



US-Jordan Leadership Exchange Programs (UJLEP)

U.S. Jordan Leadership Exchange Program Frequently Asked Questions

1. When are UJLEP applications due?

UJLEP Applications are due December 31, 2023, at 11:59pm Eastern Time.

2. I do not fall within the 21-35 age range requirement that the UJLEP has determined in the eligibility requirements. Am I able to apply?

Unfortunately, not at this time. Given the program design, the UJLEP Program requires that all participants be between the ages of 21-35 at the time of application (by December 31, 2023).

3. Am I required to have professional experience or to be currently employed to apply for the UJLEP Fellowship?

Yes, all UJLEP must has a minimum of one-year of professional experience including internships, volunteer work, or initiatives in one of the eight UJLEP disciplines: Business and entrepreneurship; civil society; community engagement; women's empowerment; diversity, equity, inclusion, accessibility (DEIA); civic participation; public health; and environment and climate change) at the time of application.

4. If I participate in the UJLEP Program, am I required to return to my home country for two years after the completion of the program?

Yes. J-1 visa regulation mandates that applicants who have participated in an exchange program sponsored by the U.S. Government must fulfill a two-year home residency after the program has completed. Therefore, UJLEP Program finalists will be required to return to their home country for 2 years after the completion of the program.

5. I have started my application and have reached the essay section. Should I complete all essays?

Yes. Be sure to answer each question thoroughly to represent yourself to the best of your ability. These essays will be an essential part of the UJLEP Participant Selection Committee's review of your application. The Committee is committed to reviewing all components of the application to ensure a holistic review of your candidacy.

6. I am unable to move past the Eligibility section. How do I apply?

Please review the eligibility requirements. The application will not let you proceed unless you meet the technical eligibility requirements and have fully completed the section.

7. The application instructions say all answers must be my "own, original work." What does that mean?

All answers must be your own ideas and in your own words. Be certain not to plagiarize, which is taking someone else's work or ideas and presenting them as your own. If you use another person's writing, ideas, words, or materials, you must credit the source. Do not cut and paste ideas from the internet or other sources. Plagiarism is strictly forbidden at many organizations and academic institutions in the United States, and those who plagiarize their application materials will be disqualified. This also includes using wording from another applicant or Fellowship Alumni in your application. The U.S.





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Department of State and IREX will be checking all applications for plagiarism. For more information, please visit the [Plagiarism.org website](https://plagiarism.org).

8. After I complete and submit my application, can I make changes or add supplemental documents at a later date?

No, all submitted applications are final. Once you have submitted your application, you can no longer add any additional information or make any changes either through the online system or via email. All information and documents must be uploaded prior to your final submission, so be sure to check everything carefully before you submit.

9. Can applicants with disabilities apply? Why does the application ask if I have a disability?

Yes, applicants with disabilities are encouraged to apply. UJLEP does not discriminate against applicants because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, geographic location, socio-economic status, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other protected characteristic as established by U.S. law. The UJLEP is committed to fairness, equity, and inclusion. The application includes a question about disability so that we are aware of what kinds of accommodations might be needed if you are interviewed or selected. Your answer to the question regarding disabilities is voluntary and will not impact your chances of acceptance.

10. I am not proficient in English. Can I participate in the Fellowship using another language?

No. UJLEP Cohort Two will be conducted entirely in English. High-level proficiency in written and spoken English is required for the Fellowship. Keep an eye out for Cohort Three, as it will have some Arabic speaking Fellowship opportunities.

For additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact the UJLEP team at:
Contact.UJLEP@irex.org

