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E-TEACHER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM - ENGLISH TEACHER

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DISTANCE

LEARNING PROGRAM:

CALL FOR APPLICATION DEADLINE JULY 11 by 8:30 a.m. 2011

The U.S. Embassy to Bosnia and Herzegovina is now accepting applications for the E-Teacher Scholarship Program. This program offers English teaching professionals living outside of the United States the opportunity to take seven innovative, online, graduate level classes through the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and the University of Oregon. The courses explore major areas of the academic specialty of Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL).

Benefits

In addition to specific knowledge of each of the seven major areas of TEFL, each course:

- Introduces participants to the most recent TEFL methods and techniques.
- Engages participants in an innovative distance-learning program, employing the latest in modern technology.
- Provides participants with direct access to U.S. experts.

The 10-week courses will be offered in the fall of 2011 and the winter, spring, and summer of 2012, though not all seven courses will be offered each term. Tuition and materials are free to participants selected for this program. Participants are English teaching professionals who receive instruction in the most recent English language teaching methods and techniques, while also being introduced to American educational values. Participants use innovative distance learning technology to interact with U.S. experts.

Recruitment Criteria:

Candidates for E-Teacher scholarships should be teacher trainers or teachers who are working, or plan to work, with one of the seven subjects covered by the courses.

They should be highly motivated individuals.

Candidates should also be committed to fulfilling the program requirements (dedicating on average 8-10 hours of work per week) and completing the course. In addition, candidates should meet the following criteria:

English language skills:--ability to do academic work at a U.S. university (an advanced level of reading and writing, roughly equivalent to a minimum TOEFL score of 550 or IBT score of 79-80);

--general understanding of technical terms in English relating to computers and the Internet;

--good command of the necessary vocabulary for the topic of the course for which the candidate is nominated.

Computer fundamentals:

- regular access to e-mail and the Internet (in some cases, Post may need to help arrange for regular computer access);
- ability to navigate in Windows or other appropriate programs and create a Word document;
- basic familiarity with the Internet and web browsers;
- ability to type in English well enough to perform online tasks in real-time and to submit written assignments in a timely manner.

Participants who successfully complete the course will receive a certificate of participation directly from the course providers.

Individual course descriptions follow:

- A. *Critical Thinking in the EFL (English as a Foreign Language) Curriculum (offered by University of Oregon, Linguistics/American English Institute)* --- This course is designed to deepen participants' understanding of the theory and applied use of Critical Thinking principles and practices in the EFL classroom.
- B. *Teaching English to Young Learners (TEYL) (offered by University of Maryland, Baltimore County, English Language Center)* --- This course is designed to introduce participants to the theory and practice of teaching young learners in the EFL classroom, based on all of the four skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing.
- C. *Building Teaching Skills through the Interactive Web (offered by University of Oregon, Linguistics/American English Institute)* --- This course is designed to deepen participants' understanding of the theory and applied use of CALL (computer assisted language learning) principles in the EFL classroom.
- D. *English for Specific Purposes (ESP) Best Practices (offered by University of Oregon, Linguistics/American English Institute)* --- This course is designed to develop participants' knowledge, skills and attitudes toward designing, implementing and evaluating ESP (English for Specific Purposes) courses based on best practices in the field. Because the foundation of this course is in best practices, new and experienced ESP practitioners are welcome from all areas of the field.
- E. *English as a Foreign Language Assessment (offered by University of Maryland, Baltimore County, English Language Center)* --- This course is designed to introduce the participants to the theory and practice of foreign language assessment and testing. Participants will learn about the differences between assessment and testing, and how they can be used to make effective decisions to support teaching and learning.
- F. *Methods Course I: Survey of Best Practices in TESOL (Teaching of English to Speakers of Other Languages (offered by University of Maryland, Baltimore County, English Language Center)* --- This course is designed to provide participants with current methodologies associated with teaching English language learners (ELLs) of different ages in various learning contexts.
- G. *Methods Course II: Developing EFL Literacy through Project-Based Learning (offered by University of Oregon, Linguistics/American English Institute)* --- Using a 'reality TV-style' modified case studies approach, participants will observe one or more real world language classes at regular intervals over an extended period of time.

Submit your completed application electronically to Academic Exchange Coordinator

Pasa Lejlic at LejlicP@state.gov.