

Introduction

Welcome to your YES Abroad Application!

The U.S. State Department and YES Abroad scholarship staff are excited you are interested in studying abroad! YES Abroad is a wonderful opportunity to learn about yourself and the world around you, develop career and life skills, and represent your culture to communities overseas. We know that studying abroad in high school can be nerve-wracking and that this application process may be daunting, but we are here for you along the way. We hope the instructions in the application are clear, but do reach out to us via phone or email if you or your parents have a question. Additionally, please keep in mind that you can save your work on the application and come back to it at any time.

A lot of applicants want to know the “key” to being awarded a YES Abroad scholarship. They want to know what we are looking for and how to formulate the answer we will think is best. The good news is that there is no one right answer – strong essays will come in many different forms. In fact, we often hear from participants and alumni that they never thought they had a chance of being offered a scholarship and were completely surprised when they received their acceptances. This is because we are looking for something beyond the traditional markers of success, such as grades, test scores, or the expertly-crafted essay. We are looking to find out about you as a person, what your interests and goals are, how you solve challenges, how you communicate with the world around you, and much more. So, while it is a good idea to write several drafts of your essays and review them, ultimately what we want to hear about is you.

We look forward to receiving your application, and, in the meantime, we are here to help.

Wishing you all the best,
The YES Abroad staff

Deadline	Tasks Due
Due Online December 4, <u>2018</u> by 11:59pm Pacific Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Online Application Form completed by applicant – <i>includes Parent/Guardian Statement, signed Terms and Conditions, and uploaded school transcript</i>• Online Recommendation Form submitted by an educator.
Postmarked No Later than December 4, 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If not already uploaded into the online application by the student (see above), school transcripts need to be sent by school registrar or equivalent by this date

Contact Information

YES Abroad scholarship staff are available from 9:00am until 5:00pm Eastern Time to answer any questions about the YES Abroad scholarship, application, selection process, timeline, etc., at yesabroad@afsusa.org or at 646-751-2151.

Please note that our office will be closed Monday, November 12, in recognition of Veterans Day, and from 2:00pm Eastern Time on Wednesday, November 21 through Friday, November 23 in recognition of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Scholarship Information

There are approximately 65 full scholarships available for U.S. students to study abroad for an academic year with the Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study (YES) Abroad program. While living with a host family and attending a local school, YES Abroad students promote mutual understanding between the United States and the host country by forming lasting relationships with the local community. The YES Abroad countries for the 2019-20 academic year are*:

- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Ghana

- India
- Indonesia
- Jordan
- Macedonia
- Malaysia
- Morocco
- Philippines
- Senegal
- Thailand
- Turkey

**The U.S. Department of State reserves the right to amend this list at any time.*

Basic Eligibility Requirements

The below eligibility details are for the 2019-20 scholarship. Eligible students must:

- Have U.S. citizenship
- Be born between December 26, 2000 and June 26, 2004
- Be enrolled in high school (including home school) at the time of application
- Have prior French skills for placement in Morocco or Senegal

The YES Abroad scholarship welcomes applicants of all racial, ethnic, religious, and socio-economic backgrounds and sexual orientations, as well as students with disabilities. Students with all grade point averages and varying academic performance histories are encouraged to apply. Please see "Additional Eligibility Information" listed below.

Application Process and Timeline

- **December 4, 2018 (11:59pm Pacific Time) – Application Deadline**

The written application includes the following sections: Cover Photo, Biographical Information, Placement Profile, Country Preferences, Essay Questions, Letter to Host Family, Academic Information, Parent Statement, Recommendation, Photos, Statistical Information, Health Information, Passport Details (note: a passport is not required at the time of application), and Legal Information. Submitted written applications will be evaluated by a Scholarship Review Committee, and applicant contact details will be shared with AFS-USA Regional Interview Coordinators, who will contact applicants regarding their regional interview.

- **December 2018 – February 2019 – Regional Interviews**

An AFS-USA Regional Interview Coordinator will contact each applicant on a rolling basis during this period to share details of the interview schedule. Interviews will take place in December, January, and early February. All applicants must be interviewed. It is very important that you respond in a timely manner to your Coordinator's communications.

- **Late January 2019 – Submission of completed Medical Evaluation and Academic Credit Agreement Forms**

Applicants must submit complete Medical Evaluation and Academic Credit Agreement Forms in order to remain eligible. Visits with your health care professional and dentist are required to complete the Medical Evaluation Forms. If additional health information is requested, follow-up visits may be necessary prior to international departure. Note: medical information will not be considered as part of selection. A signature from a school administrator is required to complete the Academic Credit Agreement Form.

- **March 2019 – Finalist and Country Assignment Announcements**

Applicants and their parents/guardians will be notified via email on a rolling basis of their application status. Finalists will be notified of their country assignment, as well as their next steps and follow-up responsibilities. Some applicants may be notified of Alternate status. Alternates remain eligible for a Finalist position should a Finalist be unable to participate in the program. More details regarding Alternate status are provided upon notification. Both Finalist and Alternate statuses are pending submission of their respective Acceptance Form and

other required documents.

- **March 2019 – Submission of Finalist/Alternate Acceptance Form**

Finalists and Alternates must complete and submit the Finalist or Alternate Acceptance Form and other required documents to indicate that they intend to participate in the program or accept Alternate status.

- **June 26-29, 2019 – National Pre-Departure Orientation**

All participants must attend the centralized National Pre-Departure Orientation (National PDO) in Washington, D.C., from June 26 to 29, 2019. Attendance is required for the duration of this event, which serves as a critical pre-departure training for participants. The scholarship provides participants with travel from their home of record, lodging, and meals at the event venue, as coordinated by their implementing organization.

- **Late June – mid September 2019 – International Departures**

International departures (from the 50 U.S. states and Washington, D.C.) for participants commence on a rolling basis, beginning as early as immediately following the conclusion of the National PDO and continuing through mid-September of 2019. All participants must travel to and from their host country on the same flight, as assigned by their implementing organization.

- **Additional Information**

Finalists will learn about the additional steps they are required to take following selection announcements in March. Typical steps include applying for a visa, joining preparatory webinars/conference calls, completing independent readings, and additional verification of health information.

Selection Criteria

Successful applicants will:

- ...demonstrate maturity, good character, and scholastic aptitude.
- ...demonstrate a commitment to cultural immersion in a host culture through a home-stay experience.
- ...demonstrate an interest in learning the language of the host culture/community.
- ...demonstrate an ability to meet cross-cultural challenges with flexibility, humor, and an open mind.
- ...demonstrate concrete ideas for sharing their overseas experiences in their U.S. home school/community upon return.

Please note that preference will be given to applicants who have received their high school education in the U.S. and who have not already resided or studied abroad.

Academic Credit

Applicants for the YES Abroad scholarship will be asked to agree to the following stipulations concerning academic credit:

- We understand that YES Abroad participants are not guaranteed to receive academic credit for specific courses taken overseas.
- We understand that the decision to accept overseas coursework as fulfilling the academic requirements of a U.S. school rests solely with the U.S. school and is our responsibility to arrange prior to program departure.
- We understand that schools overseas may impose academic standards or other requirements in determining grade level placement that differ from those imposed in the school that the applicant currently attends. We understand that the availability of courses offered in-country on the YES Abroad program may or may not meet the specific academic requirements of a U.S. school and that these courses are determined by the host school in-country.
- We understand that the program strongly advises against participants completing online courses and extensive independent study while overseas. The program must give prior approval and will request that a participant limit the time spent on such work during the program, should the program determine that it interferes with the participant's ability to fully commit to and participate in the normally required host school curriculum and other activities, host family, and host community. Disciplinary action may be taken in some cases.

Miscellaneous

- All applicants are expected to thoroughly review the scholarship website, including the [FAQ page](#), for important scholarship details, such as information about visas and common costs not covered by the scholarship.
- Make intercultural learning a family experience! Although the YES Abroad program does not require your family to host an international exchange student studying in the U.S., you can learn more about the opportunity of hosting a YES student by visiting www.yesprograms.org/host.

Additional Eligibility Information

The Youth Programs Division of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) seeks to make youth exchange programs funded by ECA available to a wide and diverse American audience. ECA also seeks to prevent conflict of interest issues from arising with regard to Department employees and federal award recipients who are involved in particular scholarships and exchange programs.

This eligibility policy is in addition to any program-specific requirements and applies only to U.S. participants in the following programs sponsored (funded) by the Youth Programs Division, and only for programs that include travel outside of the United States:

- American Youth Leadership Program (AYLP)
- Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange (CBYX)
- Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study (YES) Abroad
- National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y)
- Youth Leadership Program (participants who traveled overseas only)
- Youth Ambassadors Program

Participation in Multiple Programs: Participation in more than one of the above-listed Youth Programs Division-sponsored exchange programs is permitted only in the following circumstances:

- The programs do not take place in the same calendar year.
- The first program in which the individual participated was a short-duration program of eight (8) weeks or less AND the second program is an academic year program.
- Alumni of academic year programs are NOT eligible to apply for any of the programs listed above. Under no circumstances may an individual participate in more than two of the above-listed programs.

Family Members of U.S. Department of State Employees: Family members of employees of the Department whose official duties involve an ECA Youth Programs Division exchange program are precluded from applying for that program. This is because there would be a conflict of interest or the appearance thereof if employees engage in official matters that affect the interests of their family members. In circumstances where a family member other than a spouse or dependent child wants to participate in a program in which the employee has official duties, the appropriateness of the employee engaging in such matters should be discussed with a Department Ethics attorney.

Family Members of Affiliated Private Sector Employees: Family members of employees of ECA-funded youth exchange program implementers and Department contractors whose official duties involve a particular ECA-funded youth exchange program are technically ineligible for that program. Family members include spouse and dependent children.

Reminder (appears on every page of the application):

Reminder: To be considered for the YES Abroad 2019-20 program, you must submit your complete application on or before the application deadline of December 4, 2018, at 11:59pm Pacific Time, by clicking the "Submit Application" button. Please contact the YES Abroad staff at yesabroad@afusa.org or 646-751-2151 with any questions.

Cover

Instructions:

Please upload a clear photo of yourself by clicking on your profile photo in the top right corner of the application. We recommend using a school photo, or a similar photo that is in color and shows you facing forward, smiling, and does not have other individuals present.

- Photo upload button

Biographical Information

Instructions:

- Please carefully complete all sections of this page and provide as much detail as possible. Information on this page is not used for or visible during the selection process.
- The YES Abroad program seeks applicants who represent the diversity of the United States. Students with disabilities and all racial, ethnic, religious, and socio-economic backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

- Applicant's Legal Name

- Title
- Legal First Name
- Legal Middle Name
- Legal Last Name
- Preferred Name

- Contact Information

Note: we will use your address for important documents throughout the application process and during your time abroad. Please make sure your address is complete and accurate.

- Address Line 1
- Address Line 2
- City
- State/Province
- Zip Code
- Country
- Home Phone
Format as xxx-xxx-xxxx
- Mobile Phone
Format as xxx-xxx-xxxx
- Other Phone
Format as xxx-xxx-xxxx
- E-mail Address
- Other E-mail
- Mailing Address

If different from your home address, check this box

- Family Members

For placement and administrative purposes, please list the members of your family below. This information is required for parents, step parents, or legal guardians. For anyone else living in the home, this information is optional but will be helpful when matching you with a host family.

- Title
- First Name
- Middle Name
- Last Name
- Relationship
- Birth Date
- Country of Birth
- Living at home

- Information About Parent(s)/Guardian(s) at the Above Address
 - Family of:
 - Two Parents
 - Single Parent
 - Not Applicable
 - Parent 1
 - Does the parent have visitation rights?
 - Yes
 - No
 - I live with
 - This parent all the time
 - This parent half the time
 - This parent most of the time
 - This parent some of the time
 - I do not live with this parent
 - This parent has custodial rights (this is needed for electronic signatures) *[check box]*
 - Mobile Phone
 - Work Phone
 - E-mail
 - Employer
 - Occupation
 - CC E-mail to parent1 *[check box]*
 - Parent 2
 - Does the parent have visitation rights?
 - Yes
 - No
 - I live with
 - This parent all the time
 - This parent half the time
 - This parent most of the time
 - This parent some of the time
 - I do not live with this parent
 - This parent has custodial rights (this is needed for electronic signatures) *[check box]*
 - Mobile Phone
 - Work Phone
 - E-mail
 - Employer
 - Occupation
 - CC E-mail to parent2 *[check box]*

- Information About Parent(s)/Guardian(s) at a Different Address

- Two Parents
- Single Parent
- Not Applicable

- Emergency Contact

If your Parent/Guardian cannot be reached, please indicate an alternate person to be contacted in case of an emergency:

First Name Last Name/Relationship/Telephone Numbers (home, work, mobile)

Placement Profile

Instructions:

Please complete all of the below sections. This information is used for selection and host family placement purposes.

- Extracurricular Activities, Work, Clubs, and Organization
 - Activity
 - Description
 - How Often?
 - Start and End Date
- Prizes, Honors, and Special Recognitions
 - Description
 - Award Date
- Knowledge of Languages
 - What language or languages are spoken in your home?
 - Instructions:
Please fill in the below fields to indicate your language skills.
 - Language #1
 - Language
 - Years Studied/Spoken
 - Language Ability
 - Beginner
 - Intermediate
 - Advanced
 - Fluent
 - Language #2
 - Language
 - Years Studied/Spoken
 - Language Ability
 - Beginner
 - Intermediate
 - Advanced
 - Fluent
 - Language #3
 - Language
 - Years Studied/Spoken
 - Language Ability
 - Beginner
 - Intermediate
 - Advanced
 - Fluent
 - If you require additional space to list your language experience, please enter it into the box below, including the language, years studied / spoken, and ability (Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced, Fluent).
- Prior Overseas Experience
 - Instructions:
 - Please list the countries you have visited, as well as the type and duration of each visit. Examples include being born in or residing in another country, a tourist visit, a family visit, a family heritage visit, a community service trip, or an international

program. Please specify the names of any international programs you have participated in.

- Do you currently reside outside of the U.S., or do you intend to reside outside of the U.S. before September, 2019? If yes, please indicate the country.
 - Yes
 - No
 - If yes to the above question, please indicate the country below.
- Are you a citizen of any country in addition to the U.S.? If yes, please indicate which countries you are a citizen of. *As a reminder, only U.S. citizens are eligible for this scholarship.*
 - Yes
 - No
 - If yes to the above question, please indicate the country below.
- I have read the eligibility requirements located in the "Introduction" tab of this application and affirm that I am eligible to participate in this scholarship.
 - Yes
 - No

Country Preferences

Instructions:

- Please rank your country choices 1-13, with 1 being the most desirable host country. Your rank of country preference does not influence scholarship selection. While the YES Abroad Team does include this ranking in their consideration of country placements for scholarship Finalists, applicants should be open to any of the countries listed. Those selected as scholarship Finalists will receive their country assignments at the time of selection notification.
- To learn more about YES Abroad in each host country, please visit: <http://yes-abroad.org/countries>
- Please note that YES Abroad 2019-2020 programs will commence between late June and mid-September, 2019.
- High school graduates and those applicants who will be over 18 at the start of the program are advised that YES Abroad participants in these demographics will generally be placed in classrooms with students one to two years younger.
- Scholarship eligibility varies by country. Finalists are matched with a host country for which they are eligible based on the information provided in this application, including but not limited to age and grade level.
- Please note that while placements in Morocco and Senegal require French language skills, no language experience is required to be eligible for the YES Abroad scholarship.
- The locations listed below are expected to host YES Abroad programs in 2019-20, if conditions allow. The 2016-17, 2017-18, and 2018-19 programs in Turkey were suspended, but the program may resume for 2019-20. All program locations are subject to change.

- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Bulgaria
- Ghana
- India
- Indonesia
- Jordan
- Macedonia
- Malaysia
- Morocco
- Philippines
- Senegal
- Thailand
- Turkey

- Are all country choices equally preferable?
 - Yes
 - No
- Comments:

Country-specific eligibility and program information is available in the following chart.

Country	Typical Language of Instruction	Typical Host Family Languages	Language Requirement, if any?
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian, and/or English	Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian, and English	None
Bulgaria	Bulgarian	Bulgarian and English	None
Ghana	English	Twi, Fante, Ga, Ewe, Hausa, and English	None
India	English and regional languages	English and regional languages	None
Indonesia	Bahasa Indonesia	Bahasa Indonesia and regional languages	None
Jordan	English	Arabic	None
Macedonia	English and Macedonian	Macedonian, Albanian, and English	None
Malaysia	English and Malay	Bahasa Malaysia, various languages spoken in China and India, and English	None
Morocco	French	French and Darija (Moroccan Arabic)	French
Philippines	English and/or local languages	English, Filipino, and local dialects	None
Senegal	French or English	French, Wolof, Pular, or English	French
Thailand	Thai	Thai	None
Turkey	Turkish	Turkish	None

Essay Questions

Instructions:

As part of the selection process, your responses to the following questions will be evaluated by the selection committee. Each essay question has two options for you to choose between when answering; please choose only one option to answer, and make sure to identify which option you are choosing. Please answer each question in detail.

Essay 1:

Option A: Why do you think living with a host family is important during cultural exchanges, and what are some potential benefits and challenges of living with a host family? Be specific and provide examples of both benefits and challenges.

Option B: Why is living in a YES Abroad country important to you? What do you hope to learn from this experience? How will you, through your participation, share your experience and support the goals of the YES Abroad scholarship both at home and abroad? Be specific and give examples.

Please choose between answering Option A and Option B:

- Option A
- Option B

Essay 2:

Option A: Describe a non-academic challenge or conflict you had with another person in the past two years. What strategies did you use to work through this challenge or conflict? What did you learn from this experience? Be specific and give examples.

Option B: Describe a time when you were in an unfamiliar situation or around unfamiliar people. How did you react? What was difficult about the situation, and how did you address these difficulties?

Please choose between answering Option A and Option B:

- Option A
- Option B

Essay 3:

Option A: Life is full of unexpected changes. Please discuss a change that had an impact on your life in the last three years. How did you deal with it? What did you learn from this experience?

Option B: Describe a time in the past two years when an authority figure (e.g. parent, teacher, coach) imposed a rule or punishment on you that you did not feel was fair. What did you do? How did you feel? What did you learn from this experience?

Please choose between answering Option A and Option B:

- Option A
- Option B

Letter to Host Family

Instructions

- *Write an introductory letter to your prospective host family describing yourself. Please incorporate your motivation for participating in the scholarship, as well as your answers to the following questions:*
 - *How would your family and friends describe your personality?*
 - *How would you describe your relationship with your family and friends? For example, how are you different from your brother/sisters and/or friends? What is your role in the family? In what types of situations do you seek advice from your parents?*
 - *What are your different roles in your community (For example: school, sports, community activities)? How do you prioritize what is important to you?*
 - *If a family could choose a student, why should they choose to host you? Explain what makes you unique and a good addition to a family and community.*
 - *What are your future education or career plans?*

Academic Information

Instructions

- Upload a copy of your most recent official or unofficial copy of your academic transcript **and** enter your classes and grades into the "Subjects and Grades" section.
 - Please note that we may request an updated copy of your transcript at a later date.
 - If you participate in a non-traditional school, such as home schooling, please complete this page to the best of your ability.
 - Eligible applicants with any grade point average and academic performance are encouraged to apply.
- **Please upload a scanned copy of your most recent high school transcript in addition to completing the below fields.**
 - Click here to upload your transcript
 - If you do not have grades to enter/upload, please provide an explanation below, including if you:
 - Attend/attended a school that does not provide formal evaluation (including such home schools).
 - Have not received your first high school grades, in which case please note this here and enter your most updated grades.
 - Your Current Grade
 - 9
 - 10
 - 11
 - 12
 - Your Anticipated Graduation Year
 - 2018
 - 2019
 - 2020
 - 2021
 - 2022
 - Your Anticipated Graduation Month
 - January / February / March
 - April / May / June
 - July / August / September
 - October / November
 - December
 - Cumulative GPA
 - Enter your GPA on an unweighted 4.0 scale. If your school does not use a 4.0 scale, please use the College Board URL below to convert your GPA to a 4.0 scale:
<http://www.collegeboard.com/html/academicTracker-howtoconvert.html>
 - School Information
 - School Name
 - School Address
 - School City
 - School State
 - School Zip Code
 - Are you currently home schooled?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Are you currently enrolled in an IB school?
 - Yes

- No
- Have you previously been enrolled in an IB school?
 - Yes
 - No
- Subjects and Grades

Instructions: please input the subjects and grades for each class listed on your transcript for past and current years of school. If you have not received a grade for a class you are currently taking, please leave the field blank.

 - 9 Grade Subject
 - Grade Received
 - 10 Grade Subject
 - Grade Received
 - 11 Grade Subject
 - Grade Received
 - 12 Grade Subject
 - Grade Received

Parent Statement

Instructions:

- *Please upload a 500-word statement covering your child's:*
 - *Relationship with you and your family*
 - *Relationship with others*
 - *Reactions to disagreement and discipline*
 - *Level of independence*
 - *Strategies for coping with unexpected challenges, difficult situations, and conditions outside of your child's control*
 - *Reactions to being away from home in the past*
- *In addition, please address the following points:*
 - *Discuss any factors (e.g., dietary, physical, or health issues, or other considerations) which should be considered in placing your child in a new environment.*
 - *Explain why you feel it is important for your child to participate in the program.*
 - *Describe any other family issues, changes, or concerns you would like to tell us about that might impact your child during the pre-departure or in-country phases of the program.*
- *Please include your full name as well as that of the applicant at the beginning of this statement. Should you experience technical difficulty in uploading this document, please contact us at yesabroad@afsusa.org.*

- “Click Here to Upload File” button

Recommendation

Instructions:

One recommendation from an educator is required for your YES Abroad application. Please provide your recommender with a copy of the Recommender Instructions PDF found on this page. This document contains the information your recommender will need to complete and submit his/her electronic recommendation. Both your YES Abroad application and your educator's recommendation must be submitted by the application deadline. If more than one recommendation for you is submitted, only the first recommendation received will be considered.

Please contact the YES Abroad staff with any questions at yesabroad@afsusa.org or 646-751-2151.

- “YES Abroad 2019-20 Recommender Instructions.pdf” download button

Photos

Instructions

- *To help introduce yourself to a prospective host family, please upload a collection of 6-10 photographs that includes at least one photograph each of you, you with your family, you with your friends, and you participating in a favorite activity. We encourage you to be creative with your photo choice!*
- *This information will not be seen by reviewers during the selection process and will be used exclusively for host family placement purposes.*
- *Please add descriptions/captions to your photos.*

- “Upload New File” button

Statistical Information

Instructions

Providing the below information is voluntary. The information requested here will be used for statistical analysis and may be used for the production of external reports or public presentations. This information will not be shared with application reviewers and will have no bearing on your selection for the YES Abroad scholarship.

- **How would you describe yourself? You are not required to respond. This information will be used exclusively for statistical purposes and will have no influence in the selection process. Check all that apply:**
 - Asian
 - Black or African American
 - Latina/Latino/Latinx or Hispanic
 - Middle Eastern or North African
 - Native American or Alaska Native
 - Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
 - White
 - Multi-racial
 - Other
 - If Other, please explain:
- **What is your religious affiliation, if any?**
 - Agnostic
 - Amish
 - Anglican
 - Animist
 - Atheist
 - Bahai
 - Baptist
 - Buddhist
 - Catholic
 - Christian
 - Christian Scientist
 - Confucian
 - Congregational
 - Druze
 - Episcopalian
 - Evangelical
 - Greek Orthodox
 - Hindu
 - Islam
 - Jain

- Jehovah's Witness
- Jewish
- Lutheran
- Methodist
- Mormon
- Muslim
- No Religious Affiliation
- Non-religious
- Orthodox
- Other
- Pentecostal
- Presbyterian
- Protestant
- Quaker
- Rastafarian
- Ratana
- Seventh Day Adventist
- Shinto
- Sikh
- Spiritualism
- Taoist
- Unitarian
- **How often do you participate in structured religious services?**
 - Weekly
 - Monthly
 - Occasionally
 - Never
- **Bearing in mind that it is likely your host family will have a different religious affiliation from you, how strongly do you feel about having access to structured religious services of your own faith?**
 - Strong Preference
 - Not necessary
- **Were you raised with a religious identity other than your current religious affiliation?**
 - Yes
 - No
- **Do you have a disability?**
 - Yes
 - No
 - If Yes, please explain:
- **What is your household's annual income?**
 - \$45,000 or less
 - \$45,000 to \$90,000
 - \$90,000 to \$150,000
 - \$150,000 to \$250,000
 - \$250,000 or more
- **Do you qualify for the National School Lunch Program?**
 - Yes

- No
- **What type of school do you attend?**
 - Public
 - Private
 - Charter
 - Home
 - Other
 - If Other, please explain:
- **How would you classify the area where you live?**
 - Urban
 - Suburban
 - Rural
 - Other
 - If Other, please describe:
- **How did you learn about the YES Abroad scholarship? Check all that apply:**
 - College/university professor or administrator
 - Email announcement
 - Exchange/study abroad program/organization
 - Family member or family friend
 - High school teacher or counselor
 - Local volunteer
 - Language immersion program
 - National Society of High School Scholars
 - Newspaper (school, local, regional, etc.)
 - YES Abroad alumni or current participants
 - YES participants/alumni or international exchange students on another State Department Exchange program (e.g. FLEX or CBYX)
 - Poster or brochure
 - School club
 - School presentation
 - Social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, etc.)
 - STARTALK
 - Website or Internet search
 - Youth-serving non-profit organization
 - I am a past applicant
 - Other
 - If Other, please explain:
- **What, if any, other Department of State program(s) are you applying for?**
 - NSLI-Y
 - CBYX
 - NONE
 - OTHER
 - If Other, please specify.

Health Information

Instructions

- Complete the following important health questions as completely and truthfully as possible. Directly following the YES Abroad application deadline, all applicants with submitted applications will be provided an official YES Abroad Medical Evaluation Form and its January deadline by email. The YES Abroad Medical Evaluation Form must be completed by a doctor or nurse practitioner. The form may be completed based upon the results of a new medical exam or, at the discretion of your doctor, on the results of a past exam if one has taken place within the past six months. The YES Abroad Medical Evaluation Form must be completed and submitted before the deadline. Failure to submit this form by the stated deadline will result in rejection of your application. The dental portion of the form must be completed by your dentist based on an appointment within the past six months.
- **NOTE: Medical information reported on this page and submitted as part of distributed medical evaluation forms are not included in materials seen during the scholarship's evaluation or selection processes. Program staff will review self-reported medical information on this page prior to scholarship notification for the purpose of placement in a host country. All finalists' and alternates' medical evaluation forms are reviewed independently by medical professionals after the evaluation, selection, placement, and notification processes have taken place.** The medical review process (as described in the Terms and Conditions) may take an extended period of time. During this period, finalists and alternates may be asked to provide additional information or clarification related to the medical review. Results of the medical review will determine if a candidate meets the medical requirements necessary for program placement and participation. As described in the Terms and Conditions, withholding relevant health information may be cause for disqualification or termination of the scholarship at a later date. Any finalist's ultimate participation in the program is contingent upon being accepted by the host country's implementing organization based on a thorough review of the medical review findings.

Please check the appropriate answers to the following questions. If you check "Yes" to any of these questions, please provide a detailed description.

- Are you currently taking any medication or are you receiving any medical treatment? If yes, please indicate the type of medication or treatment, the reason for medication or treatment, and the length of use or duration of treatment. Also, indicate if this medication is injected.
 - Yes
 - No
 - If yes, please explain:
- Do you have, or have you ever had, a prolonged illness?
 - Yes
 - No
 - If yes, please explain and include dates:
- Do you have any allergies?
 - Yes
 - No
 - If yes, please explain the reaction and how you manage your allergies:
- In order to help the program implementer consider your on-program safety and participation in everyday family and school activities, please provide information about any physical restrictions, health conditions, or learning disabilities. Do you have any physical restrictions, health conditions, or learning disabilities?
 - Yes
 - No
 - If yes, please explain:
 - If yes, please explain any accommodations you might find helpful or require in a host community:
- Do you have any dietary restrictions? Excluding medical necessity, we encourage participants to be flexible regarding their dietary requirements as host families may not be able to accommodate such restrictions. Please indicate below all restrictions, including vegetarianism, veganism, no pork, etc.
 - Yes

- No
 - If yes, please explain:
- Cigarette smoke is prevalent in some YES Abroad host countries. It may be difficult to find a non-smoking host family in some cultures. Is there a medical reason why you cannot be placed in a host family with one or more family members who smoke?
 - Yes
 - No
- Have you consulted a neurologist, therapist, psychologist, psychiatrist, or any other mental health professional?
 - Yes
 - No
 - If yes, please explain:
- Please check the appropriate boxes if you CANNOT live with:
 - Cats:
 - Indoors
 - Outdoors
 - Dogs:
 - Indoors
 - Outdoors
 - Other pets:
 - Indoors
 - Outdoors
 - If you checked boxes for other pets, please explain:
 - If you have checked that you CANNOT live with a pet, please indicate why:
 - Allergy
 - Fear
 - Religion
 - Other
 - If you selected "Other" above, please explain:

Passport

Instructions

- Please ensure that the answers to the "Legal First Name," "Legal Middle Name," and "Legal Last Name" fields below reflect your name as it appears on your passport (or as it will appear on your passport if you do not yet have a valid passport).
- In addition to entering your passport details on this page, please upload a color scan of the photo and signature pages of your passport (pages 3 and 4). Please make sure that you sign your passport on page 3.
- If you do not have a valid passport, please indicate this by writing "In process of application" or "Will apply if selected" in the "Passport Number" field.
- **Note: You will be required to obtain a passport, valid for at least six months beyond the scheduled program end date, in a timely manner prior to traveling abroad or beginning the visa process (if applicable).** The governments of some host countries additionally require that the student's parents/guardians also submit their passports as part of the student's visa application process. In this case, parents/guardians would also be without their passports during the visa application process. Additionally, parents/guardians without currently valid passports may need to apply for a passport with expedited processing immediately upon scholarship selection notification. Delays with a parent/guardian passport application could jeopardize the student's ability to obtain a visa in time to participate in the scholarship
- **As a reminder:** Only U.S. citizens are eligible to apply for this program. Additionally, a passport is not required at the time of application for the scholarship.

- Title
- Legal First Name

- Legal Middle Name
- Legal Last Name
- City and State of Birth
- Country of Birth
- Citizenship
- Country of Residence
- Passport Number
- Place/Office of Passport Issue
- Passport Issue Date
- Passport Expiry Date
- “Upload New File” button

Legal Information

Instructions

- *Please download and print the YES Abroad Terms & Conditions document and read it carefully with your parents/legal guardian.*
 - *Please sign and have your parent/legal guardian sign in the designated areas.*
 - *Once complete, please scan page nine (signature page) and upload this page using the "Upload New File" button, below.*
- Blank Terms and Conditions download button
 - “Upload New File” button