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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U.S. High School Students and Recent Graduates: Apply Now for U.S. State Department Scholarship Programs to Learn a Critical Language Abroad!

Washington, DC—**Applications are now being accepted for the U.S. Department of State’s National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y) program.** Approximately 550 American high school students (ages 15-18) will be selected to receive a scholarship to study a language in the Summer of 2024 or for the 2024-25 academic year. Participants will experience intensive language learning in an immersive environment abroad through language classes, cultural activities, and engaging with the local community. NSLI-Y offers programs for Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), Hindi, Indonesian, Korean, Persian (Tajiki), Russian, or Turkish.

Launched in 2006 as part of a multi-agency U.S. Government initiative, NSLI-Y is a program of the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The program increases the number of young Americans with the language skills necessary to advance international dialogue, promote economic prosperity and innovation worldwide, and contribute to national security by building understanding across cultures. NSLI-Y is administered by American Councils for International Education, in cooperation with AFS-USA, iEARN, and other partner organizations.

The NSLI-Y program provides a formative experience with lifelong impact. Participants gain critical communication and leadership skills that guide their academic and professional careers. In the words of one alum, “NSLI-Y was a life changing experience that has impacted my view of myself and the world around me in ways that will continue to shape the person I am in the future, to be a better ambassador of the United States abroad and to have improved understanding of the intercultural relationships between nations.”

For more information about the NSLI-Y program, including how to apply and eligibility criteria, visit www.nsliforyouth.org. The application deadline is **November 2, 2023, by 4:00 PM U.S. Eastern Time.**

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