

**FY 2019 Study of the U.S. Institute for Student Leaders on
Women's Leadership**

Interested Candidates should submit their nominations by **Monday, December 31st, 2018**, by completing the attached application form and sending to fulbrightcdi@state.gov

The U.S. Embassy is pleased to invite candidate nominations from Cote d'Ivoire for a summer 2019 Study of the U.S. Institute for Student Leaders interested in the topic of Women's Leadership. The program will take place during the late June to August timeframe in 2019. Exact dates will be communicated at a later time. The Institute will take place at the University of Delaware. The deadline to receive nominations via fulbrightcdi@state.gov is **Monday, December 31st, 2018**.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The Study of the U.S. Branch has sponsored Student Leader Institutes since 2003. The Study of the U.S. Institutes for Student Leaders on Women's Leadership began in 2010. The University of Kansas manages and oversees all four SUSIs on Women's Leadership and issues sub-awards to three partner universities and colleges to administer three Institutes. The Institutes take place simultaneously at Green River College in Auburn, Washington; Saint Mary's College in South Bend, Indiana; the University of Delaware in Newark, Delaware; and the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas. All 80 participants will come together at the beginning of the program in Washington, D.C. for an opening conference and cultural festival.

Study of the U.S. Institutes (SUSIs) for Student Leaders are intensive short-term academic programs whose purpose is to provide groups of undergraduate student leaders with a deeper understanding of the United States while simultaneously enhancing their leadership skills. The five-week Institutes will consist of a balanced series of seminar discussions, readings, group presentations, and lectures. The coursework and classroom activities will be complemented by educational travel, site visits, leadership activities, and volunteer opportunities within the local community. Each Institute will have 20 female participants and will include a four week academic residency component and a one week integrated study tour. During the academic residency, participants will also have the opportunity to engage in educational and cultural activities outside of the classroom.

The Study of the U.S. Institutes for Student Leaders on Women's Leadership will examine the history and participation of women in public life in the United States. The Institute will focus on two major areas: developing participants' leadership skills in areas such as critical thinking, communication, decision-making, and managerial abilities; and, placing these abilities in the context of the history and participation of women in U.S. politics, economics, culture, and society. The program will also examine the historical domestic progress towards women's equality in the United States, the current domestic successes and challenges to women in a variety of fields, and current challenges in global women's issues.

The SUSIs on Women's Leadership will begin with an opening conference in Washington, D.C., tentatively scheduled for late June in 2019. The one-day event will bring together 80 SUSI student leaders and approximately 15 U.S. student ambassadors from the four Institutes. The women will have opportunities to network with one another and meet with inspiring U.S. women leaders.

The 20 participants in this Institute will then travel to the University of Delaware for their academic residency. A study tour to New York City and Atlanta, Georgia, and day trips to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Amish country will further illuminate the American experience. Throughout the Institute, participants will visit relevant local women's organizations to meet with women leaders. They will also be challenged to create and present on a "Women Engaging the World" follow-on project that will be implemented in their home community.

OTHER ESSENTIAL PROGRAM INFORMATION:

Program Funding: The Department of State will cover all participant costs, including: program administration; international and domestic travel and ground transportation; visa travel; book, cultural, mailing and incidental allowances; and housing and subsistence. The University of Kansas will arrange participants' international and visa travel costs and travel allowances within set limits and in coordination with posts.

Housing and Meal Arrangements: Housing will be in university dorms or a full service hotel. Participants may be expected to share a room and bathroom with another student of the same gender. Most meals will be provided at campus facilities, though participants may have access to a kitchen to cook some meals on their own. It is important that nominees are aware of these arrangements and that they are comfortable with such accommodations. Care will be taken to ensure that any special requirements regarding diet, daily worship, housing, and medical care are satisfied.

Health Benefits: All participants will receive the Department of State's coverage of \$100,000 with a \$25 co-pay per medical visit and a \$75 co-pay per emergency room visit, for the duration of the program. Pre-existing conditions are not covered. Information on the health benefit program may be found online at <https://www.sevencorners.com/gov/usdos>.

Program Requirements and Restrictions: Participants are expected to fully participate in the academic program. They should attend all lectures and organized activities, and complete assigned readings. The Institute is very intensive and there will be little time for personal pursuits unrelated to the program.

Under no circumstances are participants allowed to arrive in the U.S. prior to the start date of the Institute or remain in the U.S. after its end date. Similarly, participants will not be permitted to leave the Institute to visit relatives or friends while in the U.S. If a relative or friend wishes to visit them, it will be addressed on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the Department of State program officer and the host institution. Participants are required to return to their home countries immediately following the end of the Institute.

Violations of program rules, host institution rules, or local, state or federal laws can be grounds for immediate dismissal from the program.

English Language Ability: All candidates must be proficient in English so that they can actively participate in the academic program. Host institutions will take into account that the level of comprehension and speaking ability of students may vary and will prepare lectures and discussions that meet the highest academic standards while using language appropriate for students where English is their second or third language.

CANDIDATE DESCRIPTION AND QUALIFICATIONS:

The participants are expected to be highly motivated first through third year undergraduate students from colleges, universities, and other institutions of higher education, who demonstrate leadership through academic work, community involvement, and extracurricular activities. Their fields of study will be varied and may include the sciences, social sciences, humanities, education, business, and other professional fields. Participants from non-elite backgrounds, from both rural and urban areas, and with little or no prior experience in the United States or elsewhere outside their home country are encouraged to apply. In addition, we encourage indigenous groups, people with disabilities, and ethnic minorities to apply.

14. (U) Candidates nominated for this program will:

- be female;
- be proficient in English;
- be interested in the topic of Women's Leadership;
- be between 18 and 25 years of age;
- have at least one semester left of their undergraduate studies, and therefore be committed to return to their home universities following completion of the program;
- demonstrate strong leadership qualities and potential in their university and community activities;
- indicate a serious interest in learning about the United States;
- have a sustained high level of academic achievement, as indicated by grades, awards, and teacher recommendations;
- demonstrate commitment to community and extracurricular university activities;
- have little or no prior study or travel experience in the United States or elsewhere outside of their home country;
- be mature, responsible, independent, confident, open-minded, tolerant, thoughtful, and inquisitive;
- be willing and able to fully participate in an intensive academic program, community service, and educational travel; and,
- be comfortable with campus life, prepared to share living accommodations, and able to make adjustments to cultural and social practices different from those of their home country.