



## Serbia Youth Leadership Program

# Application For Teachers and Community Leaders U.S. Participants



THE SERBIA YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM (SYLP)  
IS A PROGRAM OF THE BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS (ECA)  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND  
ADMINISTERED BY AMERICAN COUNCILS FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION,  
YOUTH VENTURES, AND FRACTAL



**AMERICAN COUNCILS**® FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION  
A C T R ▲ A C C E L S



# Serbia Youth Leadership Program

## Program Description:

The Serbia Youth Leadership Program (SYLP) supports the development of community activism, leadership skills, respect for diversity, and civic education in youth from Serbia and the United States. This short-term cultural and educational exchange between high school students and teachers/community leaders from the U.S. and Serbia will introduce U.S. participants to civil society, civic activism, and contemporary issues in Serbia.

Twelve U.S. high school students and three teachers/community leaders will travel to Serbia in July 2010 for a two and a half -week program. Participants will take part in a five-day seminar in Belgrade that prepares them for their week long program in a community in or near Novi Pazar, Vrbas, or Uzice. Participants will be hosted by youth from Serbia who took part in a community program in Seattle, Minneapolis, and San Francisco in April 2010. Students will be divided into three groups and each group will be accompanied by a teachers or youth leader from the U.S. Each group will travel to a community in Serbia, to live with host families, and to actively participate in a program that focuses on community service and leadership development. SYLP participants will return to Belgrade to participate in an end-of-program conference where they will report back on their community programs, synthesize what they have learned and plan for ongoing activities.

## The Serbia Youth Leadership Program will enable participants to:

- develop their sense of civic responsibility and commitment to community development;
- become part of a group of community activists who will share their knowledge and skills with their peers and youth through positive action and collaboration;
- foster understanding and build relationships with peers and youth from different ethnic, religious, and national groups;
- develop a greater understanding of the history and culture of Serbia;
- promote mutual understanding between the people of Serbia and the United States.

## Eligibility Requirements

### In order to be considered for participation in the program, candidates must:

- be a teacher or community/youth leader
- be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States
- live in or near Minneapolis, San Francisco, or Seattle
- demonstrate leadership ability
- demonstrate a desire to contribute to their community and its youth
- be able to travel to Serbia in July 2010
- be in possession of a valid passport that does not expire before 2/28/2011 by June 15, 2010

## SYLP Program Calendar

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| Application Deadline for U.S. participants   | April 23, 2010     |
| Pre-departure Orientation                    | July 2010          |
| U.S. Participants depart for Serbia          | July 11, 2010      |
| Belgrade Seminar                             | July 12 – 17, 2010 |
| Community Program (Novi Pazar, Vrbas, Uzice) | July 17 – 26, 2010 |
| End of Program Workshop - Belgrade           | July, 26-27, 2010  |
| U.S. Participants return to the U.S.         | July 28, 2010      |



# Serbia Youth Leadership Program



## **How to Apply to the Serbia Youth Leadership Program:**

- Complete pages 4 - 6 of the application.
- Give the Confidential Recommendation from Supervisor or Coworker (pages 7 & 8) and a stamped addressed envelope to a supervisor or coworker to fill out and return to American Councils. The recommender should mail the form himself or herself.
- Fill out the Health Certificate (page 9)
- Request a signed Statement of Health from your physician
- Mail pages 4 – 6 of the application, the Health Certificate and the signed Health Statement to American Councils at the address below.

### **Serbia Youth Leadership Program**

American Councils for International Education: ACTR/ACCELS

1776 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Suite 700

Washington, D.C. 20036

Telephone (202) 833-7522

Fax (202) 833-7523

Email: [jhomstad@americancouncils.org](mailto:jhomstad@americancouncils.org)

### **Should you have any questions, please contact**

Julia Homstad, Program Officer

Telephone: (202) 833-7522

Email: [jhomstad@americancouncils.org](mailto:jhomstad@americancouncils.org)

# **Application Deadline: April 23, 2010**

**Applications must be post marked by April 23, 2010 to be considered.**



# Serbia Youth Leadership Program



## Candidate's Legal Name

## Biographical Data

Title: Mr. Ms. Dr. Other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Name Middle Name Last Name Preferred Name /Nickname

### Mailing Address

Street/PO Box \_\_\_\_\_

City & State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_\_\_

### Emergency Contact Information

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Name Last Name Relationship

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Numbers (home, business, mobile)

### Employment:

Name of school, organization or company where you are currently employed:

\_\_\_\_\_

Type of organization; \_\_\_\_\_

Your title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Index: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Work telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide a brief description of your duties at the school, organization, or company.



# Serbia Youth Leadership Program

## Knowledge of Languages:

List your native language first, then rate yourself Excellent, Good, Fair, or Poor in all languages in which you have some competence.

| Language | Reading ability | Writing ability | Speaking Ability | Listening Ability |
|----------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1.       |                 |                 |                  |                   |
| 2.       |                 |                 |                  |                   |
| 3.       |                 |                 |                  |                   |

## Volunteer or community service activities

List any volunteer or community service activities in which you have participated during the past three years:

List any youth groups and non-governmental organizations that you supervise or belong to:



# Serbia Youth Leadership Program



## Statement of Purpose

Name (Last, First): \_\_\_\_\_

### INSTRUCTIONS

The Statement of Purpose is a substantial part of the application, as it explains to the selection committee why you are applying for the Serbia Youth Leadership Program. In the space provided, write a clear and detailed description of your personal and professional interests and personal and professional goals as they relate to the Serbian Youth Leadership Program. You may use the space below or attach a typed copy of your statement. Please include specific information on:

- ◆ what you, as an educator or community leader in the U.S. can contribute to youth and your community.
- ◆ your plans for sustaining contacts with U.S. and Serbian participants after the program, and
- ◆ how you can use your experience on this exchange in your professional life and to enhance youth leadership and service in your community.



# Serbia Youth Leadership Program

## Confidential Recommendation from Supervisor or Coworker

**To applicant:** Complete the information on the top of this form. Please ask one of your supervisors or a coworker, who knows you well, to complete this form. Give the recommender this form and an envelope addressed to American Councils, 1776 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20036, ATTN: SYLP. This recommendation MUST be returned in a sealed and signed envelope by April 23, 2010.

**To recommender:** Please answer Part B. Your answers on this form will be evaluated along with the candidate's own application materials to determine his/her suitability for this scholarship program, which focuses on the development of leadership skills and cultural exchange. Therefore we ask you to answer each part honestly, carefully and completely. Enclose the completed form in the accompanying envelope.

### PART A: TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

### PART B: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE INDIVIDUAL PROVIDING THE RECOMMENDATION.

Name of Reference \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Institution or place of work \_\_\_\_\_

Your statement will be given considerable importance by the selection committee which reviews this application, and should be as complete and detailed as possible. Your comments may be continued on additional sheets of paper.

| <b>PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS</b>                                    | <b>Superior</b> | <b>Above Average</b> | <b>Average</b> | <b>Below Average</b> |
|---|-----------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Knowledge of the field of work  |                 |                      |                |                      |
| Effectiveness with persons of diverse backgrounds                     |                 |                      |                |                      |
| Ability to work with colleagues, including those with divergent views |                 |                      |                |                      |
| Adherence to established administrative policies                      |                 |                      |                |                      |
| <b>PERSONALITY TRAITS</b>   | <b>Superior</b> | <b>Above Average</b> | <b>Average</b> | <b>Below Average</b> |
| Adaptability  |                 |                      |                |                      |
| Resourcefulness   |                 |                      |                |                      |
| Self-reliance   |                 |                      |                |                      |
| Sense of humor  |                 |                      |                |                      |



# Serbia Youth Leadership Program



**Confidential Letter of Reference cont'd**

1. How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?

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2. Please comment on what makes the applicant an outstanding teacher or community leader.

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3. Please compare the applicant to other teachers or community leader you have known in terms of commitment to his or her profession, knowledge of his/her job, how he/she relates to other adults, attitude toward students and young people, and preparedness for living abroad for a period of three weeks.

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# Serbia Youth Leadership Program



## Health Certificate

**To the applicant:** Please answer all questions on this form honestly and completely and return it to American Councils along with a statement of health from your physician with your application. The statement of health should attest to your ability to travel to and live in Serbia for 3 weeks. It must be signed by your physician.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

List any physical disabilities, allergies, or sensitivities that you have, including those to medications or foods:

List any serious injuries, illnesses, conditions, or operations you have had in the past five years:

List any special medical treatment, medications or diet you require. If you follow a vegetarian diet, please note that here:

I certify by my signature below that the above information is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_