

The Embassy's Public Affairs Section is pleased to announce the call for nominations to the Summer 2016 Study of the Institutes for Secondary Educators.

## **SUMMER 2016 STUDY OF THE INSTITUTES FOR SECONDARY EDUCATORS**

Study of the U.S. Institutes for Secondary Educators are intensive post-graduate level academic programs with integrated study tours whose purpose is to provide foreign secondary educators and administrators the opportunity to deepen their understanding of U.S. society, culture, values, and institutions. The ultimate goal of the Institutes is to strengthen curricula and to enhance the quality of teaching about the United States in secondary schools and other academic institutions abroad. Interested individuals are invited to visit the given website to obtain general information about the Institutes: <http://exchanges.state.gov/susi>.

The Study of the U.S. Institutes for Secondary Educators will take place over the course of five weeks beginning in or after the latter part of May 2016. Three Institutes for Secondary Educators will be offered: two will focus on classroom teachers, while the third focuses on administrators, teacher trainers, curriculum developers, textbook writers, and ministry of education officials, among others. Each Institute will have 20 participants and will include a four week academic residency component and a one week integrated study tour.

### **Institute Description**

**The Study of the U.S. Institutes for Secondary Educators (Teachers)** will provide two multinational groups of 20 experienced secondary school teachers with a deeper understanding of U.S. society, education, and culture – past and present. The Institute will provide content and materials for participants to develop high school level curricula about the United States. The main focus of the Institutes for teachers is on content and materials about the United States rather than teaching methods and pedagogy. To this end, the Institutes are organized around a central theme or themes in U.S. civilization. Through a combination of traditional, multi-disciplinary, and interdisciplinary approaches, program content will examine the history and evolution of U.S. institutions and values, broadly defined. The program will also serve to illuminate contemporary political, social, and economic debates in American society. The four week academic residency will be complemented by a one week study tour. The aim of the study tour is to showcase the cultural, geographic, and ethnic diversity of the United States. The two Institutes will be held in April 2016 and in late May 2016.

**The Study of the U.S. Institute for Secondary Educators (Administrators)** will provide a multinational group of 20 experienced administrators (including teacher trainers, curriculum developers, textbook writers, ministry of education officials, and others) with a deeper understanding of U.S. society, education, and culture – past and present. The program’s theme, “Exploring Access and Equity in U.S. Education and Society” will focus on education, immigration, and civic engagement within U.S. society and culture. The Institute will include an intellectually rigorous academic residency component, meetings with regional educators and prominent community leaders, guided independent research, visits to topically relevant sites, a two-week study tour, and the completion of a research project. This Institute will take place in early June through mid-July 2016.

### **Other Essential Program Information**

**Program Funding:** The State Department’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Exchange will cover all participant costs including program administration; travel and ground transportation in the United States; housing and subsistence; and book, cultural, mailing, and incidental allowances. The Embassy’s Public Affairs Section will cover international travel costs for selected participants.

**Housing and Meal Arrangements:** Participants may be asked to share living quarters during the residency portion (four weeks) of the Institute. Private room accommodations cannot be guaranteed during the residency portion of the program. During the study tour (up to one week), participants may share a hotel room with a participant of the same gender. During the residency, housing will typically be in college or university-owned housing. Most meals will be provided at campus facilities, though participants may have access to a kitchen to cook some meals on their own. The host institution will provide full details in pre-institute communications to participants at least six-weeks in advance of the Institute.

Care will be taken to ensure that any special requirements regarding diet, daily worship, housing, and medical care are satisfied.

**Travel Arrangements:** The Embassy’s Public Affairs Section will arrange economy class round trip international travel for each selected participant.

**Health Benefits:** Participants will receive the Department of State's insurance coverage of up to \$100,000, with a \$25.00 co-pay per medical visit and a \$75.00 co-pay per emergency room visit, for the duration of the program. Pre-existing conditions are not covered.

**Program Requirements and Restrictions:** All participants are expected to participate fully in the program. Selected participants must attend all lectures and organized activities and complete assigned readings. Family members and/or friends cannot accompany participants on any part of the program. Candidates must be aware that this is an intensive Institute and there will be little time for personal pursuits unrelated to the program. The Institute is not a research program.

### **Candidate Description and Qualifications**

Study of the U.S. Institutes is highly competitive. Priority will be given to candidates who have firm plans to enhance, update or develop courses and/or educational materials with a U.S. studies focus or component, who have no or limited prior experience in the United States, and who have special interest in the institute topic as demonstrated through past scholarship, accomplishments, and professional duties. Every effort will be made to achieve both a geographic and gender balance in the makeup of the Institutes.

Candidates should be mid-career, typically between the ages of 30-50, highly-motivated and experienced secondary school educators. These Institutes are for secondary school teachers, teacher trainers, curriculum developers, textbook writers, ministry of education officials, secondary school administrators, or other related professionals with responsibility for secondary education. Ideal candidates are individuals who are seeking to introduce or enhance aspects of U.S. studies into their curricula or to offer specialized seminars/workshops for education professionals in U.S. studies or related fields. While the nominee's scholarly and professional credentials are an important consideration, the potential impact and multiplier effect of the Institute is equally important.

Candidates must demonstrate English language fluency. Institutes are rigorous and demanding programs; participants will be expected to handle substantial reading assignments in English and to fully and actively participate in all seminar and panel discussions. English fluency is vital to a successful experience in the Institute, both for your participant and participants from other countries.

Candidates should be willing and able to fully take part in an intensive post-graduate level academic program and study tour and be comfortable with campus life and an active program schedule. While senior and entry level educators are eligible applicants, first consideration will be extended to mid-career professionals with little or no prior experience in the United States.

## **Instructions for Fulfilling Applications**

Interested parties must complete the attached application form and transmit this via email to Marilou Apolinario, [apolinariomr@state.gov](mailto:apolinariomr@state.gov), by January 11, 2016. Queries regarding SUSI for Secondary Educators may also be addressed via email to Ms. Apolinario.

The U.S. Embassy's Public Affairs Section will screen applications and transmit finalists to the Study of the U.S. Branch in Washington, D.C. for final review and selection. Successful candidates will be notified accordingly.

We are pleased to extend this exchange opportunity and look forward to receiving applications.