

2015 SUMMER INSTITUTES FOR EUROPEAN STUDENT LEADERS

Overview:

The Commission proposes to nominate two candidates from Spain for each of the 2015 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**.

The Institutes will take place in June and July 2015 and 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. Each Institute will have 20 student participants and consist of a five-week program 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. The Institutes will include an academic residency component of approximately four weeks and a domestic study tour of approximately one week. During the academic residency, participants will also have the opportunity to engage in educational and cultural activities outside of the classroom.

Application: The application period is from **February 2, 2015** to **February 23, 2015**. 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 February 23, 2015.

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>

Selection process:

Preselected applicants will be called in for English testing and a required personal interview in Madrid in March 2015. Final selection of participants will be carried out by ECA in Washington, D.C., which will notify the Commission of its results in late April, 2015. Please be advised that Commission nominees will face international competition for a limited number of available slots, and that ECA might not select Commission nominees.

Requirements:

The program will maintain a focus on young people from non-elite backgrounds with little or no prior experience in the United States or elsewhere outside of Spain. Priority will be given to applicants from the following groups: immigrants or second-generation immigrants; disability communities; religious, ethnic, and/or racial minorities; and/or under-served geographic areas. Candidates should exhibit leadership potential and demonstrate interest in the subject matter, although experience in the subject is not a prerequisite for participation.

The Commission is seeking candidates who will:

- be currently enrolled in the second or third year of university studies;
- be at least 19 years old and no older than 23 years old by the start of the summer institute;
- be proficient in English;
- be committed to returning to Spain and continuing university study in the fall of 2015;

- have a high level of academic achievement, as indicated by academic grades, awards, and teacher recommendations;
- be able to demonstrate commitment to community and/or other activities outside the university; and,
- have had no or extremely limited study or travel experience in the U.S.;

As general characteristics, participants will be:

- able to participate in the program in its entirety;
- mature, responsible, independent, confident, and open-minded;
- able to participate in any pre-departure information sessions held by the Fulbright Commission;
- willing to honor all campus housing agreements and regulations related to living arrangements;
- 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;
- willing and able to participate fully in all cultural programs and volunteer activities; and,
- prepared to submit a report to the Fulbright Commission on their program experience.

Grant awards:

All participant costs will be covered including shared housing in university dorms; meals provided at campus facilities; international and domestic transportation; and book, cultural, mailing and incidental allowances. Participants will receive a health and accident insurance plan for the duration of the program.

2015 Summer Institutes – Program Description:

The **Institute on Environmental Stewardship**, to be hosted by Kansas State University (KSU) in Manhattan, Kansas, will explore current themes in environmental studies, which may include natural resource management, sustainable development/sustainable agricultural practices, food security, ecotourism, energy generation (new and traditional forms), and water management and treatment. The program will be interactive and experiential, with field trips to research facilities and opportunities for classroom discussion. The issues will be explored from numerous angles: local grassroots activism and civic initiatives, market-oriented approaches, and federal government policies and regulation. The Institute might also examine the relationship between environmental security and national security. In addition, the Institute will explore environmental issues in the context of a globalized society, and will draw comparisons between the United States and the participants' home countries. We expect the Institute on Environmental Stewardship to provide opportunities for participants to engage with policy makers, individuals in technical positions, community representatives, indigenous leaders, and other key actors committed to the protection and management of the environment.

The **Institute on Social Entrepreneurship**, to be hosted by Indiana University (IU), Bloomington, Indiana, will examine social entrepreneurship in the United States, including the development, history, challenges, and successes of U.S. social enterprises. The program will be interactive and experiential, and will combine classroom instruction with panel discussions, business visits, and volunteer opportunities. The Institute will give participants a foundation in how to employ entrepreneurial skills to address social issues and will provide opportunities to meet with American local community leaders. The Institute may address topics such as business ethics, negotiations, emerging markets and risk analysis, microfinance, corporate social responsibility, strategic business planning and innovation, and women and minorities in entrepreneurship.