



# 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**



- Funds and oversees the program

## **U.S. Embassy and/or Fulbright Commission**

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

## **IREX**

- Collaborates with ECA, US Embassies/Commissions and US Host Universities to implement the TEA program, manages alumni programming, conducts monitoring and evaluation, and provides general support



# Teaching Excellence & Achievement Program



The Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program (TEA) will provide approximately 170 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 intensive non-credit, non-degree six-week professional development program at a U.S. university (**January – March 2017 or September – November 2017**).

The TEA program includes:

- A customized academic program in general pedagogy and discipline-specific education sessions;
- A customized course in instructional technology;
- 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- Supplement al 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	Egypt	Lithuania	Sri Lanka
Argentina	El Salvador	Malawi	Sudan
Armenia	Estonia	Mali	Tajikistan
Azerbaijan	Georgia	Moldova	Thailand
Bangladesh	Ghana	Mongolia	Tunisia
Belarus	Guatemala	Mozambique	Turkey
Bolivia	Haiti	Nepal	Turkmenistan
Burkina Faso	Honduras	Nicaragua	Ukraine
Cambodia	India	Niger	Uruguay
Cameroon	Iraq	Nigeria	Uzbekistan
Chile	Jordan	Panama	Venezuela
Colombia	Kazakhstan	Peru	Vietnam
Costa Rica	Kyrgyzstan	Russia	West Bank/Gaza
Cote d'Ivoire	Laos	Rwanda	Zambia
Dominican Republic	Latvia	Senegal	Zimbabwe
Ecuador	Lebanon	South Africa	



# Program Overview - Academic Program

## Customized 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, Math, Social Studies, Science, and Special Education 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 US 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 alumni small grants projects implemented by TEA 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 from 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 TEA Program will provide the following:

- J-1 visa support
- A pre-departure orientation held in your home country
- Travel (round-trip airfare from your home city to and within the U.S.) for participation in the program
- A Welcome workshop in Washington, D.C.
- A six-week university professional development program
- Housing (generally shared with other Fellows)
- Accident and sickness health coverage
- A maintenance allowance for meals and incidentals during the program
- A book/professional development allowance
- An excess baggage/shipping allowance
- Opportunity to participate in alumni programming



# 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 or English as a Foreign Language, mathematics, social studies, science, and special education teachers in those subject areas;
- Be citizens of a TEA participating country
- Be proficient in written and spoken English with a minimum paper-based TOEFL score of 450.
- Commit to teaching after completion of the program; and
- Submit a complete application.

*\* A limited number of Fellows with a TOEFL score between 425 and 450 will be accepted for the program into a special cohort with additional English language training provided.*



# TEA Program Regulations

- Fellows must return to their home countries for at least two years upon completion of the TEA program.
- TEA does not allow for paid employment during the program.
- No visa transfers or extensions will be given.
- No visas for dependents (children, spouses)



# 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 comparable 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 cont.

- 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

or

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**Good Luck!**

