



Connecting Lives, Sharing Cultures



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE-SPONSORED PROGRAM
KENNEDY- LUGAR YOUTH EXCHANGE & STUDY (YES) 2018-2019**

DATE: May 15, 2017

TO: STUDENTS ENROLLED IN SECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES MEETING THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS OF THE YES PROGRAM

FROM: AFS INTERCULTURAL PROGRAMS PHILIPPINES & THE U.S. EMBASSY IN THE PHILIPPINES

RE: CALL FOR PRE- APPLICATIONS FOR U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE-SPONSORED PROGRAM: KENNEDY- LUGAR YOUTH EXCHANGE AND STUDY (YES)

**CALL FOR PRE- APPLICATIONS FOR U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE-SPONSORED PROGRAM
KENNEDY- LUGAR YOUTH EXCHANGE AND STUDY (YES) 2018-2019**

AFS Intercultural Programs Philippines and the U.S. Embassy in the Philippines are pleased to announce the opening of applications for the next cycle of the Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study (2018-2019 Batch). This program is one of the prominent U.S. government-funded exchange programs designed to expand communication between the people of the United States and partner countries with sizeable Muslim populations in the interest of promoting mutual understanding and respect. YES program offers full scholarship to high school students, including students with physical disabilities, in 51 countries. Students will live with host families, attend a U.S. high school, engage in activities to learn about American society and values, acquire leadership skills, and help educate Americans about their countries and cultures. The YES program is funded by the U.S. Department of State - Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs in partnership with the American Councils for International Education and YES program consortium.

The goals of the program are to:

- Promote a better understanding among youth from selected YES countries about American society, people, institutions, values, and culture;
- Foster lasting personal ties;
- Engage the exchange participants in activities that promote mutual understanding, respect for diversity, leadership skills, and an understanding of civil society during their exchange in the U.S.;
- Enhance Americans' understanding of foreign students' countries and cultures; and
- Increase the capacity of organizations in participating countries to engage youth in activities that enhance mutual understanding, respect for diversity, leadership skills, and an understanding of civil society through alumni activities.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

1. Philippine citizen residing in the Philippines at the time of application, selection and preparation for travel; Birthdate must be between August 2, 2000 and August 1, 2003.
2. Currently enrolled in a public/private junior or senior high school and is among the top 25% of academic performance in grade level; graduating senior high school (Grade 12) students are not eligible to apply.
3. Demonstrated leadership potential in school and/or community.
4. Have an equivalent of a B average or better without failing grades.
5. Have not completed more than 11 years of primary education nor received a high school diploma (senior high school) by the start of the program.
6. Demonstrated sufficient English language ability to speak and study in English.
7. Sufficiently healthy to participate.
8. Preferably have not previously studied in the U.S.
9. Committed to cultural immersion in the U.S. through a home-stay experience.
10. Able to meet cross-cultural challenges with maturity, humor and open mind.
11. Plans to share his/her U.S. experience with his/her home and community upon return.

The program can support Persons with Disabilities (PWD) and encourages their participation.

REQUIRED PRE-APPLICATION DOCUMENTS:

1. Pre-Application Form downloadable at <http://www.afs.ph>; filled-up and with passport size ID photo
2. Photocopy of most recent Form 137 or transcript of records from Philippine high school
3. Photocopy of school ID or valid government ID
4. Signed consent by either parent or legal guardian at the bottom of the pre-application form

SUBMISSION POLICY

All applications must be received by AFS PHI on or before July 3, 2017. All application documents must be sent by mail or courier to:

ATTN: SENDING PROGRAM
AFS Intercultural Programs Philippines
Unit 1607 16/F Antel Global Corporate Center
No. 3 Dona Julia Vargas Avenue, Ortigas Center
1600 Pasig City, Metro Manila, Philippines
Telephone: 02-584-2002
Website: <http://www.afs.ph>
E-mail address: phi.sending@afs.org

For those who need assistance in sending their application forms, AFS Philippines and the U.S. Embassy in the Philippines have identified drop-off points near your areas and designated a contact person who will provide help, collect and send applications to AFS Philippines. Deadline for submission of applications at drop off points is June 26, 2017. Please submit your application at our drop-off points or hand them to our local volunteers and alumni on or before June 26, 2017, 1:00pm. Please feel free to contact them. Other applicants can send in their application package directly to AFS Philippines.

AREA	DROP-OFF POINT	CONTACT PERSON	MOBILE NUMBER	EMAIL
TAWI-TAWI	American Corner Tawi-Tawi Mindanao State University	Mary Margaret D. Clerigo (American Corner Tawi-Tawi Librarian)	0926 533 1133	Marymargaret_c@yahoo.com
		Aljemedin S. Jaudinez (AFS Voluntter)	0947 710 9046	Aljemedin.jaudinez@yahoo.com
	Mahardika Institute of Technology	Medzfar U. Salahuddin (MIT Instructor)	0930 216 1860	Smedzfar.jaudinez@yahoo.com

	Tawi-Tawi School of Arts and Trade – Science Technology	Fermin J. Hamja (AFS Volunteer)	0920 796 7560	Heijay41@gmail.com
JOLO, SULU	American Corner Jolo Sulu, Notre Dame of Jolo College	Arnold Catipay (American Corner Jolo Director)	0917 775 5277	Catipay05@yahoo.com
		Fatimatuzzahra Abdulmajid (USG-YES Alum)	0975 229 8606 0926 177 8948	zheaabdulmajid@yahoo.com
BASILAN	Sunset Elementary School, Isabela	Arriana Jupakkal (USG-YES Alum)	0935 524 8268	arrianajupakkal@gmail.com
		Satra Kani Jupakkal (AFS Volunteer)	0917 623 5530	
	Basilan National High School	Al-Hada Basaluddin (USG-YES alum)	0936 117 5046	basaluddin.alhada2@gmail.com
		Sahayan Hantian (USG-YES alum)	0935 473 2703	Hantian.sahayan2@gmail.com
	Lamitan National High School	Jay-R Sakar (AFS Volunteer)	0975 268 8221	Jay22_2006@yahoo.com
ZAMBOANGA CITY	American Corner, Ateneo de Zamboanga University	Lynnie Calingacion (American Corner Zamboanga Director)	0918 273 9997	Lynnie.calingacion@gmail.com
		Shareen Usman Hayudini (USG-YES Alum)	0917 775 5278	shareenhayudini@gmail.com
	Zamboanga National High School, West	Angeline Omar (AFS Volunteer)	0926 827 1666	Hja.rbo@yahoo.com.ph
ILIGAN CITY	KASAMA Office-MSU-IIT	Johnson Badawi (USG-YES-Alum)	0905 497 6547	johnsonbadawi@gmail.com
		Juhary Mustapha (USG-YES-alum)	0995 630 7374	mustaphajuhary@yahoo.com

MARAWI CITY	American Corner, Mindanao State University	Marcelito Buenafe (American Corner Marawi Librarian)	0975 293 9559	Marbuenafe2002@yahoo.com
	MSU Marawi College of Business Administration and Accountancy	Sittie Ayeenah Arindig (USG- YES Alum)	0915 620 1422	arindigsittieayeenah@yahoo.com.ph
	AKIC Main, College Department Campus	Haroun Al Rashid Datu- Dacula (USG-YES-Alum)		datudaculaharoun@yahoo.com
	USG & AFS Desk at AKIC SLS	Mohammad Jamsheed Abdul (USG-PYLP Alum)	0915 500 1225	jamsheedabdul@gmail.com
GENERAL SANTOS CITY	City Social Welfare Development Office	Hadija S. Odoya (AFS Volunteer)	0923 415 4292	Jang_odoya@yahoo.com
	Buayan National High School	Noralyn Joy O. Ramos (AFS Volunteer)	0923 272 2107 0917 309 2537	noralynjoyramos@gmail.com
	Mindanao State University – CETD	Jinky Bibat (High School Principal)	0917 705 2984	
	Holy Trinity College	Dr. Maria Giovanna G. Abecia (High School Principal)		
COTABATO CITY	American Corner, Notre Dame University	Sonia dela Cruz (American Corner Cotabato Director)	(064) 421 9942 (064) 421 2698 loc 325 0919 338 0551	Sonia_ndu@yahoo.com

	Cotabato City National High School – Main	Ryanne G. Pasawilan (USG-YES-Alum)	0975 089 7417	Ryanne.guiali1699@gmail.com
DAVAO	American Corner, Ateneo de Davao University	Fretzie Fajardo (Director of Libraries)	(082) 221 2411 loc 8207	fafajardo@addu.edu.ph
	Sirawan National High School	Suhura Del Monte (School Librarian)	0915 358 9946	
METRO MANILA	AFS Intercultural Programs Philippines	Sofia Dela Cruz (USG-YES-Alum)	0915 245 7576	Delacruz2_sofia@gmail.com

NOTES:

1. All applications must be submitted to the AFS PHI office as hard copies. There will be no online submission of applications.
2. Applicants must submit only the photocopies of original documents. AFS IPP will not be responsible in sending back original copies.
3. Applicants who have family members (father, mother, sister or brother) and cousins within the first degree who have participated in the previous ECA-DOS sponsored exchange programs are NOT qualified to participate in this program. This restriction applies as well to AFS IPP staff and board members up to the third degree.
4. AFS PHI will announce (and will notify) ONLY the semifinalists starting by the last week of July. Only semifinalists are invited to the interviews during the months of August to October.

Pre-applications for the YES Program will be accepted on May 15, 2017 until July 3, 2017. For more information, interested applicants may email phi.sending@afs.org or visit <http://www.afs.ph> or <https://ph.usembassy.gov>.

Thank you very much and best wishes.