



Future Leaders Exchange Program Pre-Program Survey [Insert Year]

Dear FLEX Student,

Congratulations on being chosen as a FLEX participant! Before you leave for your exciting year as an exchange student in the United States, the FLEX Program would like to ask you a few questions.

These questions will only be used to evaluate the FLEX Program and to make it better for you and for future FLEX participants. Please answer all of the questions and respond to them as best you can. This is not a test, and there are no right or wrong answers. Your thoughts and opinions are important to us and will not affect your participation in the program. Once you have completed the survey, the American Councils staff will return them anonymously to the office in Washington, D.C. Thank you for your help, and have a wonderful year.

Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Statements:

The information solicited on this survey is requested pursuant to the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-62) and the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, as amended, also known as the Fulbright-Hays Act (22 U.S.C. 2451, et seq.). In order to ensure that the U.S. Department of State's international exchange programs meet statutory program requirements (22 U.S.C. 2460(c)), the Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) regularly monitors the programs, gathers data about program accomplishments, and evaluates selected ones. ECA uses the information collected to inform program design, management, and funding. All personal information that is collected through surveys is considered confidential. All responses are coded to ensure the confidentiality of individual responses. Data collected under this study will not be shared, sold, or used for fundraising purposes. Survey data and findings will be used only in an aggregate form for the express purposes of fulfilling the data needs of the outcome assessment. Responses to this survey are voluntary.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average twenty (20) minutes to respond to this survey, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An Agency may not conduct or sponsor, and respondents are not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Please send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to: A/ISS/DIR, U.S. Department of State, Washington, D.C. 20520.

1. Which organization is your placement organization upon arrival in the United States? *Please check one box.*

| | |
|--|---|
| | ✓ |
|--|---|

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 4-H Foundation (World Wise) | |
| AFS-USA, Inc. | |
| AIFS/AYA | |
| American Councils | |
| ASPECT Foundation | |
| ASSE | |
| AYUSA | |
| CCI | |
| CIEE | |
| Nacel Open Door | |
| PAX | |
| PIE | |
| World Link | |
| Do Not Know | |

2. There are many different reasons for participating in FLEX. In the table below, please identify your **three** most important reasons for participating.

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| | ✓ |
| To increase my understanding of American society, people and culture | |
| To promote mutual understanding between both our countries | |
| To make friends with students from other countries | |
| To make friends with American students | |
| To share my culture with others | |
| To acquire leadership skills | |
| To improve my education | |
| To improve my English | |
| To seek opportunities to continue education in the United States | |
| To gain skills that will help my country when I return home | |
| Other (Please write in): _____ | |

3. How difficult do you think it will be to adapt to life in the United States? *Please check one box.*

| | Very Difficult | Somewhat Difficult | Neither Difficult Nor Easy | Somewhat Easy | Very Easy |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Adapting to life in the United States will be... | | | | | |

4. What is the first thing that comes to mind when you think about the United States?

5. What is the first thing that comes to mind when you think about living with an American host family?

6. Please rate yourself on the following abilities. *Please check one box in each row.*

| | Poor | Fair | Good | Excellent |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|-----------|
| Being self-reliant, being independent, relying on yourself | | | | |
| Speaking in public | | | | |
| Listening to other people's suggestions or concerns | | | | |
| Expressing ideas and feelings | | | | |
| Being tolerant of people different from you | | | | |
| Leading a team and motivating others | | | | |
| Being flexible | | | | |
| Solving problems | | | | |
| Discussing your beliefs/values | | | | |
| Willing to make changes in your community | | | | |
| Critical thinking | | | | |
| Using technology (Internet, computer applications) | | | | |

7. Have you participated in any activities or projects conducted by FLEX alumni in your home country?

| | |
|-----|---|
| | ✓ |
| Yes | |
| No | |

8. In the past year, how often were you involved in the following activities? *Please check one box in each row.*

| | Never | Seldom | Some Of The Time | Most Of The Time |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|------------------|------------------|
| Community service (for example: helping others, environment, health, education) | | | | |
| Civic or political activism (for example: elections, writing articles for a newspaper, magazine, school newsletter, blog) | | | | |
| Cultural activities (for example: visiting museums/historical sites, attending concerts, theater) | | | | |
| Family Activities | | | | |
| Religious activities | | | | |
| School clubs or organizations (for example: musicals, band, debate team) | | | | |
| Sports teams | | | | |
| Other (Please write in): _____ | | | | |

9. What does community service mean to you?

10. Please rate your understanding or knowledge of the following topics. *Please check one box in each row.*

| | No Knowledge | Less Than Basic | Basic Knowledge | Beyond Basic | Advanced Knowledge |
|-------------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|
| United States democracy | | | | | |
| United States economy | | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| United States values and culture | | | | | |
| Religious and ethnic diversity in the United States | | | | | |
| Freedom of speech and the press in the United States | | | | | |
| Voluntary community service in the United States | | | | | |
| Daily life in the United States | | | | | |

11. How do you view the United States Government and its relationship with your home country?

| | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neither Agree Nor Disagree | Agree | Strongly Agree |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| The United States Government is a trustworthy partner for my country | | | | | |

12. How do you view the United States Government and the American people? *Please check one box in each row.*

| | Strongly Unfavorable | Generally Unfavorable | Neither Favorable Nor Unfavorable | Generally Favorable | Strongly Favorable |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| United States Government | | | | | |
| American people | | | | | |

13. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the statements below? *Please check one box in each row.*

| | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neither Agree Nor Disagree | Agree | Strongly Agree |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| Voting is important because real decisions are made in elections | | | | | |
| Free and fair elections are the cornerstone of democracy | | | | | |
| An independent media is important to the free flow of information | | | | | |
| All citizens in a country should have equal rights and protections under the law | | | | | |
| The Rule of Law is fundamental to a functioning democracy | | | | | |
| Individuals and organizations have the right to free speech and to voice opposition | | | | | |
| Teachers should incorporate democratic principles into their classroom practices | | | | | |

14. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? *Please check one box in each row.*

| | Strongly Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Neither Agree Nor Disagree | Somewhat Agree | Strongly Agree |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Men and women should have equal opportunities | | | | | |
| Men and women should equally share family responsibilities | | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Ethnic minorities should have equal opportunities | | | | | |
| People with disabilities (mentally and/or physically challenged) should have equal opportunities | | | | | |
| Religious minorities should have equal opportunities | | | | | |

15. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? *Please check one box in each row.* In society, an individual should have the right to:

| | Strongly Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Neither Agree Nor Disagree | Somewhat Agree | Strongly Agree |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Travel freely to other countries | | | | | |
| Have acceptable housing | | | | | |
| Be considered equal under law regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or religion | | | | | |
| Practice any religion | | | | | |
| Receive an education | | | | | |
| Have a job | | | | | |
| Have acceptable health care | | | | | |
| Have access to information | | | | | |
| Have freedom of speech | | | | | |

16. Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements about Americans. *Please check one box in each row.*

| | Strongly Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Neither Agree Nor Disagree | Somewhat Agree | Strongly Agree |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Most Americans are wealthy | | | | | |
| Americans are friendly and open | | | | | |
| Americans are well-informed about the world | | | | | |
| Americans express their personal opinions, even if they contradict those of authorities | | | | | |
| Americans are peaceful people | | | | | |

17. Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements about the United States. *Please check one box in each row.*

| | Strongly Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Neither Agree Nor Disagree | Somewhat Agree | Strongly Agree |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| The United States is a democracy that works well | | | | | |
| The United States has laws and regulations that protect the individual | | | | | |
| The United States economy provides a good living for its citizens | | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| The United States foreign policy reflects the interests and attitudes of the American people | | | | | |
| The United States imposes its views on other countries | | | | | |
| The United States provides equal opportunities for all | | | | | |

18. What year of school have you **most recently completed**? *Please check one box.*

| | |
|-----------|---|
| | ✓ |
| 8th year | |
| 9th year | |
| 10th year | |
| 11th year | |
| 12th year | |

19. How would you describe your school? *Please check one box.*

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| | ✓ |
| Public/government | |
| Private | |
| Do Not Know | |

20. Were you selected as a finalist or an alternate for the FLEX program? *Please check one box.*

| | |
|-------------|---|
| | ✓ |
| Finalist | |
| Alternate | |
| Do Not Know | |

21. Which best describes the geographic location where you live. *Please check one box.*

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---|
| | ✓ |
| My country's capital city | |
| Another major city in my country other than the capital | |
| A small city, town, or rural location in my country | |

22. Home country: [Drop-down list]

23. Age: [Drop-down list]

24. Gender:

| | |
|--------|---|
| | ✓ |
| Female | |
| Male | |

25. Which religion do you most closely identify with? *Please check one box.*

| | |
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| | ✓ |
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|------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Baha'ism | |
| Buddhism | |
| Christianity (for example: Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant) | |
| Confucianism | |
| Hinduism | |
| Islam | |
| Jainism | |
| Judaism | |
| Shintoism | |
| Sikhism | |
| Taoism | |
| Zoroastrianism | |
| None | |
| Other (Please write in): _____ | |

26. What areas of the world have you traveled to? *Please check all boxes that apply.*

| | |
|----------------------------------------|---|
| | ✓ |
| Africa | |
| Asia | |
| East Asia/Pacific | |
| Europe | |
| Latin America | |
| Middle East/North Africa | |
| North America | |
| Other | |
| Never traveled outside my home country | |

27. Thank you for completing this survey! If you have additional comments you would like to make, please do so here. We value your thoughts.

28. How long did it take you to complete this survey? _____ Minutes