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**Legislative Fellows Program for Pakistan**

**Program funded by the U.S. Department of State**

**Application Form**

**Please submit the application via email to:**

applicationsIDT@worldlearning.org

 **Submission Deadline**

**March 4, 2015**

Dear Applicants,

Thank you for your interest in the Legislative Fellows Program for Pakistan. Funded by the U.S. Department of State and implemented by World Learning, the Legislative Fellows Program for Pakistan will promote mutual understanding and establish networks among mid-level professionals in Pakistan and the United States, while also promoting increased knowledge of the legislative process and principles of good governance.

Through this two-way exchange for emerging leaders from Pakistan and the United States, participants will exchange ideas, strategies, and best practices in legislative processes and policymaking, while also improving leadership skills and developing sustainable and enduring linkages with professional counterparts. Through professional fellowships, where participants will be matched with a U.S. organization or government office, participants will have the opportunity to increase their understanding of the U.S. legislative process while engaging in civic life through enrichment activities, such as meetings with key stakeholders, dialogues, and site visits. The following are themes and topics related to legislation and governance that may be included in the program: good governance (e.g. transparency and anti-corruption); legislative processes; the role of women, minorities, and marginalized populations in civil society and the political process; decentralization; youth engagement; development and strengthening of NGOs and civil society; post-conflict transitions; and non-violent civic participation. Through the program participants will:

* Gain an understanding of the U.S. legislative and political process
* Explore governance principles and practices in both public and civil society institutions in the U.S.
* Enhance their appreciation for the role of civil society in the political process
* Gain a deeper understanding of U.S. society, culture, and people
* Gain a deeper understanding of the societies, cultures, and people of each other’s countries
* Develop and implement projects in their home country that promote good governance, strengthen civil society, and/or support democratic institutions
* Create and maintain linkages and networks between Americans and other Professional Fellows
* Increase cooperation between the government and civil society of Pakistan

To promote program sustainability and create a multiplier effect, participants will create and implement follow-on projects in their home communities. Actions plans for the follow-on projects will be developed throughout the course of the U.S. program.

**The U.S. program for participants from Pakistan will take place from October 8-November 13, 2015** (tentative dates). It will begin with an orientation in Washington, DC that focuses on the structure of the U.S. government, the legislative process, and the role of civil society. Next, participants will take part in a four-week fellowship in several U.S. cities, which includes professional assignments at local/state/federal government offices or NGOs, seminars and observational site visits, homestays with local families, and volunteerism. Participants then return to Washington, DC for the concluding Professional Fellows Congress, which includes workshops, debriefs, and meetings with U.S. Government officials, and a program debrief. Following the U.S. program, American Fellows will travel to Pakistan to participate in workshops, consultations, and provide support to follow-on projects in the winter of 2015/2016 (tentative dates).

Accommodation will include double-person hotel rooms and homestays with American families and peers. A small stipend will be provided during the participants’ time in the United States to cover basic living expenses. The cost of international and domestic travel, program related ground transportation, cultural activities, and all the other programmatic and logistical arrangements will be covered.

**Candidates from Pakistan will be** **professionals (ages 25-40) with experience in the legislative process and/or policymaking. Such experience can have been attained through their work in government, civic education organizations, citizen advocacy groups, political campaigns, political parties, or election monitoring organizations. We seek candidates with excellent interpersonal and communication skills, proven leadership abilities, the ability to work in a cross-cultural setting and a commitment to the program and follow-on activities. Those selected will come from diverse backgrounds, ethnicities, organizations, and political orientations. We also aim for gender balance. Written and oral English proficiency is required as the participants will need to converse about complex political and global issues with US peers and experts.** To select the best candidates, we will review applications based on clearly defined criteria, including:

* Openness to dialogue and new ideas;
* Strong potential to play an increasingly important role in society;
* Proven commitment to nonviolence;
* Interest in participating in the program and sharing the experience with colleagues and the public; and
* Commitment to the implementation of a follow-on project.

Preference will be given to applicants with relevant professional achievements who have not previously visited the United States. All candidates should be able and willing to host American counterparts, for up to a week, and design, arrange, and coordinate, under World Learning and its partners’ supervision, a local professional and cultural program for the American participants.

Please find the application form below. The application must be completed in English. **The deadline for submitting the application is March 4, 2015**. Applications will be reviewed and considered as they arrive. Early applications are encouraged. Please note that due to the volume of applications, we will only contact semi-finalists. No calls please.

We appreciate your interest in this project and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Vlad Spencer

Manager, Development & Innovation

World Learning’s Exchanges and Training Unit

**U.S. EXCHANGE PROGRAM APPLICATION**

Applications should be in English, MS Word or Adobe PDF, and e-mailed with the subject line **“Legislative Fellows Fall 2015”** to: applicationsIDT@worldlearning.org

Please answer **ALL** of the questions.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE**:  **March 4, 2015**

##### THIS APPLICATION FORM IS FREE OF CHARGE AND MAY BE DUPLICATED

 **Information About You**

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| --- | --- |
| Name:  |   |

 LAST NAME GIVEN NAMES

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Permanent address: |  |
|  |  |
| Permanent telephone (and cell): |  |
| E-mail where you can be most easily contacted: |  |
| Gender (male or female): Date of birth (day/month/year):  |  |  |  |  |  | Marital Status: |  |
| Place of birth (city, country):Do you have a valid passport? |  |

 Where did you first hear about this program? (Please be as specific as possible.)

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| Have you previously traveled to the United States? If yes, please indicate time and circumstances. Also, please indicate if the travel was sponsored by the U.S. Government, and if so, which program. |   |

### Professional Information (Take as much room as you need to write your answers. If necessary, attach another sheet of paper.)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Work Place/Organization:  |  |
| Your Job Title:  |  |
| Full Work Address: |  |
|  |  |
| Work Telephone: |  |
| Work Fax: |  |
| Work E-mail Address: |  |
| Supervisor’s Name: |  |

Describe your job responsibilities:

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|  |

**Other Professional Positions**

List your other job titles (if any), employer, years at position

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|  |

**Previous Professional Positions**

List your previous job titles, employer, and years at position (up to 3 previous positions)

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**Education (including current work-in-progress degrees)**

Please list any degrees or diplomas earned, name of school, year received:

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**Memberships**

Please list any memberships or affiliations that you have:

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**ENGLISH SKILLS**

Please rate your level of English for the following categories.

Comprehension: Excellent \_\_\_\_\_ Good \_\_\_\_\_ Adequate \_\_\_\_\_ Poor \_\_\_\_\_

Reading: Excellent \_\_\_\_\_ Good \_\_\_\_\_ Adequate \_\_\_\_\_ Poor \_\_\_\_\_

Speaking: Excellent \_\_\_\_\_ Good \_\_\_\_\_ Adequate \_\_\_\_\_ Poor \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Personal Information**  (Take as much room as you need to write your answers. If necessary, attach another sheet of paper.)

Please tell us about yourself (personal history, interests, reasons for being interested in the program, interesting facts we should know about you).

#### **PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM-RELATED QUESTIONS**

1. What do you expect to learn and accomplish during the exchange program? How would your participation in the program enhance your professional career and personal development?
2. You will be expected to host a visiting American peer and arrange a professional program in your community. Please explain what kind of local activities should be included in such a program in order for the American visitor to better understand your country’s political system and its culture.
3. In order to contribute to sustainable professional growth and have a multiplier effect in Pakistan and the United States, the exchange program should identify projects and initiatives that young emerging leaders from both countries could develop during and after the program, dealing with various aspects of politics and legislative affairs. What kind of follow-on activities and projects would you like to implement with support from your American counterpart?

**PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION QUESTIONNAIRE**

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| --- | --- |
| Are you willing to share hotel rooms and be in home-stays during your trip to the United States?  |   |
|  |  |
| Could you arrange, under World Learning’s supervision, a professional/cultural program for an American counterpart, during his/her stay in your country?  |  |
| Are you willing to participate in all stages of the program, including working on follow-on projects with your American counterparts?  |  |
| Are you available to participate, either in person or via Skype, in a selection interview in March 2015?  |  |
|  |   |

I agree that all of the information in this application is true and I agree that if chosen, I will participate in ALL program activities in the United States and in my country, including the pre-departure orientation and follow-on activities.

Applicant Signature Date

Thank you for taking the time to complete this application. Please note that due to the volume of applications received, only semi-finalist candidates will be contacted.

Good luck!

*This program is funded by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs,*

*Office of Citizen Exchanges, Professional Fellows Division.*