# Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) for Student Leaders Program

***Sponsored by the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI)***
***June 29 - August 8, 2015***

The U.S. Embassy in Morocco is pleased to announce the call for applications for the 2015 Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) for Student Leaders program.

## Program details:

The Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) for Student Leaders program is an intensive 6-week exchange program for undergraduate students from the Middle East and North Africa that focuses on the development of the participants' leadership skills and expands their understanding of American society and culture. Students are divided among up to six U.S. academic institutions. It includes an academic program conducted by scholars and other professionals with expertise in leadership and U.S. Studies, as well as a study tour to other regions of the United States. Through this program, students will develop leadership skills and learn about historical and contemporary American politics, institutions, society, and values. An interdisciplinary and experiential approach is used to explore concepts of leadership, citizenship, and civic activism through workshops, academic sessions, site visits, and social/cultural events. In addition, students learn about volunteerism and community involvement in the United States through organized activities with service organizations.

Once students return home, they will continue fostering greater intercultural understanding by sharing their experiences and perspectives with others and by implementing civic engagement programs in Morocco. The MEPI office will continue to support the alumni to facilitate outreach and development projects within their communities.

This program is funded by the Middle East Partnership Initiative. The fellowship provides international and domestic travel, health insurance, housing and a moderate living stipend.

## WHO CAN APPLY?

The Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) for Student Leaders program seeks undergraduate students in any field of academic specialization who fulfill the conditions below:

a. Are 20 to 24 years of age;

b. Demonstrate the strong English language skills needed to participate in a U.S. academic program;

c. Are committed to returning to their home country/community following completion of the program;

d. Demonstrate strong leadership potential;

e. Indicate a serious interest in learning about the United States;

f. Have a sustained high level of academic achievement;

g. Demonstrate a commitment to civic engagement;

h. Have no prior travel experience in the United States and limited to no study or travel experience outside their home country;

i. Are willing and able to participate fully in intensive academic, community service, and educational travel activities;

j. Are comfortable with campus life, sharing living accommodations while traveling with a multinational group of participants from the Middle East and North Africa region and with U.S. citizens, and making adjustments to cultural and social practices different from those of their home countries/communities; and

k. Are comfortable spending Ramadan and Eid out of home country.

## HOW TO APPLY?

1 - Submit two (2) latest transcripts (bulletin de notes);
2 - Submit two (2) letters of recommendations in English, French or Arabic;
3 - Complete the attached application form.

Applications must be submitted by e-mail to rabatexchanges@state.gov with the subject name of "2015 MEPI Student Leaders". Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Any question can be sent to the following e-mail address rabatexchanges@state.gov.

This program is very competitive. Following assessment of applications, pre-selected candidates will be invited for an interview with a jury at the U.S. Embassy in Rabat. Final selection will be announced by March 2015.

**The application deadline is January 31, 2015 at midnight. No late applications will be accepted.**