

About the Application - Table of Contents

Application Deadline: **Tuesday 08 Dec 2020 5:00 PM U.S. Eastern Time**



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About the Application - Invitation to Apply and Deadline

Application Deadline: **Tuesday 08 Dec 2020 5:00 PM U.S. Eastern Time**



Welcome to Your YES Abroad Application

Dear applicant,

A program of the [U.S. Department of State](#), the [Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study \(YES\) Abroad](#) scholarship offers American high school students and recent graduates full scholarships to study for one academic year in countries of strategic importance. Living with a host family and attending a local school, participants learn about themselves and the world around them, develop career and life skills, and represent their home cultures to communities overseas. The program is administered by a consortium of organizations including [American Councils for International Education](#); [AFS-USA, Inc. \(AFS\)](#); the [the American-Mideast Educational and Training Services, Inc. \(AMIDEAST\)](#); and the [International Education and Resource Network \(iEARN\)](#).

We know that studying abroad in high school can be nerve-racking and that this application process may feel daunting. Program staff are excited you're interested in studying abroad and are happy to guide you through the application process - reach out to us at 646-751-2151 or yesabroad@afsusa.org if you have questions about the program or application! Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with this application portal, and remember to save your login information, save your work along the way, and submit your application before the deadline.

Many applicants want to know what we are looking for and how they should respond to the essay prompts. There is no one right answer, and successful applications come in a variety of forms and represent a diversity of life experiences. We look beyond the traditional markers of success, such as grades, test scores, or the expertly-crafted essay. We hope to learn about you as a person, what your interests and goals are, how you approach challenges, how you communicate with the world around you,

and much more. While it is a good idea to write drafts of your essays and to review them before submitting, what we want to learn 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

Telephone: 646-751-2151

Email: yesabroad@afsusa.org

Application Deadline and Submission of Required Documents

Deadline	Tasks due
Due Online Tuesday 08 Dec 2020 5:00 PM U.S. Eastern Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Online Application Form completed by the applicant.o Terms and Conditions Form signed by applicant and all parents/legal guardians.o Parent/legal guardian statemento Teacher recommendationo Grade Transcripts: uploaded PDF



About the Application - Program Information

Application Deadline: **Tuesday 08 Dec 2020 5:00 PM U.S. Eastern Time**



General Information

There are approximately 65 full scholarships available for U.S. students to study abroad for an academic year with the YES Abroad program. While living with a host family and attending a local school, participants promote mutual understanding between the United States and the host country by forming lasting relationships with the local community. Our host countries for the 2020-2021 academic year are listed following. The U.S. Department of State may change this list at any time.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bosnia and Herzegovina • Bulgaria • Egypt • Ghana • India • Indonesia • Jordan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malaysia • Morocco • North Macedonia • Philippines • Senegal • Thailand • Turkey
--	--

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

Selection Criteria

Successful applicants will demonstrate:

- Maturity, good character, and scholastic aptitude
- A commitment to cultural immersion in a host culture through a home-stay experience
- An ability to meet cross-cultural challenges with maturity, humor, and an open mind
- Concrete ideas for sharing their overseas experience in their U.S. home school/community upon return

NOTE: Preference will be given to applicants who have received their high school education in the U.S. and who have not resided or studied abroad.

Basic Eligibility Requirements

Eligibility details for the 2021-2022 program include:

- You must be a U.S. citizen.
- You must be born between December 26, 2002, and June 26, 2006.
- You must be enrolled in high school (which includes home school) at the time of application.
- The YES Abroad program seeks applicants of all racial, ethnic, religious, and socio-economic backgrounds; sexual orientations; and welcomes applicants with disabilities.
- Applicants of all grade-point averages and academic performance are encouraged to apply.
- For additional eligibility information, please see "Additional Eligibility Information" in the application.

Application Process and Timeline

- **Tuesday 08 Dec 2020 5:00 PM U.S. Eastern 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, Educator Recommendation, Photos, Statistical Information, Health Information, Passport Details (note: a passport is not required to apply), and Legal Information. Submitted written applications will be evaluated by a Scholarship Review Committee, and applicant contact details will be shared with regional Interview Coordinators, who will contact applicants regarding their regional interview.
- **December 2020 - Application Evaluation**
A Scholarship Review committee comprised of YES Abroad implementing organization staff, experienced volunteers, and program alumni evaluate applications, specifically the essays, host family letter, teacher recommendation, parent statement, and high school and extracurricular information.

- **December 2020 - February 2021 - Regional Interviews**

A regional Interview Coordinator will contact each applicant on a rolling basis during this period to share details of the interview schedule. All applicants must be interviewed and interviews may occur in December, January, or February. It is very important that you respond in a timely manner to your Interview Coordinator's communications. Arrangements can be made for candidates unable to interview in-person.

- **Late January 2021 - 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. A signature from a school administrator is required to complete the Academic Credit Agreement Form. Note: Medical information will not be considered as part of selection.

- **March 2021 - Finalist and Country Assignment Announcement**

Applicants and their parents/guardians will be notified by email of their application status in March on a rolling basis. 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 might be awarded a Finalist position, should a Finalist be unable to participate in the program. More details regarding Alternate status are provided upon notification.

- **March 2021 - Submission of Finalist/Alternate Acceptance Form**

To remain eligible, 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, 2021 - National Pre-Departure Orientation**

All participants must attend the National Pre-Departure Orientation (National PDO) from June 26 to 29, 2021. Attendance is required for the duration of this event, which serves as a primary training tool for participants. The program provides participants with travel (from the 50 U.S. states and Washington, D.C.), lodging, and meals at the event venue, as coordinated by the implementing organization.

- **Late June - mid-September 2021 - Anticipated International Departures**

International departures occur on a rolling basis, anticipated to begin as early as immediately following the conclusion of the National PDO in late June, and continuing through mid-September of 2021. All participants must travel between the U.S. and their host country on the same flight itinerary, as assigned by their implementing organization.

- **May - July 2022 - Anticipated International Returns**

International returns typically occur in May and June, but may occur in July. Most participants must attend a two to four day orientation at the U.S. point of international return. All participants must travel between the U.S. and their host country on the same flight itinerary, as assigned by their implementing organization.

- **Additional Information**

Beginning in approximately March, Finalists must take additional steps in order to remain eligible for the program, including and not limited to receiving a visa, joining preparatory activities, completing independent readings, and additional verification of health information.

Academic Credit

Applicants for the program will be asked to agree to the following stipulations concerning academic credit:

- YES Abroad participants are not guaranteed to receive academic credit for specific courses taken overseas.
- 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 the applicant's responsibility to arrange prior to program

departure.

- 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. The availability of courses provided in-country during the program may or may not meet the specific academic requirements of a U.S. school and these courses are determined by the host school in-country.
- 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

- Participants who have just completed their 11th or 12th grades of high school and those who'll be over 18 years of age at the start of the program are advised that participants in these demographics will generally be placed in classrooms with students one to two years/grades younger.
- 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.
- Would you like to nominate another student to apply for YES Abroad? If so, please visit www.yes-abroad.org/for-educators.
- 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 student through our sister scholarship, the YES program, by visiting www.yesprograms.org/host.

Not Ready for YES Abroad?

If you're not ready to study abroad, that's OK! We understand that it's not for everyone. You can still make intercultural learning a part of your life, though. Each year, the Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study (YES) inbound program brings over 800 international students into the United States for the same goals as YES Abroad: to learn, grow, share their culture, and learn about America in return. And, just like with YES Abroad, YES inbound participants need host families and schools. Volunteer to host a YES student - share your family's culture with them and learn about theirs. By doing so, you can break down stereotypes and develop life-long bonds with friends all around the world. Learn more about hosting by visiting www.yesprograms.org/host.

Would you like to nominate another student to apply for YES Abroad? If so, please visit www.yes-abroad.org/for-educators

Additional Eligibility Information

The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) offers many opportunities for American youth to participate in international exchanges. ECA seeks to represent the diversity of America in these youth exchange programs and to make sure the selection process is fair and transparent.

Strong selection preference is given to those who have not previously participated in one of the exchange programs listed below or lived abroad for six months or more during the past five years.

This eligibility policy applies to the following programs, which take place outside the United States:

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

Current or Previous Participant in ECA Exchanges

U.S. citizens who are current or past participants in any of the above mentioned programs are not eligible to participate if:

- The two programs take place in the same calendar year.
- The individual is currently participating, or has already participated, in an academic year program.
- Current or past participants in a short-duration program of eight (8) weeks or less are not eligible for another short-duration program but are eligible for an academic year program. The restrictions above apply only to in-person programs taking place outside the United States. Participation in a virtual program does not make the applicant ineligible for programs of any length. An individual may not participate in more than two of the above-listed programs, unless one of the programs was completely virtual..

Family Members of Department Employees

For a period ending one year following the termination of such employment, association, or service:

- Employees of the U.S. Department of State/U.S. Agency for International Development are ineligible. This provision includes all employees, paid or unpaid (including part-time or temporary employees, consultants, externs, interns, fellows and personal services contractors).
- Immediate family members (e.g., dependent children) of employees of the U.S. Department of State/U.S. Agency for International Development are ineligible. This provision includes all employees, paid or unpaid (including part-time or temporary employees, consultants, externs, interns, fellows and personal services contractors). Self-supporting children who live apart from their parents are qualified to participate.
- Employees (and their immediate family members) of private and public agencies under contract or grant with the U.S. Department of State who perform services on behalf of U.S. Department of State exchange programs are ineligible.



About the Application - How to Apply

Application Deadline: **Tuesday 08 Dec 2020 5:00 PM** U.S. Eastern Time



IMPORTANT! Do not use your web browser's back button to move between pages within this online form. This might erase information from your form that cannot be recovered. Use **only** the "Sections" menu on the left, including the → (next) and ← (previous) arrows to switch to the next and previous sections of the form.

How to Apply

- **Online Application Form:** Complete and submit the application form online. All applications and recommendation forms must be submitted online, except in rare cases in which the applicant can demonstrate that this requirement presents a significant impediment to applying for a YES Abroad scholarship. Applicants who need to make alternative arrangements for submission of their application must do so by November 15, 2020. Applicants who need further assistance may contact the program at 800-237-4636 ext. 2151, or yesabroad@afsusa.org.
- **Terms and Conditions: Carefully read the Terms and Conditions.** This form must be signed by the applicant and all parents or legal guardians. Upload the completed signature page of the Terms and Conditions Form to your application. Applicants who do not want to upload the signature page may mail the final signature page to YES Abroad. The form must be postmarked by the application deadline.
- **Official Grade Transcripts:** Request an official copy of your grade transcript from your high school and upload a PDF to the application portal by the application due date of Tuesday 08 Dec 2020 5:00 PM U.S. Eastern Time. Transcripts must include completed courses, grades, and GPA.
- **Teacher Recommendation:** Have **one (1)** teacher submit a recommendation using the online form. The recommendation must be submitted by the application due date of Tuesday 08 Dec 2020 5:00 PM U.S. Eastern Time.
- **Parent/Guardian Statement:** Have **one (1)** parent/legal guardian submit a statement online supporting your application. The statement must be submitted by the application due date of Tuesday 08 Dec 2020 5:00 PM U.S. Eastern Time.

Note: Any technical problems with the application form should be reported by email to yesabroad@afsusa.org, however, there is no guarantee that YES Abroad staff can respond to inquiries on the deadline date. YES Abroad strongly encourages that applicants **ask any questions and submit their applications well in advance of the application deadline of Tuesday 08 Dec 2020 5:00 PM U.S. Eastern Time.** The YES Abroad program and American Councils for International Education bear no responsibility for data transmission problems in submitting the application.

When emailing yesabroad@afsusa.org, about your application please use the following subject line convention: **Reference Code, Last Name, First Name: Email Subject**

Ex: ABCE1234, Doe, Jane: Question about application

Note: Your reference code is the eight-digit, randomly-assigned code at the top of this page with four letters and four numbers that identifies your unique application.

How to Use this Online Form

Moving from Section to Section

This online form includes several sections (pages). They are listed in the "Sections" menu that can be found in the navigation menu at the left side of each page. You may select any section from the menu to jump to that section. You may also press the → (next) and ← (previous) arrows to switch to the next and previous sections of the form.

Saving Your Work

To save your work at any time, press the "Save Changes" button that can be found at the bottom of any page. It is a good idea to regularly save your work while completing the form to ensure that none of your work is lost in the event you lose your Internet connection, your computer is accidentally shut down, etc.

Completing Your Form in Multiple Sessions

It is not necessary to complete your online form in one sitting. To continue later, press the "Save Changes" button that can be found at the bottom of any page, and then log out of the system. You can then log in at any time thereafter until the form deadline to complete your form.

Required Fields

A **red asterisk *** next to a question indicates a required field. You must provide this information in order to submit your form.

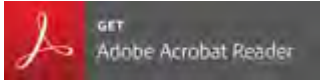
Character Counts Used in this Online Form

Any minimum or maximum word or character counts specified in the instructions for some questions will be as indicated by the counter tool used in this form. Please note that this count may be different from those counts indicated by Word, OpenOffice, LibreOffice, Pages, or other word-processing tools. Plan extra time to submit your application if you are preparing your essay drafts in another program and copying them into the form.

Submitting Your Form

To submit your online form, **you must press the "Submit" button** on the last page. If you do not press the Submit button, your form will be considered incomplete and will not be considered for selection. You will not be allowed to make any changes after you submit your application. If there are any errors or required fields left blank in your application, you will be prompted to complete these before your application can be submitted. Be sure to save enough time before the deadline in case you need to resolve any such errors.

Downloading Documents from this Website



Most documents on this website are provided in PDF format. A PDF reader such as [Adobe Reader](#) is required to open and view these documents.

Uploading Documents and Photographs to Your Form

You might be asked to upload a document or photograph. In most cases, you may upload only files of the following types: OCX/DOC, TXT, RTF, PDF, XLSX/XLS, JPG/JPEG, PNG, GIF, or TIF/TIFF. You may also be asked to limit the size of files that you upload to your form. Encrypted or password-protected files will not be accepted unless "Read Only" capability is enabled. A number of free online tools are readily available to convert or resize your files.

Questions?

For information about the YES Abroad program, please visit www.yes-abroad.org

Contact YES Abroad staff during normal business hours Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., U.S. Eastern Time at:

Email: yesabroad@afsusa.org

Telephone: 800-237-4636 ext. 2151



Personal Information - About You

About You

1) Legal Name:

As indicated on your birth certificate, passport, or other government-issued ID

- Use **English** characters only.
- **Do not use** accent or diacritical marks.
- Use proper capitalization. **Do not use** all UPPERCASE or all lowercase letters.
- If you do not have a "Middle Name," leave that box blank.

Legal First Name

Legal Middle Name

Legal Last Name

2) Your Preferred Nickname

3) Gender

- Female
- Male
- Other

4) Date of Birth

Use the date picker, or enter in the format Mmm dd, yyyy (e.g., Sep 01, 2003)

Note: Eligible students must have birth dates within the ranges listed below.

Program Duration	Eligible Birthdate Range
Academic Year	Birthdate: December 26, 2002 - June 26, 2006

5) Place of Birth

FIRST, choose birth country BEFORE birth state/province/region

Birth City:	<input type="text"/>
Birth State/Province/Region:	<input type="text" value="pick country"/>
Birth Country:	<input type="text" value="- Choose -"/>

Passport and Citizenship

6) Do you have a valid U.S. passport?

*YES Abroad finalists must have a U.S. passport that is valid for **at least six months** after their anticipated program end date. Passports should be valid until January 2022. Applicants should be prepared to submit passport information at the time of notification.*

*If you are selected to study in **India**, your parent(s) or legal guardian(s) may also be required to have a valid passport(s) to obtain a visa.*

*Passport processing time may be lengthy. **Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply for a passport at the time of application if they do not have one that meets validity requirements.** If selected, be aware that your passport may need to be available for up to 3 months prior to the program start for visa processing.*

- Yes
- No


7) Can you be considered a citizen of any country other than the United States?

- Yes
- No

Your Contact Information

8) Primary Email Address

This will be YES Abroad administration's primary method of communicating with you and should be an email address that is and will be checked often.

 Ensure that your email address is typed in correctly. Important, time-sensitive, notifications will be sent to this email address.

9) Alternate Email Address

Some email messages from YES Abroad administration will be sent to both the primary and alternate email addresses.

The alternate email address can be a personal, family, or parent/guardian's email address.

Mailing Address:

10) Mailing Address

FIRST, choose country BEFORE state/province/region

Street Address:	<input type="text"/>
City:	<input type="text"/>
State/Province/Region:	<input type="text" value="pick country"/>
Country:	<input type="text" value="- Choose -"/>
ZIP/Postal Code:	<input type="text"/>

Physical Address:

11) Is the physical address of your home different from your mailing address?

- Yes
 No

Telephone Numbers:

- *Include area code, or country and city/mobile codes (outside North America)*
- *Include spaces, hyphens [-], and parentheses [()]*

12) Primary Telephone

Type

- Home Mobile

13) Alternate Telephone

Type

- Home Mobile

14) Other Telephone, if any

Whose Telephone is this "Other Telephone?"

Congressional Voting District

What is your U.S. Congressional District Number?

- *Please note that this information is not used in the selection process.*
- *Include both your State/Territory and District Number.*
- *To find your congressional district, please visit house.gov/representatives/find*

15) State/Territory

16) District Number or At Large

- *Select district number for your Congressional district.*
- *Choose "At Large" for states and territories with only one (1) Congressional representative or delegate: (i.e., Alaska, American Samoa, Delaware, District of Columbia, Guam, Montana, North Dakota, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, South Dakota, U.S. Virgin Islands, Vermont, and Wyoming)*

Choose ▼

Save Changes

Personal Information - Knowledge of Languages

1) What is your native or first language?

- English
- Other

2) What language(s) are spoken in your home?

3) Have you studied or do you know any languages, other than English?

- Yes
- No

4) Please describe any other foreign language experience you have that is not covered above.

0 words counted. Maximum of 100 words allowed.

Save Changes

Personal Information - School Information

Your High School Information

1) Your Current Grade

- 9th
- 10th
- 11th
- 12th

2) Your Anticipated Graduation Date

Enter in format "Mmm yyyy". Example: "Jun 2021".

3) Are you home-schooled?

- Yes
- No

4) School Name and Address

FIRST, choose country BEFORE state/province/region

i If you are home-schooled, for the "School Name" field, enter "Home School".

i If you are home-schooled, for the "School Address" field, enter your home address.

School Name:	<input type="text"/>
Street Address or P.O. Box:	<input type="text"/>
City:	<input type="text"/>
State/Province/Region:	<input type="text" value="pick country"/>
Country:	<input type="text" value="- Choose -"/>
ZIP/Postal Code:	<input type="text"/>

5) School Website

i If you are home-schooled, for "School Website", enter your home-school's website, if applicable, or "none".

6) Is this an IB School?

- Yes
- No

7) Have you previously been enrolled in an IB school?

- Yes
- No

Save Changes

Personal Information - Family Information

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

General Information

1) Who lives in your home?

Click "Add More" to add another person

#	First Name	Last Name	Gender	Age	Relationship to you
1	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Choose <input type="button" value="v"/>	<input type="text"/>	Choose <input type="button" value="v"/>

Add 1 More

Add 2 More

Add 3 More

2) My parents are:

Choose one

- Married
- Separated
- Single
- Divorced

About Your Parents / Legal Guardians

3) Please list each and every one of your parents, step-parents, legal guardians, or any other adult responsible for you as applicable:

*Anyone listed as a parent or legal guardian in your application must be identified by the **same name** in other forms that require the signature of parents/legal guardians.*

i Push "Add 1 More" button at the bottom of the page, to add information about your second parent.

3a) Title

Choose

Legal First Name

Legal Middle Name

Legal Last Name

3b) Gender

- Female
- Male
- Other

3c) Relationship

 ▼

3d) Does this person have legal custody of you?

- Yes
- No

3e) Does this person have a current and valid passport from any country?

Providing information on parent passport status and country of birth is optional.

We provide a space to collect this information as it may impact the visa application for certain YES Abroad host countries.

The information would not be considered when evaluating and selecting participants, but it could be useful for YES Abroad staff during the early stages of the visa application process.

- Yes
- No

3f) Country of Birth

 ▼

3g) Primary Telephone

Type

- Home
- Mobile
- Work

3h) Alternate Telephone

Type

- Home
- Mobile
- Work

3i) Other Telephone

Type

- Home
- Mobile
- Work

3j) Email Address

Personal, work, or family email address

3k) Occupation

3l) Employer

3m) Do you ever live with this parent/legal guardian at the **physical** address you input in the previous section?

- Yes
- No

Add 1 More

Add 2 More

Personal Information - Alternate Emergency Contact

- 1) In the event your parents or legal guardians cannot be contacted, please provide at least **one (1) adult who does not live with you** as your alternate emergency contact person. To ensure that YES Abroad staff can contact this individual promptly in case of an emergency, a phone number and email address **must** be provided for this individual. Please only identify an individual for which this information can be provided:

1a) Legal First Name

Legal Last Name

1b) Gender

- Female
 Male
 Other

1c) Relationship to You

 ▼

1d) Primary Telephone

Type

- Home Mobile Work

1e) Alternate Telephone

Type

- Home Mobile Work

1f) Other Telephone

Type

- Home Mobile Work

1g) Email Address

Personal, work, or family email address

Add 1 More

Add 2 More


Save Changes

Personal Information - Certify Your Eligibility

Certification of Eligibility

Answering **"False"** to any of the following questions indicates that you are not eligible for the YES Abroad 2021-22 program. Please contact yesabroad@americancouncils.org if you have any questions about the eligibility requirements.

A detailed description of all the YES Abroad eligibility requirements can be found online at: www.yes-abroad.org/how-to-apply.

- 1) I am a U.S. citizen.
 True
 False
- 2) My birth date is between December 26, 2002, and June 26, 2006.
 True
 False
- 3) I am currently enrolled in high school (or home-school equivalent) at the time I submit this application.
 True
 False
- 4) I have read the U.S. Department of State Eligibility Policy for American Outbound Youth Programs located here:  [Eligibility Policy](#).
 True
 False
- 5) I am eligible to apply for the 2021-22 YES Abroad program according to the above-mentioned Eligibility Policy.
 True
 False

6) Certified by:
Enter your full name

Save Changes

Personal Information - International Experience

1) Are you an applicant who is currently participating in the YES Abroad 2020-21 virtual program?

Choose one

- Yes
 No

2) Have you previously participated in any other international exchange program(s)?

- Yes
 No

3) Besides international exchange programs, have you traveled or lived abroad?

- Yes
 No

4) Do you plan to travel abroad after submitting the YES Abroad application?

- Yes
 No

5) Do you have any relatives or close friends that live in YES Abroad host countries?

YES Abroad host countries may include Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Egypt, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Malaysia, Morocco, North Macedonia, Philippines, Senegal, Thailand, and Turkey.

- Yes
 No

Save Changes

Personal Information - Activities and Hobbies

You may enter up to 7 rows for each question below. List activities/hobbies in chronological order (starting with most recent) and prioritize the activities/hobbies that are most important to you.

If you receive an error, please verify that you are using the correct date format. An example of a correct date format is 08/2018.

Use your best estimate for hours per month. If you are including a seasonal activity, list the average hours per the months that you engage in the activity.

Activities, Athletics, and Organizations

- 1) List only those activities and organizations in which you are currently participating, or have been a frequent participant within the past three years. Include activities such as Scouts, volunteer work, religious youth groups, peer tutoring, sports teams, etc. Be sure to briefly specify any offices you held with those groups, such as club president, team captain, or other position:

#	Activity or Organization	Description	Hours per Month	Start Date (Mmm Yyyy)	Still Participating?	If no, End Date (Mmm Yyyy)
1	<input type="text"/>	<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; height: 100px; width: 100%;"></div> <p><i>0 words counted. Maximum of 40 words allowed.</i></p>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	

Add 1 More

Add 2 More

Add 3 More

Creative Work, Hobbies, and Special Training

- 2) Include activities such as music, dance, drama, arts, volunteering, hobbies, and sports:

#	Name	Description	Hours per Month	Start Date (Mmm Yyyy)	Still Participating?	If no, End Date (Mmm Yyyy)
1	<input type="text"/>	<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; height: 60px; width: 100%;"></div> <p><i>0 words counted. Maximum of 25 words allowed.</i></p>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	

Add 1 More

Add 2 More

Add 3 More

Save Changes

Personal Information - Internships, Paid Work and Jobs

1) You may enter up to 7 rows for the question below. List internships/paid work/jobs in chronological order (starting with most recent) and prioritize the internships/paid work/jobs that are most important to you and/or most relevant to the YES Abroad program.

If you receive an error, please verify that you are using the correct date format. An example of a correct date format is 08/2019.

Use your best estimate for hours per month.

Please specify the type of work and describe your responsibilities:

#	Employment Title/Position	Description	Hours per Month	Start Date (Mmm Yyyy)	Still Employed?	If no, End Date (Mmm Yyyy)
1	<input type="text"/>	<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; height: 60px; width: 100%;"></div> <p><i>0 words counted. Maximum of 25 words allowed.</i></p>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Choose ▼	

Personal Information - Awards, Honors, and Special Recognition

1) You may enter up to 7 rows for the question below. List awards/honors/special recognition in chronological order (starting with most recent) and prioritize the awards/honors/special recognition that are most important to you and/or most relevant to the YES Abroad program.

If you receive an error, please verify that you are using the correct date format. An example of a correct date format is 08/2019.

Please briefly describe the award:

#	Description	Award Date (Mmm Yyyy)

1

Add 1 More

Add 2 More

Add 3 More

Save Changes

Personal Information - Photos (Upload)

Photos are optional and not considered in the selection process. You may submit your application without uploading passport or other photos. If selected for YES Abroad, submitted photos may be shared with host families and/or host schools.

Upload One Passport-Type Photo

Upload a passport-size photo of yourself.

The photo size should be approximately 2" x 2" (5 cm by 5 cm), and show only your face from the shoulders up.

It is not necessary to purchase an "official" passport photo for this purpose. You may approximate one with your own camera or use a yearbook-style photo. Please avoid uploading "selfies" taken with a mobile phone camera. A number of free online tools are readily available to convert or resize your photo.

i If you are having difficulty uploading photos and are otherwise ready to submit your application, please submit your application without photos. You can then email your photos to yesabroad@afsusa.org, and we can add them to your application after the deadline.

1) Upload Passport Photo

After you select your photo file, you will be taken briefly to another screen while your file is validated by this system.

Select File...

File types allowed: PDF, JPG/JPEG, PNG, GIF, TIF/TIFF

IMPORTANT! If your uploaded photo file does not immediately appear above, please allow a few minutes for this system to finish processing your file. You might need to logout of your application and log back in for your photo file to appear.

Upload Personal Photos

To help introduce yourself to a host family or teachers, please select up to ten photographs showing you by yourself, with your family and friends, and participating in your favorite activity. Be creative, but please

ensure the appropriateness of the photographs and captions!

- You may attach up to ten (10) photographs.
- Please re-size your photos so that [a] neither the width, nor the height is greater than 600 pixels, and [b] the resolution is no greater than 300 pixels per inch. A number of free online tools are readily available to convert or resize your photos.
- Be sure to include a brief caption, no more than 100 characters (including spaces), with each photo, and to identify yourself in the photos.

This might be the first impression your host family or program administrators will have of you; keep it clean and consider cultural appropriateness! Any photo and/or caption deemed inappropriate by YES Abroad, in its sole discretion, may be removed. These photos are not considered in the selection process.

2) Photos

After you select your photo file, you will be taken briefly to another screen while your file is validated by this system.

Upload Photo

Caption for Photo

1

Select File...

Add 1 More

Add 2 More

Add 3 More

File types allowed: PDF, JPG/JPEG, PNG, GIF, TIF/TIFF

IMPORTANT! If your uploaded photo files do not immediately appear above, allow a few minutes for this system to finish processing your files. You might need to logout of your application and log back in for your photo files to appear.

Sample Photo and Caption



This photo was taken at my host school; I love the unique ideas that each flag represents.

Save Changes

Personal Information - Statistical Information

Providing this information is voluntary

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

The U.S. Department of State and American Councils welcome all eligible applications and do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender expression or disability.

1) How would you describe yourself?

Check all that apply

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Hispanic or Latino
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- White
- Other
- I decline to state

2) Do you have a disability?

- Yes
- No
- I decline to state

3) What is your household's annual income?

Choose ▼

4) Do you qualify for the [National School Lunch Program](#)?

- Yes
- No

5) What type of school do you attend?

Choose ▼

6) How would you describe the area where you live?

Choose ▼

7) How did you learn about the YES Abroad program?

Check all that apply

- College/university professor or administrator
- Email announcement
- Exchange/study abroad organization or representative (staff or volunteer)
- 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.)
- Poster or brochure
- School club
- School presentation
- Social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, etc.)
- STARTALK
- State Department Presentation
- Website or Internet search
- YES Abroad alumni or current participants
- A State Department participant hosted in the U.S. (such as a YES, CBYX, or FLEX student)
- Youth serving non-profit organization (such as a community-based organization)
- I am a past applicant
- Other

8) Make intercultural learning a family experience! Perhaps your family would consider hosting an international exchange student. Would your family like to receive information about this unique opportunity?

- Yes
- No

Save Changes

Documents - Transcripts

1) Upload your unofficial grade/transcript document(s) below.

Please choose which document you will upload

- High School Grades/Transcript
- Home School Transcript

Save Changes

Documents - Terms and Conditions

Instructions

Each applicant must submit a signed copy of the Terms and Conditions-Participant Agreement signature page. The applicant and all parents/legal guardians must carefully read the document and sign the form; e-signatures will not be accepted. **If selected for participation in YES Abroad, students will be expected to comply with the YES Abroad Terms and Conditions. Applicants and their parents/legal guardians should save a copy of the Terms and Conditions for future reference.**

Applicants should upload the scanned copy of the fully signed final page of the form before submitting the YES Abroad application.

Step One

- 1) Download a copy of the **YES Abroad Participant Agreement - Terms and Conditions** document using the link below.
- 2) Read and sign agreement where indicated on the last page. **Both you and all parents/legal guardians MUST** sign this agreement.

Document	Instructions
YES Abroad Participant Agreement - Terms and Conditions	This agreement must be signed by you and all parents/legal guardians.

Step Two

Upload Terms and Conditions Form

- a) Scan the signature page of the Terms and Conditions document and upload it below. Remember, the form must be signed by the applicant and all parents/legal guardians; Adobe e-signatures will not be accepted.

You will be taken briefly to another screen while your file is validated by this system.

Select File...

File types allowed: PDF, JPG/JPEG, PNG, GIF, TIF/TIFF

IMPORTANT! If your uploaded Terms and Conditions document file does not immediately appear above, please allow a few minutes for this system to finish processing your file. You might need to logout of your application and log back in for your document file to appear.

Please ensure that the applicant and all legal guardians sign the Terms and Conditions form. Please also use legal names (not nicknames) when signing the form. If there is a missing signature on the form or if a name does not match the name listed on the application, we will ask that you complete and submit a new form.

Save Changes

Recommendation Request - Teacher Recommendation

Deadline for Teacher to Submit Recommendation: **Tuesday 08 Dec 2020 5:00 PM** U.S. Eastern Time

When considering who to ask to write the teacher recommendation, we suggest you consider the following:

- The recommendation should be completed by a high school teacher with whom you have engaged in the past 2 years. It is not required nor is it necessarily more beneficial to ask a language teacher to complete the recommendation.
- It's a good idea to ask an individual with whom you have worked closely and who is able to speak to your motivation and readiness to be an exchange student.
- You may also consider asking a high school guidance counselor or school administrator to complete the recommendation.
- Unless you are currently in the 9th grade, we strongly suggest that you avoid asking middle school teachers to complete this recommendation form.
- The letter of recommendation must be prepared in English.
- Home-schooled students: the teacher recommendation must be completed by an adult who is not related to you.
Possible individuals may include, but are not limited to: scout leaders, coaches, clergy members, volunteer coordinators, and instructors.

- If you or your teacher have trouble with the online teacher recommendation, please contact yesabroad@afsusa.org.

Your application must include a recommendation from one of your teachers. It must be submitted using this website (AIS Forms).

It is your responsibility as an applicant to ensure that the letter of recommendation is received by YES Abroad.

Before You Request a Recommendation

- **Talk with your teacher** to determine if they are willing and able to provide this recommendation for you.

Document	Instructions
Information for Your Teacher	Download this document and give it to your teacher; it explains the YES Abroad program and is useful as they consider your recommendation for the program.
Instructions for Your Teacher	Download this instructions document and give it to your teacher. It explains how to submit the recommendation online.

- **Tell your teacher to expect an email** from yesabroad@americancouncils.org. Suggest that your teacher add this address to their "safe" or "contacts" list so that the message does not go into a spam or junk mail box. If they do not receive this email message, suggest that they check the spam or junk mail box before contacting YES Abroad.
- If your teacher gives you a "K12" address, you may want to ask them to provide an alternative email address to receive the YES Abroad Teacher Recommendation request. "K12" addresses often block email messages from unknown sources, such as this application system.

When You Are Ready to Request a Recommendation

- **Provide the contact information** for your teacher below. **YOU MUST USE ENGLISH CHARACTERS OR YOU WILL BE UNABLE TO REQUEST A RECOMMENDATION.** YES Abroad will use that information to send your teacher an email message that contains a link to a secure, online recommendation form.
- Once you have entered complete and correct contact information for your teacher, a new button titled "**Request Recommendation**" will appear below your teacher's contact information.
- **Press the "Request Recommendation" button** to send the email notification to your teacher. A record of the dates you sent these messages will then appear below the contact information.

Warning! If you **change** your teacher's email address **after** sending their notification message, it will **cancel** your previous request and **disable** the secure link to your teacher's online form. It will also **erase** any online recommendation form that was already in progress **or** had already been submitted. So,

be sure to consider this before changing the contact information. **An erased recommendation cannot be retrieved.**

Provide Your Teacher's Contact Information

Provide all the information requested below:

First Name

Last Name

Teacher Email Address

Teacher Telephone

Press the "Save Changes" button at the bottom of the page, and then press the "Request Recommendation" button that appears to send an email request to your teacher.

2021-22 YES Abroad Confidential Teacher Recommendation

Status History

Date	Activity Type	Recipient Email
------	---------------	-----------------

No status found.

After You Request a Recommendation

- **Confirm with your teacher** that they received the email message and can access the form.
- **If your teacher does not receive the email message**, first suggest they check the spam or junk mail box. If they still cannot find it, only then come back to this page and press the "Request Recommendation" button again, to send another message.
- **Be careful! If you change your teacher's email address** after sending the notification message, it will cancel your previous request and disable the secure link to the online form. It will also erase any online recommendation form that was already in progress or had already been submitted. An erased recommendation form cannot be retrieved. Be sure to consider this before changing the contact information.

To see if your teacher has started or submitted the recommendation form, periodically return to this page and check the "Status History" table above.

Questions?

For information about the YES Abroad program, please visit www.yes-abroad.org

Contact YES Abroad staff during business hours, 9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. U.S. Eastern Time, Monday-Friday, at:

Email: yesabroad@afsusa.org
Telephone: 800-237-4636 ext. 2151


Save Changes

Statement Request - Parent/Legal Guardian Statement

Deadline to Submit Statement: **Tuesday 08 Dec 2020 5:00 PM U.S. Eastern Time**

Your application must include a statement from one of your parents/legal guardians. It must be submitted using this website (AIS Forms).

It is your responsibility to ensure that the parent/legal guardian statement is received by YES Abroad.

 If you or your parent has trouble with the online parent statement, please contact yesabroad@afsusa.org.

Before You Request a Parent/Legal Guardian Statement

- **Talk with your parent/legal guardian** to determine if they are willing and able to provide this statement for you. If your parent/legal guardian is not able to complete the statement in English, they can work with a family member or close family friend to translate the statement. Individuals who have help completing their statement should indicate who helped them in the written portion of the form. You should not provide a translation for your parent/legal guardian.

Document	Instructions
----------	--------------

Information for Your Parent/Legal Guardian	Download this informational document and give it to your parent/legal guardian; it explain the YES Abroad program overall.
Instructions for Your Parent/Legal Guardian	Download this instructions document and give it to your parent/legal guardian; it explains how to submit the statement online.

- **Tell your parent/legal guardian to expect an email** from **yesabroad@americancouncils.org**. Suggest that your parent/legal guardian add this address to their "safe" or "contacts" list so that the message does not go into a spam or junk mail box. If they do not receive this email message, suggest that they check the spam or junk mail box before contacting YES Abroad.

When You Are Ready to Request a Parent/Legal Guardian Statement

- **Provide the contact information** for your parent/legal guardian below. **YOU MUST USE ENGLISH CHARACTERS OR YOU WILL BE UNABLE TO REQUEST A STATEMENT** YES Abroad will use that information to send your parent/legal guardian an email message that contains a link to a secure, online statement form.
- Once you have entered complete and correct contact information for your parent/legal guardian, a new button titled "**Request Statement**" will appear below your parent's/legal guardian's contact information.
- **Press the "Request Statement" button** to send the email notification to your parent/legal guardian. A record of the dates you sent these messages will then appear below the contact information.

Warning! If you **change** your parent's/legal guardian's email address **after** sending the notification message, it will **cancel** your previous request and **disable** the secure link to your parent's/legal guardian's online form. It will also **erase** any online statement form that was already in progress **or** had already been submitted. So, be sure to consider this before changing the contact information. **An erased statement cannot be retrieved.**

Provide Parent's/Legal Guardian's Contact Information

Provide all the information requested below:

First Name

Last Name

Relationship to You

- Parent
 Stepparent
 Legal Guardian
 Other

Parent/Legal Guardian Email Address

Parent/Legal Guardian Telephone

Press the "Save Changes" button at the bottom of the page, and then press the "Request Statement" button that appears to send an email request to your parent/legal guardian.

2021-22 YES Abroad Parent/Legal Guardian Statement

Status History

Date	Activity Type	Recipient Email
------	---------------	-----------------

No status found.

After You Request a Parent/Legal Guardian Statement

- **Confirm with your parent/legal guardian** that they received the email message and can access the form.
- **If your parent/legal guardian does not receive the email message**, first suggest they check the spam or junk mail box. If they still cannot find it, only then come back to this page and press the "Request Statement" button again, to send another message.
- **Be careful! If you change your parent's/legal guardian's email address** after sending the notification message, it will cancel your previous request and disable the link to the online form. It will also erase any online form that was already in progress or had already been submitted. An erased statement form cannot be retrieved. Be sure to consider this before changing the contact information.

To see if your parent/guardian has started or submitted the statement form, periodically return to this page and check the "Status History" table above.

Questions?

For information about the YES Abroad program, please visit www.yes-abroad.org

Contact YES Abroad staff during business hours, 9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. U.S. Eastern Time, Monday-Friday, at:

Email: yesabroad@afsusa.org

Telephone: 800-237-4636 ext. 2151

Save Changes

Placement Information - Countries

Your application to YES Abroad is to the program generally, and not to a specific country. Applicants should be open to placement in any host country. Your rank of country interest does not influence program selection, and will be taken into consideration for those applicants selected as Finalists. Finalists will receive their country assignments at the time of selection notification.

Host countries have varying country-specific program eligibility. Finalists are placed in 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. 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.

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.

To learn more about YES Abroad in each host country, please visit: www.yes-abroad.org/countries.

Please note that YES Abroad 2021-2022 programs will commence between late June and Mid-September, 2021.

1) Country Preference

Choose one

- I have no country preference and am open to placement in any country
- I do have a preference of countries and would like to rank them

2) Explain your choice of country/countries.

0 words counted. Maximum of 175 words allowed.

The locations listed below are expected to host YES Abroad programs in 2021-2022, if conditions allow and at the program's discretion. All program locations are subject to change. Note: The experience of every exchange student is different. The following is general information about typical in-country language exposure, and an indication of prior language experience requirements for placement (if any). Participants may experience significant exposure to languages not listed, based on their host family, host community, and host school. Language acquisition is not a primary focus of this program.

Country	Typical Language of Instruction	Typical Host Family Languages	Language Requirement
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian (BCS) and/or English	Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian (BCS) and English	None
Bulgaria	Bulgarian	Bulgarian and English	None
Egypt	Arabic and English	Arabic 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
Malaysia	English and Malay	Malay, Chinese (generally Mandarin), various languages of India, and English	None
Morocco	French and Darija (Moroccan Arabic)	French and Darija (Moroccan Arabic)	Existing French experience required
North Macedonia	Macedonian or English	Macedonian, Albanian, and English	None
Philippines	English and/or local languages	English, Filipino, and local dialects	None
Senegal	French or English	French, Wolof, Pular, or English	Existing French experience required
Thailand	Thai	Thai	None
Turkey	Turkish	Turkish	None

3) Have you or do you plan to apply to other U.S. government-sponsored exchange programs for 2021-22?

- Yes
- No

Save Changes

Placement Information - Personal Preferences

Your responses to these questions about your placement needs and preferences will **not be considered** during the selection process. Applicants and their families should research their host countries of interest in relation to placement and dietary needs and consult with their physicians before determining their preferences. Collecting this preliminary information helps facilitate initial placements and accommodations should you be selected as a finalist. Please provide information on any personal needs or situations that may affect your host family, as well as accommodation needs.

Physical, Health, or Learning Accommodations

- 1) Do you have any health conditions?
 - Yes
 - No
- 2) Do you have any disabilities (e.g., physical, sensory, learning, etc.)?
 - Yes
 - No

Pet/Animal Restrictions

- 3) What pets or other animals can you NOT live with?
Check all that apply
 - Cats-Indoors
 - Cats-Outdoors
 - Dogs-Indoors
 - Dogs-Outdoors
 - Other Pets/Animals-Indoors*
 - Other Pets/Animals-Outdoors**

I have NO pet or animal restrictions.

Dietary Restrictions

4) Do you have any dietary restrictions, including any restriction for medical, religious, or self-imposed reasons? Excluding medical or religious necessity, we encourage participants to be flexible regarding their dietary requirements, as host families are not obligated to and may not be able to accommodate such restrictions.

- Yes
 No

5) Are you vegan or vegetarian?

- Yes
 No

Religion

6) Bearing in mind that it is likely your host family and community will have a different religious affiliation than that of your family and home community, how strongly do you feel about having access to structured religious services of your own faith while on program? The program is not designed to provide access to religious services and such access cannot be guaranteed.

- Strong preference
 Not necessary

7) What is your religious affiliation, if any?

Choose 

8) Were you raised with a religious identity other than your current religious affiliation?

- Yes
 No

Disclaimer

I understand that I, along with my family, should research my host countries of interest in relation to everyday living needs before selecting my country preferences. I understand that host environments might not be able to accommodate the restrictions or requirements that I have indicated in my completed application. I also understand that acceptance to YES Abroad is **not a guarantee** that the noted can or will be honored.

9) I have read and understand the above noted preferences:

Choose one

- Yes
 No

10) Acknowledged by:

Type your name

Save Changes

Placement Information - Medical Information

While YES Abroad is an invaluable experience and a time of tremendous growth for participants, it is important for candidates and their families to understand that by its nature, the program can be emotionally and physically demanding. Being immersed in a different culture, placed in an unfamiliar host family, school, and community often involves emotional stress during an adaptation period that varies from person to person.

If a candidate is currently experiencing medical, emotional, psychological, or family difficulties, or has recently recovered from such issues, the demands of a study abroad program can severely exacerbate such difficulties or be cause for relapse. For this reason, the program requests as much information as possible be given below regarding your health status. Your responses to these questions will **not be considered** during the selection process. Collecting this preliminary medical information helps facilitate program placement should you be selected as a finalist for the program. More information on the medical review process can be found in the YES Abroad Terms and Conditions, which all applicants and their parent(s)/legal guardian(s) must thoroughly review and sign.

To be considered for program selection, you will be required to have a physician complete the official YES Medical Evaluation form and return it to YES Abroad. This form will be made available following the program application deadline. Failure to submit this form by the stated deadline may result in cancellation of your application.

Medical Information for Preliminary Review

- 1) Currently, are you taking any medication, or are you under any medical treatment or care?
 - Yes
 - No
- 2) Do you have, or have you ever had, a prolonged illness?
 - Yes

No

3) Do you have any allergies?

Yes

No

4) Do you have any dietary restrictions for medical reasons? Do not include lifestyle choices.

Yes

No

5) Have you ever consulted or are you currently consulting a neurologist, mental health therapist, psychologist, or psychiatrist within the past two (2) years?

Yes

No

6) 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

Certification

Applicants and their families should research all host countries in relation to medical needs and consult with their physicians before listing their country preferences. Please note that further consideration for a scholarship is contingent upon fulfillment of the medical requirements of YES Abroad. This includes, but is not limited to, submitting a completed health certificate on an official YES Abroad Medical Evaluation form by the stated deadline. This form will be provided to all applicants. **Do not submit a medical evaluation form with your initial application; it will not be accepted.**

7) I certify that the information I have provided above is truthful to the best of my knowledge, that I have read the preceding statement, and that I understand that I will not be eligible for a YES Abroad scholarship until all medical requirements have been fulfilled:

Yes

No

Certified by:

Type your name

Save Changes

Self-Introduction to Host Family

An integral part of the YES Abroad program is the host family. Just as you are curious about your host family, they will be curious about you. Here is a chance to tell your prospective host family about yourself in a letter. Below are questions you should incorporate into the body of your letter to communicate who you are and your motivation for going abroad with YES Abroad. Your letter must be written in English. Type your letter in the space provided below.

TIPS:

- YES Abroad recommends that you **prepare and save** the host family letter and short essays in a **word processing program, such as Microsoft® Word**. You may copy and paste your essays into the spaces below once you have completed them in a word processing program.
- If you choose to type your essay directly into the form below, **be sure to press the "Save Changes" button at the bottom of this page every few minutes**. This will ensure that your work is not lost if you encounter a technical problem.
- A Note about Word Counts and Character Counts Used in this Online Application: Any minimum or maximum word or character counts specified in the instructions for some questions will be as indicated by the counter tool used in this form. This count may not be the same as counts indicated by word-processing programs.

Questions that You Must Answer in Your Letter:

- 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 brothers/sisters and 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, what are your roles in school, sports, community activities, etc.? How do you prioritize and what is important to you?
- If selected for YES Abroad you will be part of a community and family, not a guest. Explain how you would adapt to a new community and family and what makes you a unique addition to a family and community that will likely be different from your own.
- In what ways have you considered for the challenges of the YES Abroad experience?
- What are your education and career goals?

Your letter will be read as part of your application and may be shared with your host family if you are selected. Consider formatting your response like an actual letter with a salutation and closing.

Your Letter:

0 words counted. Maximum of 1000 words allowed.

Save Changes

Essays

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.

Each essay must be written in English. Type your essays in the spaces provided below.

TIPS:

- YES Abroad recommends that you **prepare and save** the host family letter and short essays in a **word processing program, such as Microsoft® Word**. You may copy and paste your essays into the spaces below once you have completed them in a word processing program.
- If you choose to type your essay directly into the form below, **be sure to press the "Save Changes" button at the bottom of this page every few minutes**. This will ensure that your work is not lost if you encounter a technical problem.
- A note about word counts and character counts used in this online application: Any minimum or maximum word or character counts specified in the instructions for some questions will be as indicated by the counter tool used in this form. Please note that this count may not be the same as counts indicated by word-processing programs.

First Essay

1) Choose one of these two topics for your first essay:

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

Enter your first essay below:

0 words counted. Maximum of 1000 words allowed.

Second Essay

2) Choose one of these two topics for your second essay:

- (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.
- (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?

Enter your second essay below:

0 words counted. Maximum of 1000 words allowed.

Third Essay

3) Choose one of these two topics for your third essay:

- (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?
- (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?

Enter your third essay below:

0 words counted. Maximum of 1000 words allowed.

Save Changes

Review and Submit

Application Deadline: **Tuesday 08 Dec 2020 5:00 PM U.S. Eastern Time**



Final Review of Application

Before you submit your application, please be sure to review all sections. Make sure you have answered all the questions and required fields, and that you are satisfied with your responses. Also, be sure that you have downloaded any documents that must be submitted separately by mail.

Once you submit your application, you will no longer be able to make changes to any section of the application. You will be able, however, to continue to view your application online via this system with your existing login.

If you are not ready to submit your application, please press any "Save Changes" button in the application forms and log out of the system. You will be able to log in at any time, thereafter, until the application deadline, and continue to complete or edit your application.

Certification

1) I certify that:

- I completed this application and the written portions are my own work;
- Everything in this application is complete and true to the best of my knowledge;
- I understand that acceptance to YES Abroad is not a guarantee that personal, religious, or health placement requests included in my application or parent statement can or will be honored;

- I understand that by submitting my application to YES Abroad, I am agreeing to apply for a competitive scholarship;
- I understand that American Councils and the U.S. Department of State will not discuss individual determinations about the application review; and
- I understand that my application is in no way an offer or a guarantee of an offer for a YES Abroad scholarship:

Select one:

- Yes
- No

2) Certified and Agreed by:

Type your name

Submit Your Application

If you are ready to submit your application, press the "Submit" button below. If you do not click the "Submit" button, your application materials will not be reviewed by the selection committee.

If you have left any required questions unanswered, you will receive an error message at the top of this page after you press the "Submit Your Application" button and your application will not be accepted. You may then return to your application and enter any missing information, and then attempt to re-submit your application.

Questions?

For information about the YES Abroad program, please visit www.yes-abroad.org

Contact YES Abroad staff during normal business hours Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., U.S. Eastern Time at:

Email: yesabroad@afsusa.org

Telephone: 800-237-4636 ext. 2151

