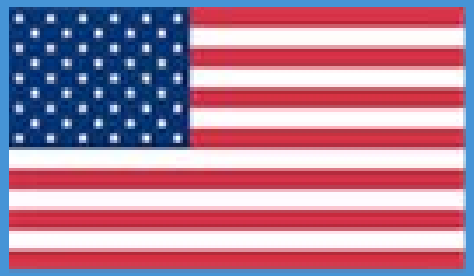

Teaching Excellence & Achievement Program

IREX
Make a Better World

Participating Organizations and their Roles

Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), United States Department of State

- Sponsors and oversees the program

U.S. Embassy and/or Fulbright Commission

- Manages recruitment, conducts pre-departure orientation, and engages with alumni

IREX

IREX is an international non-profit organization providing leadership and innovative programs to improve the quality of **education**, strengthen **independent media** and foster pluralistic **civil society development**.

- Founded in 1968
- $60 million annual portfolio
- 500 staff
- 20 field offices (active in 100+ countries)

IREX
Make a Better World

Teaching Excellence & Achievement Program

The Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program (TEA) will provide approximately 160 secondary school teachers from Europe and Eurasia, East Asia and the Pacific, the Near East, South and Central Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, and the Western Hemisphere with unique opportunities to develop expertise in their subject areas, enhance their teaching skills, and increase their knowledge about the United States.

Teaching Excellence & Achievement Program

TEA is an <u>intensive</u> non-credit, non-degree six-week professional development program (January – March 2016 *or* September – November 2016) at a U.S. university including:

- A customized academic program in general pedagogical and discipline-specific education sessions;
- A customized course in instructional technology;
- A field experience at a U.S. secondary school;
- Organized U.S. civic and cultural activities

Sample Weekly Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday & Sunday
Morning- General Education Workshop	Morning- Field Experience	Morning- Field Experience	Morning- Field Experience	Morning- General Education Workshop	Individual work on lesson plans
Afternoon- Technology Workshop	Afternoon – Discipline specific workshops	Afternoon- Technology Workshop	Afternoon – Field Experience	Afternoon- Discipline-specific workshops	Trip to local museum and group lunch
Evening- Supplemental English Class	Evening - Dinner with Friendship Family	Evening- Group reflection; time to work on lesson plan development	Evening - PTA Meeting at U.S. Host School	Evening - Attend university hockey game	Personal time

TEA Eligible Countries

Algeria	Dominican Republic	Latvia	South Africa
Argentina	Ecuador	Mali	Sudan
Armenia	Egypt	Moldova	Tajikistan
Azerbaijan	El Salvador	Mongolia	Thailand
Bangladesh	Georgia	Mozambique	Tunisia
Belarus	Ghana	Nepal	Turkey
Bolivia	Guatemala	Nicaragua	Turkmenistan
Burkina Faso	Haiti	Niger	Ukraine
Cambodia	Honduras	Nigeria	Venezuela
Cameroon	India	Panama	Vietnam
Chile	Jordan	Peru	West Bank/Gaza
Colombia	Kazakhstan	Russia	Yemen
Costa Rica	Kyrgyzstan	Rwanda	Zambia
Cote d’Ivoire		Senegal	Zimbabwe

Program Overview - Academic Program

Customized TEA Academic Program

General Pedagogical Seminars on topics such as:

- Teaching strategies for home classroom environments

- Student-centered teaching methodologies

- Lesson plan and curriculum development

-Teacher leadership

Program Overview - Academic Program

Academic Seminars:

- Workshops that focus on teaching methodologies, curriculum development, lesson planning, teaching strategies, and intensive English language instruction for English, English as a Foreign Language, Social Studies, Math, and Science teachers

Instructional Technology Seminars:

- Technology for classroom use
- General computer skills:
  (Word, Excel, Power Point, etc.)

Program Overview -

U.S. Secondary School Field Experience

During a two week field experience at a secondary school, fellows will:

- Observe a variety of teaching methods
- Co-teach with American teachers and work with students
- Work closely with a U.S. teacher to develop lesson plans and pilot-testing lessons
- Participate in extra curricular activities as available

Program Overview - Alumni Small Grants

After successfully completing TEA, alumni are eligible to apply for small grants.

This grant program is designed to complement the TEA goal of improving teaching in participating countries.

Program Overview - Alumni Small Grants

Examples of projects implemented by past program alumni include:

- A TEA alumnus of Kyrgyzstan was first awarded an alumni small grant to deliver workshops focusing on problem-solving, goal-setting, healthy living, and positive relationships to disabled students, peer leaders and their teachers in 2009. The project is currently being extended to 30 additional students and will focus on leadership through technology in collaboration with the Digital Youth Dialogue program which recently brought internet access to the region.

Program Overview - Alumni Small Grants

Examples of projects implemented by past program alumni include:

- A TEA alumnus of Senegal successfully delivered a workshop on Teaching Scaffolding Writing Skills. Each of the 38 participants was trained in the content method as well as equipped with the skills necessary to deliver the workshop in their respective schools. The estimated indirect beneficiaries of the training is over 200 Senegalese teachers of English, and up to 8,000 students!

TEA Program Provisions

The U.S. fellowship is fully funded and provides:

- J-1 visa support
- A pre-departure orientation held in your home country
- Round-trip airfare from your home city to and within the U.S. (for participation in the program)
- Academic program fees
- Housing (generally shared with other program fellows)

TEA Program Provisions - Continued

- Accident and sickness medical insurance (does not cover pre-existing conditions)
- Transportation to the field experience school (if necessary)
- A daily allowance for meals and incidentals during the university academic program
- A book/professional development allowance
- An excess baggage/shipping allowance
- Welcome workshop in Washington, D.C.

Eligibility Requirements for TEA

Applicants must:

- Be current secondary-level, full-time teachers with five or more years of classroom experience in disciplines including English, English as a Foreign Language, social studies, mathematics, science, and special education teachers in those subject areas;
- Be citizens of Mozambique
- Have English-language proficiency in written and spoken English with a minimum 450 paper-based or equivalent English language exam*;
- Commitment to continue teaching after completion of the program; and
- Submit a completed application.

** A limited number of Fellows with TOEFL between 425 and 450 will be accepted for the program into a special cohort with additional English language training included in the professional development program.*

TEA Program Regulations

- Fellows must return to their home countries for two years, immediately upon program completion. No exceptions will be made.
- Fellows may not accept paid work while in the U.S.
- Family members may not accompany participants on program.
- No fellowship extensions will be given.

TEA Selection Process

- Selection is made through a merit-based open competition.
- All applications are first reviewed for technical eligibility.
- Top candidates are interviewed by an interview panel and take the TOEFL examination or other compatible examination.
- Top nominees' applications and TOEFL scores will be reviewed by IREX and ECA in Washington, D.C., and, barring any ineligibilities, the nominees will be confirmed as finalists.

**The Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program promotes diversity in the classroom and in learning. The TEA Program supports inclusion and strongly encourages teachers with disabilities to apply.*

TEA Selection Criteria

- Preparedness for an **intensive** U.S.-based training program;
- Professional and educational experience and achievements;
- Demonstrated commitment to teaching in secondary education;
- Demonstrated leadership potential;
- Potential for developing long-term linkages between U.S. and home country educational institutions and schools;

TEA Selection Criteria, continued

- English language skills adequate to live, study, and function independently in the U.S.;
- Willingness and capacity to work collaboratively with international peers to foster a positive learning community for professional development; and
- Ability to express ideas clearly and effectively.

Applicants who have had few or no opportunities to travel to the U.S. will be given priority.

For further information or if you have questions, you may contact

MaputoExchangePrograms@state.gov

or

IREX at

teaglobal@irex.org

Good Luck!