



## FLEX Program Schedule 2023-24

### October

### Civic Education Essay contest opens

- **Civic Education Week Essay Contest** All FLEX students are required to apply to the Civic Education Week Essay Contest. Application materials for the contest will be distributed in the fall and include the general application form, an essay requirement, and a letter of recommendation. Students compete to win an all-expense paid, weeklong trip to Washington DC during the second semester.

### November 1

### Complete 4 Hours of community service to be on track for the year (25 hours for the 100+ hr prize)

- PAF requires that all Grant students complete a minimum of 16hours of volunteer community service throughout the academic year. Students who complete over 100+ hours of community service will receive an award recognizing this accomplishment. Students are required to log/track their volunteer hours.

### November 13-17

### International Education Week

- International Education Week is a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education. It is part of their efforts to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn, and exchange experiences in the United States. Before departing from their home countries, students are asked to begin preparing a presentation about their country. Many students bring flags, ethnic costumes, music and food from home to share during their presentations. Students are required to make at least one presentation during IEW but are encouraged to present multiple times. Presentations can be made to a variety of audiences, including classmates, church groups, community groups and the student's extended host family.



## FLEX Program Schedule 2022-23

### January 1

### Complete 4 Hours of community service to be on track for the year (25 hours for the 100+ hr prize)

- PAF requires that all Grant students complete a minimum of 16hours of volunteer community service throughout the academic year. Students who complete over 100+ hours of community service will receive an award recognizing this accomplishment. Students are required to log/track their volunteer hours.

### Mid-January

### Mid-Year Meeting

- Get updates on Incidental Receipts and Paperwork. Discuss progress with community service hours and how IEW went. Review and evaluate and encourage students with the program's goals. Review return travel policies. Assist FLEX students and HFs in selecting a return travel date and completing the Return Travel Request form to Return itineraries will become available in April/May.

### February 15

### Global Youth Service Day Form Due

- Global Youth Service Day (GYSD) is an annual global event, in April, organized by Youth Service America (gysd.org). With help from their AR, students are required to organize and participate in a volunteer project. Students are encouraged to involve other students, friends, host family members, and members of the community.

### March 1

### Complete 4 Hours of community service to be on track for the year (25 hours for the 100+ hr prize)

- PAF requires that all Grant students complete a minimum of 16hours of volunteer community service throughout the academic year. Students who complete over 100+ hours of community service will receive an award recognizing this accomplishment. Students are required to log/track their volunteer hours.



## FLEX Program Schedule 2022-23

### April 26-28

### Global Youth Service Day

- More Information on GLSD: [leadasap.ysa.org/gysd/](https://leadasap.ysa.org/gysd/)
- Global Youth Service Day (GYSD) is an annual global event, in April, organized by Youth Service America ([gysd.org](https://gysd.org)). With help from their AR, students are required to organize and participate in a volunteer project. Students are encouraged to involve other students, friends, host family members, and members of the community.

### May 1

### Complete FINAL 4 Hours of community service to be on track for the year (25 hours for the 100+ hr prize)

- PAF requires that all Grant students complete a minimum of 16 hours of volunteer community service throughout the academic year. Students who complete over 100+ hours of community service will receive an award recognizing this accomplishment. Students are required to log/track their volunteer hours.

### Mid-May

### End of Year Survey & Re-Entry Meeting

- FLEX students are required to complete the DOS end of the year survey. The Department of State designs the survey to gather information on the students' progress during their year-long program. Surveys will be provided at the end of the academic year and students are required to complete and submit them by the established deadline. Once the surveys are made available, ARs are required to send them to the students and ensure that they complete and submit them as required.
- Re-entry meetings ensure that students receive relevant information concerning alumni opportunities in their respective countries.
  - How to join the local FLEX alumni organizations. Register with DOS State Alumni website: <https://alumni.state.gov>
  - What skills have I learned that can help me as an alumnus? What ideas do I have for possible alumni activities? How do I plan to teach others back home about the United States?



## **FLEX Program Schedule 2022-23**

### **June**

### **FLEX Return Travel to Home Countries**

- FLEX students and host families will receive a Return Travel Request date choice at the end of the first semester/beginning of second semester. They will have the opportunity to request a preferred departure date based on the available international flights specific to each country. FLEX students are strongly encouraged to consult with their natural parents before deciding on a preferred departure date to find out if the student has exam obligations in the home country.
- **Return Travel:** Review travel packet contents and itineraries, excess baggage limitations, and getting to the airport on time.