

U.S. GOVERNMENT Foreign Assistance Unit U.S. Embassy Tunis

THE 2015 MEPI STUDENT LEADERS

The 2015 MEPI Student Leaders project provides an intensive 6-week exchange program to the United States for approximately 100 undergraduate students from the Middle East and North Africa. Students are divided among up to six U.S. academic institutions where they will develop leadership skills and expand their understanding of civil society and the democratic process, and how both may be applied in their home communities. Participants have the opportunity to meet their American peers, engage in local community service activities, and observe and take part in the governmental process on the local, state, and federal levels. The program includes academic coursework and study tours to various regions of the United States. Upon completion of the U.S.-based programs, host institutes work with participants to implement civic engagement programs in their home communities. An alumni event will be held in the region approximately 8 months after the conclusion of the U.S.-based program (i.e., in early 2016). Only participants who successfully complete the summer program are eligible to participate in the conference.



WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

While nominees may be undergraduate students between the ages of 20 and 24 in any field of academic specialization, it is critical that they exhibit a serious interest in pursuing leadership opportunities in their home countries and demonstrate a desire to deepen their civic engagement. We seek a gender-balanced pool of candidates and prefer applicants from traditionally underserved areas when possible. Those who have traveled to the U.S. or studied abroad are ineligible. All students must be prepared and possess the necessary English language skills to seriously engage in graduate-level class discussions and practica. In addition, participants will be expected to take advantage of opportunities to inform and educate a variety of American audiences about the cultures and societies of their home countries/communities in non-structured gatherings and public presentations.

HOW DO PARTICIPANTS APPLY?

All applicants must fill in the 2015 Student Leaders Program form including the two essays in pages 4 and 5 and submit a current resume highlighting civic engagement, leadership and/or work experience, extracurricular activities, and academic honors as well as a copy of the photo page of candidate's passport. Applicants must also provide evidence of high academic achievement.



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IMPORTANT DATES:

- The recruitment process for the 2015 program is now open. Deadline is January 31, 2015.
- The program will run from June 29 to August 08, 2015.
- Submit applications to ForeignAssistanceTunis@state.gov by COB January 31, 2015. Please entitle your email as 2015 MEPI Student Leaders Application.
- For other questions, please e-mail:ForeignAssistanceTunis@state.gov