



# European Administrators Program

A program of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), U.S. Department of State, and administered by IREX

## *Application for International Educators*

The U.S. Department of State and IREX announce an open competition for a program that will bring outstanding European education leaders to the U.S. for a professional development opportunity. The exchange program seeks to:

- Enhance educators' expertise in best practices for the economic, social and political advancement of minority and immigrant youth, including at-risk youth, and refugee children, through educational initiatives, cultural activities, civic participation, and sports.
- Develop productive and lasting relationships and mutual understanding between U.S. and international education professionals.
- Equip educators with a nuanced understanding of U.S. federal, state and local immigration policies, including the historic movements that have brought about the integration of various ethnic groups into mainstream American society and the role of youth in these movements.
- Enhance participants' abilities to serve as educational leaders so they may apply and share their experience and skills with their education communities and improve at-risk youth outreach efforts in their home countries.

### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

Applicants must:

- Be current full-time primary or secondary-level principals, provincial or regional educational administrators, or head teachers.
- Be a citizen and current resident of Germany, France, the Netherlands, Sweden, or the United Kingdom.
- Demonstrate a commitment to minority, immigrant and refugee youth outreach, support, and integration.
- Demonstrate high levels of English reading, speaking, and listening comprehension.
- Have earned a Bachelor's degree or equivalent.
- Have a minimum of 5 years of professional experience in an administrative leadership position in the education sector.
- Have submitted a completed application.
- Be prepared (in terms of maturity, flexibility, and the ability to function independently) for an intensive U.S.-based training program with very limited free time for personal travel or sightseeing.

**Application Available at:** <http://oas.irex.org/eap>

**Application Deadline:** Varies by country. Please reach out to the U.S. Embassy or Fulbright Commission in your country for further information.

**Questions:** [europeanadministrators@irex.org](mailto:europeanadministrators@irex.org)

### ***PROGRAM OVERVIEW***

The **European Administrators Program** is a ten day professional development opportunity that provides European education-leaders with unique opportunities to examine various approaches to promoting the economic and social advancement of minority, refugee and immigrant youth. The program will equip participants with additional skills to enhance youth outreach opportunities and to support and integrate minorities, refugees and at-risk youth in the U.S. and in their home schools and communities by sharing best practices with their U.S. hosts. The program will include facilitated discussions and action planning led by education leaders and practitioners, high-level meetings with educational experts, and visits to schools and community organizations. The program is designed for primary and secondary school principals, head teachers, or district or provincial administrators. The program will take place from approximately October 23 to November 3, 2016. The program will begin and end in Washington DC, and will also include travel to a second U.S. city that currently illustrates effective minority and immigrant youth outreach at federal, state and local levels.

Upon returning home, participants will be a part of a network of leaders creating change in the European and global education systems. They will have continued access to professional learning communities and to online materials and activities.

### ***ABOUT THE BUREAU OF EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE***

The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the U.S. Department of State fosters mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries around the world. ECA strives to achieve this goal through a wide range of international exchanges as authorized by the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, as amended. ECA works in close cooperation with U.S. Embassies and bilateral Fulbright Commissions overseas to promote personal, professional, and institutional ties between private citizens and organizations in the United States and abroad.

### ***ABOUT IREX***

IREX ([www.irex.org](http://www.irex.org)) is an international nonprofit organization providing thought leadership and innovative programs to promote positive lasting change globally. We enable local individuals and institutions to build key elements of a vibrant society: quality education, independent media, and strong communities. To strengthen these sectors, our program activities also include conflict resolution, technology for development, gender, and youth. The U.S. Department of State provides IREX with a grant to implement this program.

### ***PROVISIONS OF THE FELLOWSHIP***

- J-1 visa support;
- In-person or virtual Pre-Departure Orientation;
- Round-trip airfare to and within the U.S.;
- Round-trip travel reimbursement for travel between home city and point of departure for the U.S.;
- A welcome orientation and end of program planning workshop in Washington, D.C.;
- A daily housing, meal, and incidentals allowance during the program;
- Accident and sickness medical insurance coverage; and
- A baggage allowance.

### ***ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS***

The program welcomes applications from primary and secondary European school principals, head teachers, or district or provincial administrators.

Applicants must:

- Be current full-time primary or secondary-level principals, provincial or regional educational administrators, or head teachers.
- Be a citizen and current resident of Germany, France, the Netherlands, Sweden, or the United Kingdom.
- Demonstrate a commitment to minority, immigrant and refugee youth outreach, support, and integration.
- Demonstrate high levels of English reading, speaking, and listening comprehension.
- Have earned a Bachelor's degree or equivalent.
- Have a minimum of 5 years of professional experience in an administrative leadership position in the education sector.
- Submit a complete application.
- Be prepared (in terms of maturity, flexibility, and the ability to function independently) for an intensive U.S.-based training program with very limited free time for personal travel or sightseeing.

**If you have participated in other professional development exchange programs, please talk to the Fulbright Commission/U.S. Embassy in your country about your eligibility.**

Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. Current IREX employees and consultants and their immediate family members (spouses, parents, children, and siblings) are not eligible to compete in any IREX-implemented grant programs. The U.S. Department of State and IREX do not discriminate against grant applicants because of race, color, religion, sex, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or any other protected characteristic as established by U.S. law.

***APPLICATIONS NOT MEETING THE ABOVE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS WILL NOT BE FORWARDED TO THE SELECTION COMMITTEE.***

IREX reserves the right to verify all of the information included in the application. In the event that there is a discrepancy, or information is found to be false, the application will immediately be declared invalid and the applicant ineligible.

### ***SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA***

Fellows will be selected through a merit-based open competition based on the criteria below. Top candidates will be interviewed by an interview panel.

Selection Criteria (not in order of importance):

- Demonstrated commitment to improving education in Europe;
- Demonstrated commitment to minority, immigrant and refugee youth outreach, support, and integration
- Demonstrated leadership potential;
- Professional and educational experience and achievements;
- Preparedness (including maturity, flexibility, and ability to function independently) for an intensive U.S.-based training program with very limited free time for personal travel or sightseeing;
- Ability to express ideas clearly and effectively; and
- English language skills adequate to actively engage with facilitators, education and organization leaders, and other program participants, as confirmed by an interview with the nominating officials.
- Applicants who have had few or no opportunities to travel to the U.S. will be given priority.

**GENERAL APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS & SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

- Please answer **all** questions on the application.
- If a question does not apply to you, enter N/A (not applicable).
- Include your full, legal name as spelled on your passport (if available) or other photo identification.
- Include complete contact information (including postal codes for all addresses and city codes for all phone and fax numbers if available).
- Electronically sign the Privacy Policy on the last page.

**INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT AND REFERENCE FORM**

All applicants must include the Institutional Support and Reference Form, which must be completed by your supervisor at the institution where you are employed. The form must be signed in ink. An English translation must be provided if the form and reference letter are not written in English.

**A completed application includes all elements listed below. You may submit your application to the U.S. Embassy or Fulbright Commission in your country electronically in the following order:**

1. Application,
2. Institutional Support and Reference Form completed by your supervisor, and
3. A copy of the photo and information pages of your passport (or photo identification).

**PROGRAM TIMELINE**

December 2015-March 2016 (Varies by Country)	Competition Open
March 2016 (Varies by Country)	In-Country Interviews
March 31, 2016	Nominations due to IREX from U.S. Embassy or Fulbright Commission
Early May 2016	Notification of Finalists
August-September 2016	Pre-Departure Orientation
October 23-November 3, 2016	U.S. Program Dates