

2014 SUMMER INSTITUTES FOR EUROPEAN STUDENT LEADERS

Overview:

The Commission proposes to nominate two candidates from Spain for each of the 2014 Summer Institutes for European Student Leaders offered by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the United States Department of State. The two Summer Institutes for European Student Leaders are entitled: **Institute on Environmental Stewardship**, and **Institute on Social Entrepreneurship**.

Each institute will have 20 student participants. In addition to the academic focus, the Institutes are intended to introduce European students to U.S. culture and society and will include cultural components that allow students to become familiar with their host community during a five-week period, beginning early July 2014.

Application: The application period is from **December 2, 2013** to **January 15, 2014**. An electronic application is available at: www.fulbright.es and supporting documents (i.e. two letters of recommendation) must be delivered or postmarked to the Commission by **January 15, 2014**.

Comisión Fulbright
Calle del General Oráa, 55, planta baja
28006 Madrid

Registry hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Information: <http://fulbright.es/ver/formulario-informacion>

Requirements:

The program will maintain a focus on young people who otherwise would not have an opportunity to travel to the United States and who represent diverse populations within Spain. Students should exhibit leadership potential and demonstrate interest in the subject matter, although experience in the subject is not a prerequisite for participation.

As general characteristics, participants will:

- be able to participate in the program in its entirety;
- be currently enrolled in the second or third year of university studies;
- be at least 18 years old and no older than 22 years old by the start of the summer institute program in the U.S.;
- be conversant in English;
- be committed to returning to Spain and continuing university study in the fall of 2014;
- have a high level of academic achievement, as indicated by academic grades, awards, and teacher recommendations;
- have had no or extremely limited study or travel experience in the U.S.;
- be mature, responsible, independent, and open-minded;
- be able to participate in any pre-departure information sessions held by the Fulbright Commission;
- be willing to honor all campus housing agreements and regulations related to living arrangements;
- be willing and able to participate fully in the Institute academic program, including attending all sessions, arriving to class on time, completing all assignments, and contributing to classroom discussions;
- be willing and able to participate fully in all cultural programs and volunteer activities; and
- be prepared to submit a report to the Fulbright Commission on their program experience.

Selection process:

Preselected applicants will be called in for English testing and a required personal interview in Madrid in February 2014.

Grant awards:

The Institutes are an all-expense paid program, including meals, transportation, books, tickets to cultural events, and more. Participants will be enrolled in a health and accident insurance plan and receive a small daily allowance for incidental expenses. In addition to the books students will receive as part of the curriculum, students may choose a small number of supplemental books from a pre-selected list of titles having to do with American Studies and their institute's theme. Supplemental books will not be mailed directly to the students' homes; students will be expected to pack the books. The program will cover the cost of additional baggage.

Accommodations will be made in each institute for students with disabilities, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

2014 Summer Institutes – Program Description:

In addition to adult staff supervision, each Institute will also have two or more peer mentors -- U.S. students who will befriend the participants and advise them.

The host campuses will be prepared to accept Muslim students, as well as students of all religious denominations. Since there will be overlap with Ramadan, it will be important to inform applicants who observe the holiday that they will be expected to participate in all program activities, and that they likely will need to be flexible in their practice. Students in the Institute on Environmental Stewardship may be expected to participate in activities that require physical exertion (hiking, camping), so students who will be fasting should take note.

No academic credit will be provided for the coursework in the program. Students will receive a certificate of participation at the end of the program.

Students in both Institutes will be encouraged to implement a public service project when they return home, contribute to a better understanding of American society among their undergraduate classmates and compatriots, help promote academic exchange programs among their peers, and become active alumni of the Summer Institutes for European Student Leaders program.

The **Institute on Environmental Stewardship**, tentatively to be hosted by Kansas State University (KSU), is designed to provide a keen understanding of environmental stewardship, community service, and American culture. Students will gain an appreciation for the responsible use and protection of the natural environment through conservation and sustainable practices. The program will be interactive and experiential, with field trips to outdoor research facilities and opportunities for classroom discussion. Students will leave the program with a willingness to put newly-gained knowledge to practical use. All activities will support student work on projects that will deepen students' understanding of issues of environmental stewardship. Students should be prepared to be busy, work hard, and have a lot of fun. Students will have the opportunity to join in the celebration of American Independence Day and observe the local parade and fireworks display as well as participate in a variety of other leisure activities such as a baseball game, a canoe trip, movies, games, and visits to the KSU student recreation facilities. Students can expect the Institute on Environmental Stewardship to prepare them to lead the way to a more sustainable future.

The **Institute on Social Entrepreneurship**, tentatively to be hosted by Indiana University (IU), Bloomington, is a multi-faceted, immersive program designed to learn and gain practical experience with social entrepreneurship and basic business skills as well as an introduction to American business practices. The program will be interactive, experiential, and jam-packed with classroom instruction, panel discussions, business visits, and volunteer opportunities. All of these activities will support student work on two projects – an individual and team project with an existing Bloomington-based nonprofit. Students should be prepared to be busy, work hard, and have a lot of fun. Students will join in the celebration of American Independence Day and observe the local parade and fireworks display as well as a variety of other leisure activities such as movies, games, karaoke nights, and visits to the IU student recreation facilities. Students can expect the Institute on Social Entrepreneurship to be a rigorous academic program that will prepare them to employ entrepreneurial knowledge and skills to address social issues in their home countries.