

**Program:
Study of the United States Institute
for Student Leaders 2012 (SUSI)**

Study of the United States Institute for Student Leaders Program was designed for participants from Argentina, Chile and Uruguay interested in the topic U.S. History and Government. The institute will host a group of up to 20 students and will be conducted in English. It will take place over the course of five weeks, from January 6 to February 11, 2012 at Wheelock College in Boston.

The deadline for candidate applications to be received ONLY via e-mail is **Wednesday, September 28th, 2011 at 5:00 PM.**

Please submit applications to:

E-mail: mvdultural@state.gov

Subject: **SUSI PROGRAM Application**

(application form and other requirements at the bottom)

1-Program Description:

Study of the U.S. Institutes (SUSI) for Student Leaders are intensive academic programs whose purpose is to provide groups of undergraduate student leaders with a deeper understanding of the United States, while simultaneously enhancing their leadership skills.

The institute will consist of a balanced series of seminar discussions, readings, group presentations, and lectures. The coursework and classroom activities will be complemented by educational travel, local site visits, and volunteer opportunities.

The institute will include an academic residency component of approximately four weeks and a domestic travel component of approximately one week. The program will conclude with three days in Washington, DC where students will meet fellow participants from Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, and Peru, who participated in concurrent institutes at George Mason University and North Carolina Central University.

The Institute at Wheelock College, entitled "The Quest for Human Rights and Social Justice," will be conducted in English. Through various methodologies, students will explore the ways in which the U.S. has sought, and continues to seek, to protect freedom, create justice, and

ensure equality. Students will be provided with an introduction to Revolutionary Boston, the institutional pillars and foundational documents of U.S. democracy, and the concept of political advocacy. A general overview of the U.S. government system, the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights, the federal system of government, elections, and the court system, will be included. The program aims to prepare students to put into action what they have experienced, to help students define leadership roles and activities they may undertake upon their return home. The institute will also address bilateral relations between the U.S. and the participating countries, although this will not be the main focus. Other core components of the institute include leadership development, community service, and fostering cross-cultural understanding. Participants will engage with Americans on campus and will also participate in a weekend homestay.

2-Program Funding:

The Department of State will cover all participant costs, including: program administration, international and domestic travel, ground transportation, book, cultural, mailing and incidental allowances, housing and subsistence.

Participants will reside in dormitory housing on campus. They will share a room and a bathroom with one other student of the same gender.

Most meals will be provided at campus facilities, though some meals will be provided by the program, and participants will also receive per diem that they can use to go out to local restaurants.

Care will be taken to ensure that any special requirements regarding diet, daily worship, housing, and medical care are satisfied.

3-Health Insurance:

Participants will receive the Department of State's coverage of \$50,000 with a \$15 co-pay for the duration of the program. Pre-existing conditions are not covered.

4-Program Requirements and Restrictions:

Participants are expected to participate fully in the academic program. They are expected to attend all lectures and organized activities, and complete assigned readings. Candidates should be made aware that the institute is very intensive and that there will be little time for personal pursuits unrelated to the program.

Participants will not be allowed to leave the institute to visit relatives or friends while in the U.S. Candidates should be advised that they will

NOT be allowed to arrive in the U.S. prior to the start date of the institute or remain in the U.S. after its end date. Similarly, participants will not be allowed to leave the institute to visit relatives or friends while in the U.S.

5-English Language Ability:

English language proficiency is a requirement to participate in this program. The program will be conducted in English. The institute is a rigorous and demanding program; participants will be expected to handle short reading assignments in English and to be full and active participants in all seminar and panel discussions.

6-Candidate Description and Qualifications:

The participants are expected to be highly motivated first through third year undergraduate students from colleges, universities, and other institutions of higher education, who demonstrate leadership through academic work, community involvement, and extracurricular activities.

We will put a special emphasis on recruiting participants with little or no prior experience in the United States or elsewhere outside their home country.

Candidates nominated for this program will:

- be between 18-25 years old (in 2011)
- be studying at a Uruguayan university, IPA, CERP or Magisterio
- have at least one semester left of their undergraduate studies, and, therefore, be committed to returning to their home universities following completion of their institute program
- demonstrate strong leadership qualities and potential in their university and community activities
- demonstrate very good level of English (First Certificate level minimum)
- have a sustained high level of academic achievement, as indicated in grades, awards, and teacher recommendations
- have demonstrated commitment to community and extracurricular university activities

- have had little or no prior study or travel experience in the United States or elsewhere outside of their home country
- be mature, responsible, independent, confident, open-minded, tolerant, thoughtful and inquisitive
- be willing and able to fully participate in an intensive academic program, community service, and educational travel program
- indicate a serious interest in learning about the United States
- be comfortable with campus life, prepared to share living accommodations, and able to make adjustments to cultural and social practices different from those of their home country
- have a sustained high level of academic achievement, as indicated in grades, awards, and teacher recommendations

CHECKLIST FOR COMPLETE APPLICATION:

Please submit the entire application to the following E-mail address by September 28th, 2011 at 5:00 PM:

mvd-cultural@state.gov

Subject: SUSI PROGRAM Application

Please be sure to include scanned copies of all of the following REQUIRED components:

- ___the completed SUSI application form (below)
- ___copy of your "cedula de identidad" or passport if you have one
- ___copy of official transcripts for years of university study (or secondary study for those in the first year of university)
- ___copies of any private English examination to demonstrate language abilities
- ___copy of a letter of recommendation from university (signed)

SUSI APPLICATION FORM (Solicitud de Postulación)

A. Title of Institute: **SUSI for Student Leaders**

B. Full name (exactly as it appears on candidate's passport)

Last:

First:

Middle:

C. Gender

D. Date of birth (please spell out Month, Day, Year)

E. Birth city

F. Birth country

G. Citizenship – Primary and secondary (if applicable)

H. Residency

I. Medical, Physical, Dietary or other Personal Considerations: Please state if the candidate has any pre-existing medical conditions including any prescription medication that the candidate may be taking or any other dietary or personal consideration. This will not affect candidate selection, but will enable the host institution to make any necessary accommodations.

J. Candidate contact information

Address (include city)

Province:

Postal Code:

Home country:

E-mail:

Phone and Cell phone:

K. Academic Institution and Field of Study

Name and complete address of University or academic institute:

Name, address and years of high school:

Name, address and years of elementary school:

Field of study and career:

L. Work and volunteer experience

M. University year of study
Currently studying year of career
Expected graduation date:

N. Membership in associations, clubs, etc

O. Previous experience in the U.S. and abroad (except for Argentina and Brazil). Please list any and all trips the candidate has made to the United States and other countries and include approximate dates and the reason for travel.

From.....to.....Purpose.....

P. Family Residing in the United States: Please list any immediate family members who are currently residing in the United States, including city and state.

Q. Evidence of English Fluency

R. Future study or career plans

S. Special interests

T. Extracurricular activities

U. Something we should know about you? (no more than two sentences)

V. Candidate's Personal Statement (in English and your own words)

Tell us about yourself and your goals including the following: What about your background and/or interests that makes you competitive for this particular institute (please be as specific as possible)? What will you contribute to the group? How do you expect this experience will affect your future academic and professional career? How will it affect you personally? Please structure your essay in paragraphs and limit your response to 250 words, single spaced.
