



U.S. Embassy Manila
Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI)
FALL 2016 Academic Fellows

The Public Affairs Section of U.S. Embassy Manila is pleased to announce the call for applications for the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) Winter 2016 Academic Fellows.

Program Background

In 2013, President Obama launched the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) to enhance the United States' relations with future leaders of Southeast Asia and foster an ASEAN community. YSEALI offers education on regional issues, professional skills-building, and opportunities to put those skills into action through educational exchanges to the United States, professional development workshops in the region, online networking, and project seed money. YSEALI activities focus on four themes: economic development, environmental protection, education, and civic engagement.

The YSEALI Academic Fellowship Institute is an intensive academic program whose purpose is to provide groups of undergraduate student leaders and recently graduated leaders with a deeper understanding of the United States, while simultaneously enhancing their leadership skills.

The **YSEALI Academic Fellowship on Civic Engagement** will provide Fellows with an overview of how citizens have shaped U.S. history, government, and society both as individuals and groups. The Institute will define civic engagement, examine its development in the U.S., and explore topics such as citizenship, community building, economic development, grassroots activism, political leadership, and volunteerism. Other topics such as civil rights, entrepreneurship, ethics, leadership, and media will be discussed. Fellows will also have the opportunity to leave the classroom to meet with community leaders, entrepreneurs, and representatives of non-profit organizations. The academic residency will be complemented by an educational study tour where they will meet with local, state, private, and not-for-profit organizations working in the field. The Institute will then conclude with a visit to Washington, D.C. The fall hosts will be the University of Massachusetts-Amherst (from September 2, 2016- October 8, 2016), Northern Illinois University (from September 19 to October 25, 2016), and the University of Nebraska-Omaha (from September 24, 2016 to October 29, 2016).

The **YSEALI Academic Fellowship on Social Entrepreneurship and Economic Development** will provide Fellows with an overview of entrepreneurial approaches that are employed to address social issues. The Institute will review the development, history, challenges, and successes of social enterprises and community leaders in the United States and globally. Topics may include, but are not limited to, trade, investment, financial literacy, banking, microfinance, organizational development and management, grant writing, innovation, emerging markets and risk analysis, strategic business planning, corporate social responsibility, and women and minorities in entrepreneurship. Students will also have the opportunity to leave the classroom to meet with community leaders, entrepreneurs, and representatives of nonprofit organizations. The academic residency will be complemented by an educational study tour where Fellows 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, DC. The fall host will be the University of Connecticut (from September 24 to October 28, 2016).

The **YSEALI Academic Fellowship on Environmental Issues** 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. Fellows 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. Pending the final grants approval process, the fall hosts will be the University of Montana (from August 23 to September 28, 2016) and the East-West Center (from September 13 to October 18, 2016).

Qualifications:

- Between the ages of 18 and 25 at the time of application;
- A citizen or resident of the Philippines from diverse ethnic and religious groups;
- **A full-time undergraduate student** from college, university, or other institutions of higher learning **or have graduated in the past four years;**
- Proficient in reading, writing, and speaking English;
- Not a U.S. citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.;
- Eligible to receive a United States J-1 visa;
- **Demonstrate leadership ability through academic work, community involvement, extracurricular activities, and/or professional activities;**
- **Demonstrate a commitment or interest in community service, volunteerism, or mentorship;**
- Indicate a serious interest in learning about the United States and ASEAN as a region;
- Be willing to actively participate in an intensive academic program, community service, and study tour;
- Have a commitment to return to their home country to apply leadership skills and training to benefit their community, country, or the ASEAN region; and
- Preferably have little or no prior study or travel experience in the United States.

Note: All expenses related to the program will be provided by the U.S. Embassy.

Application form is provided below. (**Must be completely filled-in**)

English fluency will be verified through interviews.

Do not include unnecessary attachments to the application.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE ELECTRONIC and should be sent to ysealiphilippines@state.gov with the

subject title YSEALI_FALLCIVIC_ (Applicant's Last Name) for Civic Engagement and

YSEALI_FALLSEED_ (Applicant's Last Name) for Social Entrepreneurship

and Economic Development

YSAELI_FALLENNVI_ (Applicant's Last Name) for Environmental Issues

Example: YSEALI_FALLCIVIC_SANTOS

YSEALI_FALLSEED_SANTOS

YSAELI_FALLENNVI_SANTOS

Deadline for Applications: MAY 22, 2016 (SUNDAY) 11:59PM



APPLICATION FORM FALL 2016 YSEALI ACADEMIC FELLOWSHIP

***ALL FIELDS SHOULD BE COMPLETED.**

THEME:	<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Issues <input type="checkbox"/> Civic Engagement <input type="checkbox"/> Social Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (Check appropriate box)		
FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	LAST NAME	
Date of Birth (Month/Date/Year)		City and Country of Birth	
Country of Citizenship		Country of Residence	
Medical, Physical, Dietary Restrictions (Please state if you have any existing medical conditions or currently taking any prescription medication. This will not affect your selection, but will enable the host institution to make any necessary accommodations.)			
Complete Home Address			
E-mail Address			
Tel. and Cellphone No.			
Emergency Contact Full Name and Relationship			
Emergency Contact Cellphone No. and Email Address			
School Name and Address			
Current Year and Major (If graduated, please indicate year and major)			
Job Position and Company/Institution (If currently working)			
Evidence of English Fluency (Indicate if medium of instruction in school is English, list English fluency test Results, list of papers written, awards from school related to English language)			
Volunteer Work and Community Services (Format: Title of Event/ Host Institution or Program Organizer/Type of Role or Responsibility/Dates of Participation/)			
Memberships in associations, clubs, etc. (Format: Club or Association Name, Type of Role or Responsibility/Dates of Membership)			
Previous Experience in the US (Reason for travel, city/state destination)			

and dates of travel)

Family residing in the U.S.
(include FULL name, relation, city and state)

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

CLEAR SCANNED IMAGE of Passport.

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

Tell us about yourself and your goals including the following: What about your background and/or interests makes you competitive for this particular program (please be as specific as possible)? What will you contribute to the program? How do you expect this experience will affect your community, country, or ASEAN region? How will it affect you personally? NOTE: Please structure your essay in paragraphs and limit your response to **500 words or approximately half a page, single spaced.**