

**APPLICATION FORM: SUMMER 2019 STUDY OF THE  
U.S. INSTITUTE FOR STUDENT LEADERS ON YOUTH, EDUCATION AND CLOSING THE SKILLS  
GAP.**

**1. Summary:**

The US Department of State and the Public Affairs Section of the US Embassy in Brazil are pleased to invite candidate nominations for a Summer 2019 Study of the United States Institute (SUSI) for Student Leaders on the topic of Youth, Education and Closing the Skills Gap. Program will take place during the **June to August timeframe in 2019**, pending funding availability. The program will be conducted in English and will be hosted by an institution that will be known in April 2019.

**2. Program Description:**

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. 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.

The Study of the U.S. Institute on Youth, Education, and Closing the Skills Gap will explore how advances in technologies such as artificial intelligence, automation, and robotics are shaping how we work, where we work, and the skills and education required to work. The Institute will expose participants to global issues in the context of the future of work by examining educational, social and economic trends. Using an interdisciplinary approach, the academic program will examine the role of U.S. educational institutions, particularly community colleges, in preparing Americans with the skills needed to succeed in multiple industries and sectors including business, technology, science, higher education, the creative arts and other fields. Topics may include, but are not limited to, communication, entrepreneurship and the gig economy, globalization and urbanization, innovation and technology, organizational development and management, skills development, and reskilling and retraining. The Institute will also provide opportunities for participants to engage with educational and industry leaders, policy makers, trade associations and other key actors.

**3. OTHER ESSENTIAL PROGRAM INFORMATION:**

**Program Funding:** Through the award given to an implementing partner, DoS 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 implementing partner 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.

**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. Candidates should be made aware that the Institute is very intensive and that 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 ECA 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. It is important that these requirements and restrictions be made clear to all candidates before nominations are submitted.

**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. Emphasis should be made on recruiting 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. In addition, recruitment of participants should include the underserved, indigenous groups, people with disabilities, and ethnic minorities.

Candidates nominated for this program will:

- be proficient in English;
- be interested in the topic of youth, education, and closing the skills gap;
- 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.

## APPLICATION FORM

### Instructions:

- Please submit the below form to your professor or selection committee in your university no later than January / 2019.
- The university must nominate one single candidate to represent the institution in the application process. Applications must be sent to your U.S Consulate contact no later than **January 25, 2017**.
- Please save this form with the Higher Education Institution, candidate name and surname. Examples: UCR\_John Smith, UFLA\_Joao Silva.
- In case you are sending images (for the requests in letters Q, R, S) please save them on PDF format with your name, surname and name of the University. Examples: Joao Silva\_Transcript, Maria Santos\_TOEFL.

**A. Applicant's full name, exactly as it appears in his/her passport (or national identity document).**  
*Clearly identify first, middle and surnames as they appear in passport/ID.*

Prefix: (Mr, Ms.).

**Surname:**

**First name:**

**B. Gender:**

**C. Date of Birth (month/day/year):** *(Please spell the month, eg: February 30, 1800)*

**D. City/State of Birth:**

**E. Country of Birth:**

**F. Country(ies) of Citizenship:**

**G. Country of Residence:**

**H. Applicant's contact information: Home Address, Telephone and E-mail** *(please write the name of the street in Portuguese)*

Address:

City:

State:

Postal Code:

(DDD): / Telephone: / Cell phone:

E-mail:

**I. Emergency Contact information: Home Address, Telephone and E-mail** *(please write the name of the street in Portuguese)*

Name:  
Address:  
City:  
State:  
Postal Code:  
(DDD): / Telephone: / Cell phone:  
E-mail:  
Relationship to applicant:

**J. Medical, Physical, Dietary or other Personal Considerations:** *Please state any existing medical conditions or if you are currently taking any prescription medication. (This will not affect selection, but will enable the host institution to make any necessary accommodations.)*

**K. Academic Course, Institutions:**

Course:  
Home Institution Name:  
Department:  
Expected Graduation Date:  
Year in School:

Course:  
Home Institution Name:  
Department:  
Expected Graduation Date:  
Year in School:

**L. Work and volunteer experience:**

**M. Memberships in Associations, Clubs, etc.**

**N. Previous Experience in the United States:** *Please list any and all trips to the United States and include approximate dates and the reason for travel.*

From:                      To:  
Purpose:

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

**P. Evidence of English Fluency** *(e.g. personal interview, test score, etc.).*

**Q. Please attach your most recent University Transcript** (in Portuguese)

**R. Please attach Evidence of Fluency in English** *(TOEFL, TELP or other certificates)*

**S. Personal Statement** - Write an essay (750 words maximum) that describes the following:

- 1 - Why are you interested in participating in this program?
- 2- What are your strongest qualifications for the program?
- 3 - As a participant, what unique qualities or perspectives will you bring to the group?
- 4 - How will you share what you have learned when you return to Brazil?

**T. Reference Letter** – Please provide a letter from a professor or supervisor that can attest your academic achievements and potential, leadership qualities, significant contributions to the class or university community and notable interest in the United States.