

WASHINGTON FELLOWSHIP FOR YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS

LOOKING FOR 500 LEADERS

APPLY TO BE A PART OF THE NEXT GENERATION OF AFRICAN LEADERS!

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The U.S. Government is inviting young African leaders to apply to come to the United States as Washington Fellows beginning in mid-2014.

The [Washington Fellowship](#) is the new flagship program of the President's Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI). This program will bring over 500 young leaders to the United States each year, beginning in mid-2014, for leadership training and mentoring, and will create unique opportunities in Africa to put those new skills to practical use in propelling economic growth and prosperity, and strengthening democratic institutions.

APPLICATIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE AS OF
DECEMBER 2013

AN UNPARALLELED OPPORTUNITY TO...

- ▲ Interact with [President Obama](#) at a Presidential Summit in Washington, D.C.;
- ▲ Participate in a [6-week leadership and mentoring program](#) at a U.S. institution;
- ▲ Meet with U.S. government, civic, and business leaders;
- ▲ Access exceptional internship and apprenticeship opportunities;
- ▲ Expand your business or project through access to millions of dollars for small grant funding; and
- ▲ Join a [continent-wide and global alumni](#) network to help you seek innovative solutions to common challenges.



YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS INITIATIVE 

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WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

- ▲ Citizens of and residents in a [sub-Saharan African country](#). Persons holding U.S. citizenship or permanent residency are **NOT** eligible;
- ▲ Young leaders with spoken and written proficiency in [English](#); and
- ▲ Youth between [25 and 35 years of age](#) at the time of application submission, although exceptional leaders younger than 25 will be considered.

WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA FOR SELECTION?

- ▲ A proven record of **leadership and accomplishment** in public service, business and entrepreneurship, or civic engagement;
- ▲ A **demonstrated commitment** to public or community service, volunteerism, or mentorship;
- ▲ The ability to **work cooperatively** in diverse groups and respect the opinions of others;
- ▲ Strong social and **communication skills**;
- ▲ Good academic performance, with preference given to applicants with some university education;
- ▲ An **energetic, positive** attitude;
- ▲ A **commitment to return to Africa** and apply leadership skills and training to benefit the applicant's country, community, or school after they return home.

APPLICATION INFORMATION:

The application will collect basic information and will include questions regarding applicants' professional and academic experience including educational background; honors and awards received; extracurricular and volunteer activities; and English language proficiency. We will also request a résumé (with dated educational and professional background), personal information (name, address, phone, email, country of citizenship). Additional elements, such as letters of recommendation or university transcripts, are [OPTIONAL](#) and may supplement your application. The online application will be available in early **December 2013**.

PERSONAL STATEMENTS:

As part of the application, applicants will be asked to provide written responses to essay questions. Questions might include the following: **1)** Explain how you have helped introduce a new idea, initiative, or product at your company or organization. **2)** What is a challenge that your country, industry, or field faces that you would like to address? What steps and resources would be necessary? **3)** Describe an example of a project that required you to attract support from a large group. How did you build interest?.

Visit <http://youngafricanleaders.state.gov/> for more information and to sign up for email updates and notifications about the application process. The application for the 2014 Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders will be available early [December 2013](#). However, in order to help potential applicants prepare, we are providing the following informational guidelines. The exact details of the final application are subject to change.





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