

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
2011 STUDY OF THE UNITED STATES INSTITUTE FOR SECONDARY-SCHOOL EDUCATORS

The U.S. Embassy in Sofia, Bulgaria is accepting applications for the 2011 Study of the United States Institute for Secondary-School Educators. The Institute will take place over the course of six weeks beginning in mid-June 2011. General information about last year's Institute can be obtained at: http://exchanges.state.gov/academicexchanges/study_secondary.html

The Study of the U.S. Institute for Secondary-School Educators will provide two multinational groups of 30 secondary school educators each (classroom teachers, teacher trainers, curriculum developers, textbook writers, ministry of education officials, etc.) with a deeper understanding of U.S. society, education, and culture, past and present. The programs will be organized around a central theme or themes in U.S. civilization and will have a strong contemporary component. Through a combination of traditional, multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches, the programs will elucidate the history and evolution of U.S. educational institutions and values. The programs also serve to illuminate contemporary political, social, and economic debates in American society.

The ultimate goal is to strengthen curricula and to improve the quality of teaching about the United States in secondary schools and other academic institutions abroad.

All participant costs will be covered. Participants will have a private room with a shared bathroom during the residency portion (four weeks) of the Institute, and will share a hotel room during the study tour (up to two weeks). Housing will typically be in college or university-owned housing. Most meals will be provided at campus facilities, though participants may have access to a kitchen to cook some meals on their own.

APPLICANT DESCRIPTION AND QUALIFICATIONS:

Applicants should be mid-career, typically (but not mandatorily) between the ages of 30-50, highly-motivated and experienced secondary educators. The ideal applicant will be a secondary-school teacher, teacher trainer, curriculum developer, textbook writer, ministry of education official, or other related professional with responsibility for secondary-school education.

The ideal applicant will also be an experienced professional with little or no prior experience in the United States, whose home institution is seeking to introduce aspects of U.S. studies into its curricula, to develop new courses in the subject of the Institute, to enhance and update existing courses on the United States, or to offer specialized seminars/workshops for education professionals in U.S. studies. In this respect, while the applicant's scholarly and professional credentials are an important consideration, an equally important factor is how participation in the institute will enhance course offerings in U.S. studies at the applicant's home institution.

Applicant Statement: In order to get a better sense of potential participants' motivations and goals, the US embassy requests that each applicant provide a short personal statement indicating why he or she is interested in participating in the program and what he or she expects to get out of the experience. For more details, see item "T" below.

English fluency, naturally, is a requirement.

Priority Consideration: Priority will be given to applicants who have and are able to demonstrate firm plans to enhance, update, or develop courses and/or educational materials with a U.S. studies focus or component, who have limited experience in the United States, and who have special interest in the program subject areas as demonstrated through past scholarship, accomplishments, and professional duties.

Applicants should be willing and able to fully take part in an intensive post-graduate level academic program and a study tour. They will be expected to attend all lectures and organized activities, and to complete assigned readings. There will be little time for personal pursuits unrelated to the program. The institute should not be viewed as a research program. Family members and/or friends cannot accompany participants on any part of the program. Please note that teaching methodology and pedagogical methods will not be addressed formally in the institute.

APPLICATION FORMAT

A. Title of Institute

B. Nominee's Full Name: Nominee's names should match his/her passport and should be presented in the following order: Prefix (Dr., Mr., Mrs., Ms., Miss), Last Name(s), First Name, Middle Name.

C. Gender

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

E. Birth City

F. Birth Country

G. Country(ies) of Citizenship: Primary and, if applicable, secondary country

H. Country of Residence

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

J. Candidate Contact Information: Home Address, City, Home State/Province, Home Country, E-mail, and Telephone.

K. Current Position Type, Title, Institutional Name, and Country.

For "Position Type," please select one from among the following: 1) Senior Executive, President, Government

Minister, etc.; 2) Junior Executive, Vice President, Dean, Government Advisor, etc.; 3) Professor, Editor, Officer, Director, etc.; 4) Associate Professor, Senior Researcher, Senior Staff, etc.; 5) Assistant Professor, Assistant Editor, Coordinator, Staff; 6) Lecturer, Teacher, Consultant; 7) Teaching Assistant, Instructor; or, 8) Other.

L. Work Experience, including previous positions and titles, and the approximate dates of employment.

M. Education, and Academic and Professional Training, including degree earned and fields of specialization. Degrees listed should reflect the closest U.S. equivalent.

N. Active Professional Memberships. Please select from among the following position types to describe the level of your involvement with the organizations listed; 1) President, Board Chairperson, Director; 2) Board Member; 3) Editorial Staff, Officer; 4) Contributing Member; 5) Member.

O. Publications: Publications should include the publication year, type of publication, title, and publisher. All foreign titles should be translated into English. (Maximum 10 publications.)

To identify the publication type, please choose from among the following options: 1) Book; 2) Edited volume (as primary or co-editor); 3) Book chapter; 4) Journal article; 5) Newspaper/ online article; or, 6) Conference/ University/ Government working paper.

P. Previous Experience in the United States: Please list all trips you have made to the United States and include approximate dates and the reason for travel.

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

R. Evidence of English Fluency (*please leave blank*)

S. Professional Responsibilities:

Current Courses Taught- Should include the course title, level of student (Ph.D., M.A., Undergraduate, High School), number of hours per semester, number of students, and the estimated percent of U.S. studies content.

Current Student Advising- Should include the number of students advised who are studying U.S. related topics, level of students (Ph.D., M.A., Undergraduate, High School), and the number of advising hours.

Other Potential Outcomes- Please select all of the likely potential outcomes that might result from your participation in this institute: 1) Update Existing Course; 2) Create New Course; 3) Create New Degree Program; 4) University Curriculum Redesign; 5) National Curriculum Redesign; 6) New Research Project; 7) New Publication; 8) Professional Promotion; 9) Government or Ministry Policy; 10) New Professional Organization; 11) New Institutional Linkages; 12) Raise Institutional Profile.

T. Personal Essays to be written by nominees, limit 4,500 characters.

1) Please discuss your professional responsibilities in greater detail, including how attending this Institute would help you achieve the "Other Potential Outcomes" you have checked above; AND 2) Please discuss how your participation would enhance this Institute, based either upon your personal and professional experience or upon the current state of U.S. studies in your home country.

U. *please leave blank*

V. *please leave blank*

Applications must be submitted electronically in the format provided above by October 31, 2010 to usaexchanges@gmail.com. In the subject line, please indicate the Institute for which you are applying, e.g. "2010 Study of The United States Institutes for Secondary-School Educators". Short-listed applicants will be contacted and invited for an interview at the US Embassy in Sofia. Interviews will take place the week of November 15, 2010.