



## YES Abroad and FLEX Abroad

Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study Abroad (YES Abroad)  
Future Leaders Exchange Abroad (FLEX Abroad)

## NSLI-Y

National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y)

*NSLI-Y, FLEX Abroad, and YES Abroad are programs of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.*

<b>Program Description</b>	YES Abroad and FLEX Abroad provide merit-based scholarships for American high school students (ages 15-18.5) to study abroad in select countries for an academic year. <b>YES Abroad and FLEX Abroad are cultural exchange programs</b> focused on enhancing Americans' understanding of other countries and cultures through fostering lasting personal ties and engaging youth in activities that advance mutual understanding. Participants live with a host family and enroll in a local high school abroad.	NSLI-Y provides merit-based scholarships to American high school students (ages 15-18) for overseas study of eight critical foreign languages during a summer or academic year. These languages are not commonly taught in U.S. high schools but are critical to America's engagement with the world. <b>NSLI-Y is a language- focused program</b> aimed at developing a cadre of young Americans who will use their language skills to advance international dialogue, compete effectively in the global economy, and promote mutual understanding.
<b>Goals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an understanding of host countries and cultures and enhance their understanding of the United States and its society, people, and values.</li> <li>• Develop leadership skills, international competence, and an understanding of global interests.</li> <li>• Promote respectful and enduring relationships between Americans and citizens of other countries.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote learning of critical languages among American youth.</li> <li>• Develop a better understanding of other cultures and peoples.</li> <li>• Spark a lifetime of interest in foreign languages and cultures.</li> <li>• Prepare young Americans with language and cultural skills to advance international dialogue, compete effectively in the global economy, and promote mutual understanding.</li> </ul>
<b>Location (Subject to Change)</b>	<p><b>YES Abroad Countries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bosnia and Herzegovina</li> <li>• Bulgaria</li> <li>• Egypt</li> <li>• Ghana</li> <li>• India</li> <li>• Indonesia</li> <li>• Jordan</li> </ul> <p><b>FLEX Abroad Countries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Georgia</li> <li>• Kazakhstan</li> <li>• Poland</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Arabic:</b> Egypt, Jordan, Morocco</li> <li>• <b>Chinese (Mandarin):</b> China, Taiwan</li> <li>• <b>Hindi:</b> India</li> <li>• <b>Indonesian:</b> Indonesia</li> <li>• <b>Korean:</b> South Korea</li> <li>• <b>Persian (Tajik):</b> Tajikistan</li> <li>• <b>Russian:</b> Estonia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Moldova</li> <li>• <b>Turkish:</b> Türkiye</li> </ul>
<b>Applicant preference</b>	Applicants apply to the program, ranking country preference	Applicants indicate language(s), not country(ies) of interest.
<b>What kind of student should apply?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Committed to cultural immersion and living with a host family</li> <li>• Eager to learn about foreign cultures</li> <li>• Mature, independent, open-minded, utilizes communication effectively to solve problems, and flexible/adaptable</li> <li>• Comfortable with less structured schedules</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motivated to seriously study the program language</li> <li>• Eager to learn about foreign cultures</li> <li>• Mature, independent, open-minded, utilizes communication effectively to solve problems, and flexible</li> <li>• Prepared for the challenges of an overseas immersion experience</li> <li>• Comfortable with highly structured schedules</li> </ul>
<b>Accommodations</b>	Participants live with host families for the duration of the program	Accommodations vary by program site. Participants may reside either in a host family or combination of supervised dormitories and host family stays.
<b>Placement</b>	Participants may be placed individually or in small groups at each site. Participants are enrolled in local high schools. Placements in host families and schools vary greatly both across and within host countries.	Participants are placed in groups of approximately 5 to 30 participants per site. Groups tend to be larger for summer programs. Participants enroll in local high schools and/or language institutes.
<b>Duration</b>	Academic year (9-11 months)	Summer (6 weeks) or academic year (8-10 months)
<b>Basic Program Eligibility</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U.S. citizen</li> <li>• Enrolled in high school at time of application</li> <li>• Birthdates between December 30, 2004 - June 30, 2008</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U.S. citizen</li> <li>• Enrolled in high school at time of application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Summer: birthdates between July 10, 2004 and June 10, 2008</li> <li>◦ Academic year: birthdates between August 30, 2004 and June 30, 2008</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 2.5 or higher GPA on a 4.0 scale (or equivalent)</li> </ul>
<b>Program Website</b>	<a href="http://www.yes-abroad.org">www.yes-abroad.org</a> <a href="http://www.discoverflex.org/flex-abroad">www.discoverflex.org/flex-abroad</a>	<a href="http://www.nsliforyouth.org">www.nsliforyouth.org</a>