The Global Undergraduate Exchange Program (Global UGRAD)

Scholarship!! For an Educational & Cultural Exchange Opportunity

The Global Undergraduate Exchange Program (Global UGRAD) is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. It is a fully-funded scholarship for one semester of non-degree academic study at an assigned U.S. college or university. The program includes pre-academic English language training (if needed), academic coursework, service learning opportunities, professional development workshops, and cultural enrichment activities.

All academic fields of study are eligible. Interested applicants in medicine, nursing, dentistry, veterinary medicine, pharmacology or other clinical fields of study, should note that direct patient care, including animal care, is not permitted, and therefore academic coursework and/or program activities at participating U.S. institutions may be limited.

Eligibility for the Global UGRAD Program:
1. Applicants must be Saudi citizens currently studying in Saudi Arabia (dual U.S./Saudi citizens are considered ineligible.)
2. Scholarships will be granted to students who currently are enrolled in full-time undergraduate programs only, having completed a minimum of their first semester of study. Participants must have at least one semester or an equivalent term to complete at their home institutions upon completion of the Global UGRAD Program.
3. Applicants should demonstrate leadership potential through academic work, community involvement, and extracurricular activities.
4. Applicants must demonstrate a good command of written and spoken English. The preferred TOEFL PBT score is 500 (61 TOEFL IBT) or higher.
5. Applicants must be committed to return directly to their home country after the completion of the program.
6. Applicants must be over 18 years of age.

Students will be placed at the most appropriate host institution based on their academic interests. Students who are not enrolled in pre-academic English may indicate a preference for a fall or spring semester placement. Pre-academic English will take place in the fall semester. Students participating in pre-academic English will commence with the academic portion of the program in the spring semester. This is a non-degree program, so it is the students’ responsibility to check with their home institutions whether any credits accumulated during the Global UGRAD program will be transferred.

Students will be required to participate in a minimum of twenty hours of community service activities during the program. Students will also be required to enroll in at least two courses in their major and at least one course in a U.S. Studies field, such as U.S. history, literature, art, or government. Students must remain in good academic standing throughout their study.
Application Package:
A complete application package includes: the online application, a copy of passport bio page, academic transcripts for years of university study (with English translation if in Arabic), two letters of reference (with English translation if in Arabic), and grade equivalence between local grading system and U.S. grading system.

Program Funding
All participant costs including international and domestic travel, housing, meals, and health coverage for the duration of the program are covered by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of States.

For more information on the program:
Please visit The Global UGRAD website and Global UGRAD Facebook page

For More Information
E-mail: ExchangeProgramsSaudiArabia@state.gov, or call:
U.S. Embassy Riyadh Cultural Affairs Office (011-835-4000 ext. 4995)
U.S. Consulate Jeddah Cultural Affairs Office (012-220-5000 ext. 3134)
U.S. Consulate Dhahran Cultural Affairs Office (013-330-3200 ext. 3223)