



The Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy in Rabat, Morocco is pleased to announce:

**THE 2011 MIDDLE EAST PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE (MEPI)
FOR STUDENT LEADERS PROGRAM**

The Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy in Rabat is seeking candidates for the 2011 Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) for Student Leaders program. University level students between 20 and 24 years of age who have a good command of English; who demonstrate leadership through academic work, community involvement and extracurricular activities; who have a strong interest in civic engagement and learning about the United States and its societal institutions, are invited to apply for this program.

The program offers up to seven (7) scholarships for Moroccan students currently at university or a higher educational institution. The application deadline is **Friday, January 14, 2011**.

Program Overview:

The MEPI for Student Leaders Program will take place in an American University for five (5) weeks, from June 22 to July 26, 2011. The program is designed around the theme of how leadership is conceived and practiced in different capacities (governmental, community, civil society, private sector, etc.) and in different regions of the United States. Student leaders will have a unique opportunity to learn about and discuss values, issues, and institutions that have played important roles throughout the history of the United States.

Participants in this program will live on a U.S. college campus, attend lectures, roundtable discussions, and site visits with academics and civic leaders, meet ordinary American citizens in a variety of cities and towns, engage in local community service activities and, most importantly, have the opportunity to discover the United States and its diverse cultures for themselves. They will be coming from Morocco, Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Syria, Tunisia, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Jerusalem, Libya and Yemen.

All participant costs, including program administration, international and domestic travel and ground transportation, book, cultural, mailing and incidental allowances, housing and subsistence will be paid by the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) office.

Candidate Qualifications:

The Selection preference will be given to candidates with limited or no travel experience outside of Morocco. MEPI office will not accept candidates who have traveled to the United States. Participants must demonstrate proficiency in conversational and written English. They may be in any field of specialization, must be prepared to engage seriously in class discussions and other activities, able to inform and educate Americans about the Moroccan culture and society in different activities and in public presentations.

Competition is open to all applicants who meet the following minimum criteria:

- 20 to 24 years of age;
- Demonstrated English language ability;
- Committed to returning to their home country following completion of the program;
- Demonstrates strong leadership potential;
- Indicates a serious interest in learning about the United States;
- Has a sustained high level of academic achievement, as indicated by academic grades, awards, and teacher recommendations;
- Demonstrates a commitment to their community;
- Has no travel experience in the United States and limited to no study or travel experience outside home country;
- Is mature, responsible, independent, confident, open-minded, tolerant, thoughtful and inquisitive;
- Is willing and able to fully participate in an intensive academic program, community service, and active educational travel program; and,
- Is comfortable with campus life, sharing living accommodations while traveling with a multinational group of participants from the Middle East North Africa and with U.S. citizens, and making adjustments to cultural and social practices different from those of their home countries.

HOW TO APPLY?

Applications must be submitted by e-mail to rabatyouth@state.gov or by fax to 0537-66-8299 by Friday, January 14, 2011. E-mail submission is preferred. No late applications will be accepted.

CONTACT

For more information, please contact the Public Affairs Section at rabatyouth@state.gov or call 0537-66-8045.