

Thank You!

Thank you for supporting public diplomacy and international education by welcoming the U.S. Department of State's Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange (CBYX), Future Leaders Exchange (FLEX), and Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study (YES) exchange students into your school.

The CBYX, FLEX, and YES programs are funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. They provide competitively selected secondary school students from all over the world with scholarships to spend an academic year in the United States living with a host family and attending high school. Over 65,000 applicants compete annually for approximately 2,000 scholarships to the United States. That's more competitive than admission to top U.S. universities.

This handbook provides information about the CBYX, FLEX, and YES programs to help you and your staff understand what makes these scholarship students stand out and how they can be unique assets to and contributing members of your school, serving as student ambassadors from their countries to your school community. Please share this handbook with all staff members designated to work with or teach exchange students. We are confident that your experience with these students will be both rewarding and educational, and will be another critical building block in the over 30 years of person-to-person diplomacy brought to life by these programs.

By enrolling a CBYX, FLEX or YES student, the State Department recognizes your school as a Medallion school. And in the true spirit of exchange, we also provide at the end of this handbook information on study abroad scholarships for American high school students. We hope that by welcoming international students to your school, your students will be motivated to learn more about our world and becoming an exchange student.



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United States Department of State

The U.S. Department of State (DOS) is the federal foreign affairs agency charged by Congress to administer global educational and cultural exchange programs. The State Department’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) provides federal funding through an openly competed grants process, which, when awarded, U.S. nonprofit youth exchange organizations are eligible to implement. Their role includes student placement, monitoring, and support in U.S. host communities. We refer to these partners as “placement organizations.” In this manner, U.S. high schools are essential to our foreign policy and diplomatic efforts to achieve mutual understanding around the world.

Program Goals

ECA has specific goals for all U.S. Department of State scholarship exchange students. Students who are awarded a scholarship are held to high standards, and are expected to be student ambassadors and actively contributing members of their host family, school, and community.

CBYX, FLEX, and YES students will:

- Gain an understanding of American society, people, values, culture, diversity, and respect for others with differing views.
- Interact with Americans and generate enduring ties.
- Teach Americans about their home countries and cultures.
- Explore and acquire an understanding of the key elements of U.S. civil society.
- Share and apply experiences and knowledge in their home countries as alumni.



U.S. Department of State Scholarship Programs to the United States



Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange (CBYX)

exchanges.state.gov/cbyx

Initiated in 1983, CBYX was created to strengthen ties between Germany and the United States through citizen diplomacy. The program was founded in celebration of the 300th anniversary of the first German immigration to the United States. CBYX is jointly funded by the U.S. Congress and the German Bundestag (German parliament). Each year CBYX grants scholarships to 250 American high school students, 25 high school graduates interested in vocational training, and 75 young professionals to Germany for an academic year program. In turn, 285 German high school students and 75 German young professionals are hosted in American communities each year. More than 26,500 Americans and Germans have participated in CBYX since its inception.



Future Leaders Exchange Program (FLEX)

<http://discoverflex.org>

exchanges.state.gov/non-us/program/future-leaders-exchange

In 1992 the FLEX program was conceived out of former Senator Bill Bradley's conviction that young people are the key to establishing democracy in the former Soviet Union (referred to as Europe and Eurasia in this text). Each year over 30,000 students from Europe and Eurasian countries apply for this very popular program, and each year approximately 900 students are selected and participate. To date, there are more than 27,000 FLEX alumni.



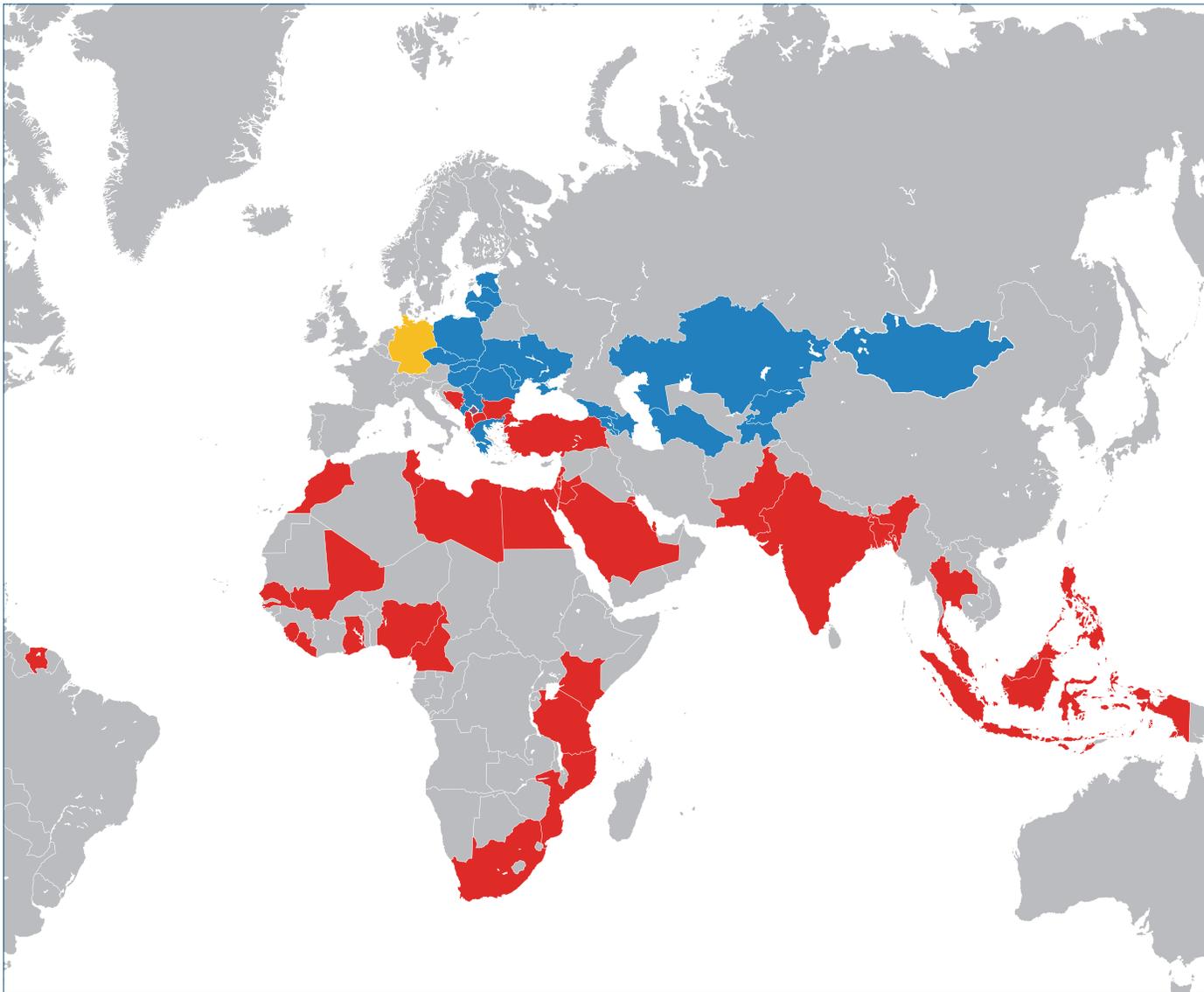
Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study (YES)

www.yesprograms.org

exchanges.state.gov/non-us/program/kennedy-lugar-youth-exchange-study-yes

The YES program was enacted by the U.S. Congress under the sponsorship of Senators Edward Kennedy and Richard Lugar in the aftermath of September 11, 2001 to provide an exchange opportunity to students from countries with significant Muslim populations. Approximately 900 students from almost 40 countries come on program each year, and there are over 12,300 YES alumni today.

CBYX, FLEX and YES around the world



CBYX	Germany
FLEX	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine
YES	Albania, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Egypt, Gaza, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Israel (Arab Communities), Jordan, Kenya, Kosovo, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Macedonia, Malaysia, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Suriname, Tanzania, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, West Bank

Recruitment and Selection

Tens of thousands of students compete for these very selective programs. Eligible candidates are selected through a comprehensive, merit-based, open competition. Students face tough competition and must demonstrate perseverance and commitment throughout the months-long recruitment and screening processes. A tremendous effort is made to recruit students from diverse geographical areas, backgrounds, and ethnic groups to ensure a diverse candidate pool. Students with disabilities are also actively recruited. ECA and placement organizations provide support for students with disabilities through a partnership with Mobility International USA (MIUSA, www.miusa.org).

Students must first meet basic eligibility requirements such as age, grade level, and citizenship. FLEX and YES applicants are given a comprehensive secondary level English exam and write a series of proctored essays in English. Finalists must demonstrate adequate English proficiency to study in a U.S. high school. Before final selection, candidates complete an extensive application, are interviewed individually by trained staff, and take part in a group activity so that staff can assess their interpersonal skills. Selection of finalists is based on academic achievement, personal traits, social skills, and potential for success as an exchange student. German CBYX students undergo a similarly competitive selection process administered by the German Bundestag (parliament).



Monitoring and Support

Placement organizations place students in schools and host families. Most are registered with the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel (CSIET). Each student is supported throughout the year by a local coordinator who is assigned to him or her. The coordinator works with the student, host family and host school throughout the exchange. All placement organizations must comply with J-1 visa regulations concerning the placement and support of these students.

What Sets CBYX, FLEX, and YES Students Apart From Other Exchange Students?

The CBYX, FLEX and YES students go through a rigorous selection and preparation process. The students receive special program orientations before, during and after the exchange, and multiple layers of support by their placement organization. In addition, to pursuing a full course of study at their host high school and participating in cultural and extracurricular activities, these students are required to act as citizen diplomats. As citizen diplomats they perform community service, give presentations about their home countries, and share their culture with Americans. The Department of State holds its scholarship students to the highest standards through a signed program code of conduct and expects them to favorably represent their home countries as youth ambassadors.

“A few exchange students impacted a large number of students at school because our students witnessed how motivated these students were, how knowledgeable they were of worldly affairs, their willingness to take risks, e.g. joining the drama club, joining J.R.O.T.C.”

—J.B. Castle High School
(Kaneohe, HI)

In addition to learning about the richness of American life, students are expected to represent and teach Americans about their home countries and cultures. While interacting with Americans in their host communities, the students have the opportunity to correct misconceptions of life in their country and about their culture. Likewise, students begin to break down misconceptions they may have about Americans and their values. You, your staff, and your student body can contribute to U.S. public diplomacy by helping exchange students who attend your school develop a better practical understanding of the United States. When they return home, they, in turn, will teach their fellow citizens about life in the United States and the American people. Many alumni have written articles for local newspapers, been interviewed on TV and radio, and made presentations about American life in their schools and universities.



In this way, participants carry the responsibility of being both a student and a teacher.

All students are required to do community service not only as a way of contributing to the host communities that have taken them in for the year, but also to help them understand how they can make a difference in the world. The concept of volunteerism, an integral part of American culture, does not exist in many of these students' home countries. In mid-April each year, students and alumni of these programs take part with great enthusiasm in Global Youth Service Day (GYSD), an annual event that encourages youth worldwide to organize and implement activities that assist their local communities. Many students take home with them a newfound and deeply rooted enthusiasm for volunteering and lead their peers and even adults in life-altering community service projects.

Community Service Hour totals, 2017-18:



17,500+



61,800



60,000+

U.S. Department of State Scholarship Exchange Students: Assets to Your School

CBYX, FLEX, and YES students are required and prepared to make presentations about their home countries and cultures to schools, churches, and community groups. Please welcome and facilitate your Department of State scholarship exchange students' requests to make presentations for their classes as well as for your school's international clubs.

International Education Week

All Department of State scholarship exchange students are required to make school presentations during International Education Week (IEW), a joint project of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education observed in November (the last full week before Thanksgiving). Students' presentations can be a springboard for a school-wide IEW celebration. IEW is also a great time for American students to share their exchange experiences, for promotion of Department of State-sponsored programs for American high school students, and for everyone to expand their awareness and understanding of other countries. Exchange students often make presentations at middle and elementary schools in addition to their high schools.



United States Department of State
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
Washington, DC 20522

January 8, 2019

Dear School Administrator:

On behalf of the U.S. Department of State, I want to thank you for accepting the enrollment of a secondary school student participating in the Exchange Visitor Program. The Secondary School Student Program is one of many ways foreign nationals participate in people-to-people exchange programs in the United States. People-to-people exchanges are a valuable tool of foreign policy. This program offers a unique opportunity for your school to experience firsthand the richness and diversity of a culture different from your own, and for you to exemplify American values and culture to a foreign visitor. Through this program, you will join thousands of American educational institutions and professionals who serve as citizen ambassadors of the United States. Many schools have found the secondary school student program to be a rewarding and enjoyable experience.

Secondary school programs have been a part of U.S. public diplomacy efforts since 1949. Approximately 25,000 high school students from around the world participate annually in the Exchange Visitor Program. This program is not only a great opportunity for international students to experience the culture and diversity of the United States, but it allows U.S. students to expand their horizons as well. The goodwill of American high schools in opening their campuses to these young international visitors is vital to this program's success.

Each sponsoring organization has a local representative who will oversee each student's year in your school. They are also available to serve as a point of contact for you, your teachers, and the students' host families. The health, safety, and well-being of the students who participate in this program are our highest priority.

I hope this will be a rewarding experience for you, your school, and the exchange visitor student. It is critical that you notify the student's program sponsor if you have any concerns or if the student's personal health, safety, and/or well-being is threatened in any way. If the sponsor is not responsive to your concerns, please contact the Department of State directly at our 24-hour toll-free number (1-866-283-9090) that has been established for this purpose. In addition, the program sponsor provides each student with an identification card that lists the student's host family address and telephone numbers, separate telephone numbers for immediate contact with the sponsor organization and the sponsor's local representative, and the Department of State's toll-free phone number and email address (visas@state.gov). Your exchange visitor students should keep this card with them at all times and contact us if they have any concerns about their health, safety, and/or well-being.

The Secondary School Student Program offers you, your staff, your exchange visitor student, and your local community the opportunity to create a strong lifelong relationship. I hope this will be a positive and rewarding experience for all of you. The Department of State is deeply appreciative of your part in ensuring this program reaches its maximum potential as a quality educational and cultural exchange experience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G.K. Saba".

G.K. Saba
Director, Policy & Program Support
for Private Sector Exchange

Students with Disabilities

Every year approximately 30 students with disabilities participate in these programs. Given the more restrictive and exclusionary environments faced by students with disabilities in many countries, earning a scholarship is all the more valuable for them, often in ways students cannot imagine when they first come on program. With the support of Mobility International USA, the programs help these students navigate what it means to have a disability in the United States, from increased independence to reasonable accommodations that make daily life more efficient. Funds are specifically set aside for this purpose and administered in consultation with all associated parties, which includes the host school, the host family, the placement organization, MIUSA, and American Councils for International Education.

Students with disabilities may be hearing impaired or deaf, visually impaired or blind, or have motor conditions such as cerebral palsy. Some students will have attended specialized schools at home, and others will have been mainstreamed. The programs consider what is best for each student in the United States on an individual basis. Many students have been welcomed into mainstream U.S. schools where their eyes are opened for the first time to their own potential.



Special Workshops for CBYX, FLEX, and YES Students

The U.S. Department of State provides special, fully-funded, program-related opportunities for approximately 400 selected FLEX and YES participants and all 285 CBYX participants during the exchange year, for which students may request an excused absence. These workshops include:

Civic Education Workshop: This week-long workshop is held in Washington, DC in winter or early spring. Participants attend seminars and lectures, meet with their host community's Congressional representatives on Capitol Hill, and participate in activities designed to expose them to the federal system of government and elements of U.S. civil society.

Workshop for Youth Leaders in Teaching of English (for FLEX and YES only): This intensive, week-long training program in Washington, DC is held in the spring for 30-35 competitively selected FLEX and YES students. The workshop cultivates skills specific to teaching English. Participants develop and practice important teaching and leadership skills including public





speaking, team-building, and goal-setting, and are expected to organize English teaching opportunities upon return to their home communities.

Diplomas

Prior to coming to the United States, students and their parents are informed that they should not expect to receive a U.S. high school diploma, and that this is at the discretion of each host school. Students are also told that they are to accept the school's position on providing a diploma. This message is reinforced in pre-program orientations and throughout the year. The U.S. Department of State does not expect school administrators to make exceptions for its scholarship exchange students. Many of the students come from countries with nationalized systems of education, and may not initially understand the local governance of the U.S. educational system.

Travel Home

All Department of State scholarship exchange students are expected to return to their home countries at the end of the program, as their J-1 (exchange visitor) visa status will end. Before students are accepted into the scholarship programs, they and their parents sign a statement agreeing that students will depart the United States on the date and flight assigned by the placement organization. A student may inquire about staying in the United States to continue high school or pursue university studies, however, they will need to depart and apply for a subsequent student visa at a U.S. Embassy abroad in order to return to the United States.

It is a goal of the program that students will return to their home countries after their program to share what they have learned. All Department of State scholarship exchange students are subject to a cumulative two-year home residency requirement as a condition of their J-1 visa, before applying for a U.S. immigrant or work visa. This requirement does not prohibit individuals from returning to the United States for tourism, study, or other purposes involving a temporary stay, nor does it restrict the students from exploring university opportunities, taking college admission tests, or seeking scholarships while in the United States.

Most students are assigned a departure date in June. Approximately one-quarter of FLEX students and YES students from southeast Europe, will depart in May, to take mandatory school exams in their home countries. We ask for your understanding. The Department of State will not change an assigned date of travel to accommodate graduation, prom, or other special events.



Alumni Share U.S. Experience and Become Changemakers

ECA scholarship programs are all “forward-focused”; everything the students learn and experience during their exchange year is something they can take back to their home countries. They are smart, talented, and motivated young people empowered with new knowledge, skills, and tools to use to benefit their home communities and countries. Returning students join the official U.S. program alumni network in their country, continuing their student ambassadorship earned from their experience with your schools and community.

Alumni also remain active in organizing community service activities such as volunteering in local orphanages; conducting fundraisers and drives for worthy causes such as children’s hospitals and disadvantaged populations; cleaning up parks, beaches and forests; visiting the elderly; and teaching English or basic computer skills to others in their community. Many alumni build on the empowering experience of their exchange year and go on to pursue university degrees and careers and service focused on improving their communities and indeed the world.

Alumni Accomplishments

CBYX 2006 Alumna Giulia Enders wrote a bestselling book “Darm mit Charme” which has been translated into several languages, in English the book is called “Gut: The Inside Story of Our Body’s Most Underrated Organ.”

FLEX 2002 alumna Yulia Simonova from Russia works for the Russian NGO **Perspektiva**, which focuses on the rights of people with disabilities. She applied for and was selected to carry the torch for the 2014 Paralympics in Sochi, Russia.

FLEX 1994 alumna Elena Milashina from Russia was recognized with the U.S. Secretary of State’s International Women of Courage Award for her bold work as a journalist and human rights activist. She “is one of the most influential and respected journalists in Russia,” said Secretary Kerry during the award ceremony. “She’s built a career investigating drug trafficking, terrorism, military disasters, and the killings of fellow journalists.”



Yulia Simonova



Mwalimu Karisa

YES 2012 alumnus Mwalimu Karisa from Kenya raised \$25,000 to build a well for his village. Thanks to his efforts and the enthusiasm of his lowan host community, his village now has clean, running water for the first time. He also authored a published children’s book about his experience.

YES 2004 alumna Mahinour El Badrawi from Egypt, a student of International Law at the American University in Cairo, addressed over 1,000 representatives from civil society, and governments at the United Nations, advocating a model of democratic economic growth for the Arab region that would revive the productive capacity of the state and generate sustainable development.

CBYX 1993 alumnus Alexander Bonde and CBYX 1998 alumna Anna Luehrmann from Germany served on the Bundestag (German Parliament). Anna was the youngest member ever elected.

FLEX 2016 alumna Aruzhan Koshkarova from Almaty, Kazakhstan took part in the Technovation Challenge in August 2017, winning the grand prize of \$15,000 to further develop her product QamCare, a mobile application designed to help users keep track of their loved ones. The app and the alumna were highlighted recently through BBC at: <http://www.bbc.com/capital/story/20180315-the-kazakh-teen-keeping-people-safe>.

FLEX 2014 alumnus Firuz Yogbekov from Tajikistan was selected by the State Department Emerging Young Leaders program as one of the world’s 10 most notable young leaders in 2018. As president of the debate club Face-to-Face and English debate league coordinator at the Law Clinic in Russian Tajik Slavonic University in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, Firuz has used debate to generate change on themes that are taboo in Tajikistan, including the spread of violent extremism, domestic violence, and economic expansion among the poorest populations in the country. He is being honored in a ceremony at the Department of State.



Elena Milashina

Thank You

Thank you again for being a partner for global diplomacy. We hope you find hosting a Department of State scholarship exchange student in your school a worthwhile experience. We are certain it will be a valuable experience for these students. Thank you for opening the doors of your school to these special students and for helping them to develop the qualities needed to be future leaders. Together you are making history!



Appendix I: The Medallion Program

THE MEDALLION PROGRAM



PARTNERS FOR GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP & DIPLOMACY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE-SPONSORED EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Each year, almost 2,000 extraordinary young people from around the world receive a highly competitive, merit-based scholarship to study at a U.S. high school and live with volunteer host families. These future leaders are participants in the Department's Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange (CBYX), Future Leaders Exchange (FLEX), and Youth Exchange and Study (YES) programs. Host schools help build diplomatic bridges with other nations by leaving positive, lasting impressions of the United States on their exchange students.

BECOME A MEDALLION MEMBER SCHOOL

By enrolling a U.S. Department of State-sponsored exchange student, high schools become Medallion Member Schools. These schools set themselves apart by demonstrating a commitment to academic and cultural enrichment for their students through international exchange. Medallion Member Schools may pair the official medallion with their school name and advertise on banners, newsletters, websites, signage, clothing designs, and more.

CREATE GLOBAL CITIZENS

The world is increasingly interconnected. By participating in the Medallion Program, you can prepare your students to become global citizens. Exchange students introduce your students to another culture and increase their international awareness without requiring them to travel. CBYX, FLEX and YES students also positively impact your school through sharing their countries and cultures, engaging in extracurricular activities, and volunteering in their communities.

LEARN MORE AT [HOSTING.STATE.GOV#MEDALLION](https://hosting.state.gov/#medallion)



Appendix II: Secondary School Systems Overseas

High School in Other Countries

Although each country has its own educational standards, there are some generalizations that can be made concerning the educational system in the home countries of these exchange students.

Most ECA exchange students come from countries with a standardized, nation-wide school system and curriculum. The students may be confused initially by the variation among U.S. schools stemming from local school district autonomy.

In many countries, students do not change classes as frequently as American students and it may take scholarship students a while to get used to having individual schedules and switching classes each period. Many students are surprised that American schools have so many rules and regulations, such as hall passes and tardy slips. They find it paradoxical that our system allows them to choose their own classes, a liberty their schools do not offer, yet will not allow students to walk in the hallways without permission. The opportunity to select their own classes is something they greatly enjoy and appreciate while in the United States.

The methods of teaching (and learning) in most countries differ from the American model. Whereas in American schools, students are encouraged to form their own thoughts and theories individually and to defend them, in many overseas schools students often work in groups and are expected to memorize and recite information. Alumni often speak of having been impressed with what they describe as the “democratic atmosphere” of American schools. Exams in many overseas schools are usually oral and students do not take multiple choice or standardized tests. Tests are often given in front of the class and teachers will criticize or praise students in front of their peers. Grades are not always considered private, and the teacher may give a student his/her grade in the presence of the entire class.

Special Considerations for High Schools

Many students come from countries where cultures, values and beliefs are guided by Islamic faith and traditions and may need accommodations for their own religious or cultural practices like their daily prayers or dress-codes. Some small considerations can go a long way to making the student at your school feel welcomed and at home.

During the month of Ramadan, which falls over the course of our summer for the next several years, students who practice Islam can often be fatigued and distracted as they fast during the day. If there are tryouts for sports teams during the month of Ramadan, coaches or other adults should be aware that fasting students will be refraining from drinking during daylight hours and should watch for signs of dehydration during vigorous or outdoor activities.



Some students, especially females, wear clothing that covers their arms and legs, and for some women, their heads as well. If there is a school uniform for sports, PE classes or otherwise, a student may need special clothing accommodations in order to maintain her standards of modesty.

Some students may wish to have a space to conduct one or more of their five daily prayers. For some, this is a daily practice and others may be most observant during Muslim holidays. These prayers are short in length and require only a small, quiet space.

Grade Equivalencies

For information on grade equivalencies, please see the following NAFSA: Association of International Educators resource:

www.nafsa.org/Resource_Library_Assets/Publications_Library/Online_Guide_to_Educational_Systems_Around_the_World/#

Appendix III: Resources

ECA Programs for Americans to Study Abroad:
ECA Programs for Foreign Exchange Students:
Opportunities to Host Foreign Exchange Students:
Department of State Alumni Website:
CBYX program Website:
FLEX Program Website:
FLEX Alumni Community:
FLEX and YES Country Profiles:
YES Program and Alumni Community:

exchanges.state.gov/us
exchanges.state.gov/non-us
hosting.state.gov
alumni.state.gov
exchanges.state.gov/cbyx
discoverflex.org
bradleyherald.org
frank@americancouncils.org
yesprograms.org

Appendix IV: Placement Organizations

American Cultural Exchange Service (ACES)

One Lake Bellevue Drive
Suite 200
Bellevue, WA 98005
800-661-2237
www.explorettheworld.org

AFS-USA, Inc. (AFS)

120 Wall Street
4th Floor
New York, NY 10005
800-237-4636
www.afsusa.org

American Councils for International Education

1828 L Street, NW
Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20036
202-833-7522 or
800-621-9559
inbound.americancouncils.org

Aspect Foundation

250 Columbus Ave, Ste 200
San Francisco, CA 94133
800-879-6884
www.aspectfoundation.org

ASSE and World Heritage

228 N. Coast Highway
Laguna Beach, CA 92651
800-333-3802 or
949-494-4100
www.asse.com

Ayusa International

600 California Street
10th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94108
888.552.9872
www.ayusa.org

Academic Year in America (AYA/AIFS)

1 High Ridge Park
Stamford, CT 06905
800-322-4678
www.academyyear.org

Borderless Friends Forever

201 West Chatham Street
Suite 216
Cary, NC 27511
919-285-2693
www.borderlessfriends.org

Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE)

ATTN: Grant Programs
300 Fore Street
Portland, ME 04101
800-448-9944
www.ciee.org

Greenheart Exchange

712 N Wells St
Chicago, IL 60657
312-264-1647
<http://www.greenheart.org>

IRIS

2521 University Blvd.
Ste. 123
Ames, IA 50010
515-292-7103
www.iris-center.org

NW Services Inc., PEACE Program

2604 Polk St
Caldwell, ID 83605
208-250-0379
www.nw-services.com

Pan Atlantic Foundation

1 Union Street
Suite 202
Portland, ME 04101
207-871-8622
www.panatlanticfoundation.org

Program of Academic Exchange (PAX)

14 Willett Avenue
Port Chester, NY 10573
800-555-6211
www.pax.org

STS Foundation

100 Main Street, Suite 420
Concord, MA 01742
800-522-4678
www.stsfoundation.org

World Link, Inc.

905 M Avenue
Kalona, IA 52247
877-656-4590
www.worldlinkinc.org

Youth For Understanding

6856 Eastern Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20012
800-424-3691 or
202-774-5200
www.yfuusa.org

Appendix V: U.S. Department of State Study Abroad Scholarships for American High School Students



Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange (CBYX)

exchanges.state.gov/cbyx

CBYX offers scholarships to selected high school students who want to fully immerse themselves in German culture by living with a host family and attending a high school for an academic year. No previous language experience is required and a month-long language training is provided at the beginning of the program. During their exchange year, students participate in leadership activities and also meet with members of the U.S. Congress and German Bundestag (parliament).

Host Country: Germany



**NSLI
FOR YOUTH**
Scholarships to Study
Language Abroad

National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y)

www.NSLIforYouth.org

The NSLI-Y program offers merit-based scholarships for eligible American high school students to study less commonly taught languages (Arabic, Chinese, Hindi, Indonesian, Korean, Persian, Russian, and Turkish) in summer and academic year overseas immersion programs. The languages offered can change from year to year, based on international conditions.

Host Countries: China, Estonia, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Korea, Latvia, Moldova, Morocco, Russia, Taiwan, Tajikistan, Turkey, and other locations around the world



Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study (YES)

www.yesprograms.org

exchanges.state.gov/non-us/program/kennedy-lugar-youth-exchange-study-yes

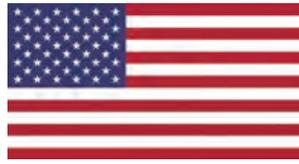
YES Abroad offers 65 full scholarships to American high school students to spend up to one academic year in select countries with significant Muslim populations.

Host Countries: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Macedonia, Malaysia, Morocco, Philippines, Senegal, Thailand, and Turkey



We encourage you to promote and support study abroad opportunities to your American students.

The experience not only enriches their lives, but also adds to the educational resources for teachers and students at your school. Students participating in U.S. Department of State’s exchange opportunities abroad use blogs, messaging apps, and social media to share their experience live and streaming with their friends and communities back home, creating a rich multiplier effect and encouraging their peers to consider taking part in this life-changing experience. This resource which has boundless potential for generating friendship, goodwill, and understanding in the classroom, the community, and the world. Learn more about additional Department of State exchange programs for teachers and others at exchanges.state.gov/highschool.



These programs are sponsored by:

The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

www.exchanges.state.gov

In partnership with:

