TEACHING EXCELLENCE AND ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (TEA)

A Program of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA),
U.S. Department of State, and implemented by IREX (International Research and Exchanges Board)

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

Eligibility Requirements:

- **Current secondary-level, full-time teachers with five or more years of classroom experience in disciplines including:**
  - **English as a Foreign Language**
  - **Social Studies**
  - **Math**
  - **Sciences**
- **Citizens of and residents in**

  Venezuela
- **Proficient in written and spoken English with an iBT TOEFL score of 45-46 (450 paper-based) or higher;**
- **Continue teaching after completion of the program; and**
- **Submit a complete application.**

The Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program (TEA) provides international teachers with unique opportunities to develop expertise in their subject areas, enhance their teaching skills and increase their knowledge about the United States. The international participants will travel to the United States in two cohorts of 88-90 teachers each in spring or fall 2012. TEA consists of a non-degree, non-credit customized academic program, including coursework and intensive training in teaching methodologies, lesson planning, and teaching strategies for home classroom environments, as well as the use of computers for Internet, word processing, and as teaching tools. As part of the academic program, participants will have the opportunity to design or revise a set of lessons for use in their home classrooms as well as modify a lesson into a micro-lesson demonstration for the End of Program Workshop in Washington, D.C. The six-week program will also include a forty-hour internship at a secondary school to actively engage participants with American teachers and students. Cultural activities and academic support will be provided for participants throughout the program.

TEA program alumni are also eligible to apply for small grants upon their return home. These grants can provide resources to conduct teacher training workshops or other activities that share the teachers' experiences in the U.S. and contribute to the growth of their home education communities.

The TEA fellowship is fully funded and provides:

- J-1 visa support;
- A pre-departure orientation held in participant's home country;
- Round-trip airfare from your home city to and within the U.S. (for participation in the program);
- A Welcome Orientation in Washington, D.C.;
- Academic program fees;
- Housing (generally shared with other program fellows) and meals;
- Accident and sickness medical insurance coverage;
- Transportation to the internship school (if necessary);
- A daily allowance for meals and incidentals during the academic program;
- A book/professional development allowance;
- A baggage allowance for fees incurred during program travel;
- A Closing Workshop in Washington, D.C.; and
- The opportunity to apply for follow-on grants.

Application Deadline: March 11, 2011

To Apply: Applications for the Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program can be obtained and submitted by contacting:

Caracasexchanges@state.gov

Applications are also available on-line at www.irex.org

IREX