in a range of public and community settings. Through engagement with the activities of U.S. high schools, community organizations, youth groups, and community leaders in each location, the student will better understand civic participation and the rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democracy.

3. Funding

The United States Government, in conjunction with the program host institution, will pay for domestic transportation, international transportation to and from the United States, orientations, program fees and administration, site visits and seminars, lodging and most meals, some cultural activities, educational materials, accident and sickness coverage, and a modest amount of pocket money. Participants will stay with volunteer host families. Participants are responsible for expenses related to the application process (copying, mailing, photographs, etc.) and spending money for souvenirs, telephone calls, and other personal items in the United States.

4. Program Requirements and Restrictions

Participants will travel to the United States on J-1 exchange visitor visas provided through this program. By accepting this visa, participants will be subject to a two-year home residency requirement, meaning they must return to and live in their home country for a total of two years before they would be eligible for an immigrant or temporary worker U.S. visa. This does not restrict other types of visas. For example, this would not prevent you from being able to apply for a student visa to attend a university.

5. Candidate Qualifications

The program seeks energetic applicants who are ready to develop their skills in order to be effective leaders in their schools and communities.

Adult applicant **MUST**:

- be a Malaysian citizen; residing in either the states of **Negeri Sembilan or Melaka** only
- be at least 30 years old and not older than 45 years of age by the start of the exchange
- be active in working with youth in either a school or community setting
- exhibit a high level of open-mindedness, flexibility, and interpersonal skills

- be willing and able to meet periodically with selected students (SEAYLP participants) from all schools in their city to support their follow-up work
- be committed to the goals and ideals of the program, including civic leadership, diversity, and fostering positive regional and global interactions
- have good English skills

Preference will be given to participants that have not previously traveled to the United States, especially on a U.S. government-sponsored program.

6. To apply for the Institute

Applicants should complete the application form at:

http://usembassymalaysia.org.my/form/seaylp_teacher_form2014.dotx

All applications MUST be submitted via e-mail: klpaexchanges@state.gov with Subject Title: FY2015 SEAYLP Application- Adult Educator, OR fax: (03) 2148-9192.

The application deadline is **Friday, November 28, 2014.**

Shortlisted candidates will be called for an interview at a centralized location that will be announced later.

Please note! Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

For more program details, all interested candidates are welcomed to contact Exchanges Team, Public Affairs, American Embassy, 376 Jalan Tun Razak, 50400 Kuala Lumpur.
Tel: (03) 2168-5046 (Monday- Friday/9:00a.m. – 12:00p.m.); fax: (03) 2148-9192;
e-mail: klpaexchanges@state.gov

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