**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)

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<tr>
<th>Program Description</th>
<th>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. <strong>YES Abroad and FLEX Abroad are cultural exchange programs</strong> 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.</th>
<th>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. <strong>NSLI-Y is a language-focused program</strong> 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.</th>
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<td><strong>Goals</strong></td>
<td>• Develop an understanding of host countries and cultures and enhance their understanding of the United States and its society, people, and values. • Develop leadership skills, international competence, and an understanding of global interests. • Promote respectful and enduring relationships between Americans and citizens of other countries.</td>
<td>• Promote learning of critical languages among American youth. • Develop a better understanding of other cultures and peoples. • Spark a lifetime of interest in foreign languages and cultures. • Prepare young Americans with language and cultural skills to advance international dialogue, compete effectively in the global economy, and promote mutual understanding.</td>
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| **Location (Subject to Change)** | **YES Abroad Countries**  
- Bosnia and Herzegovina  
- Bulgaria  
- Egypt  
- Ghana  
- India  
- Indonesia  
- Jordan  
- North Macedonia  
- Malaysia  
- Morocco  
- Philippines  
- Senegal  
- Thailand  
- Türkiye | **FLEX Abroad Countries**  
- Georgia  
- Kazakhstan  
- Poland  
- Arabic: Egypt, Jordan, Morocco  
- Chinese (Mandarin): China, Taiwan  
- Hindi: India  
- Indonesian: Indonesia  
- Korean: South Korea  
- Persian (Tajik): Tajikistan  
- Russian: Estonia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Moldova  
- Turkish: Türkiye |
| **Applicant preference** | Applicants apply to the program, ranking country preference | Applicants indicate language(s), not country(ies) of interest. |
| **What kind of student should apply?** | • Committed to cultural immersion and living with a host family  
• Eager to learn about foreign cultures  
• Mature, independent, open-minded, utilizes communication effectively to solve problems, and flexible/adaptable  
• Comfortable with less structured schedules | • Motivated to seriously study the program language  
• Eager to learn about foreign cultures  
• Mature, independent, open-minded, utilizes communication effectively to solve problems, and flexible  
• Prepared for the challenges of an overseas immersion experience  
• Comfortable with highly structured schedules |
| **Accommodations** | 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. |
| **Placement** | Participants may be placed individually or in small groups at each site. Participants are enrolled in local high schools. Placements in host families and/or language institutes 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. |
| **Duration** | Academic year (9-11 months) | Summer (6 weeks) or academic year (8-10 months) |
| **Basic Program Eligibility** | • U.S. citizen  
• Enrolled in high school at time of application  
• Birthdates between December 30, 2004 - June 30, 2008 | • U.S. citizen  
• Enrolled in high school at time of application  
• Birthdates between July 10, 2004 and June 10, 2008  
• Academic year: birthdates between August 30, 2004 and June 30, 2008  
• 2.5 or higher GPA on a 4.0 scale (or equivalent) |
| **Program Website** | www.yes-abroad.org  
www.discoverflex.org/flex-abroad | www.nsliforyouth.org |