

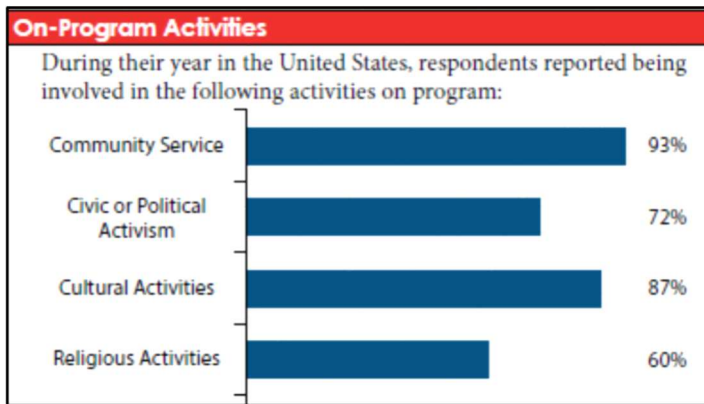
Kennedy-Lugar Youth Exchange and Study (YES) Program, Administered by Ayusa by Intrax

Program Overview

- A high school exchange program founded in the aftermath of September 11th
- Recruiting students from nearly 40 countries with a significant Muslim population
- Over 10,000 participants since 2003
- 3.02% acceptance rate onto the program
- Scholarships funded by the Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA)

Key Program Statistics

- 97% of exchange students from Muslim-majority countries said their year in the U.S. gave them deep, nuanced, and more favorable views of American people and culture
- Nearly all YES students reported that their stay in the United States increased their understanding of U.S. politics, government and economy
- 2016-17 YES students have contributed 60,000+ hours of community service across the U.S.



Alumni Spotlight

Two YES alumni from Oman, hosted by Ayusa in 2005-06 and 2007-08, created and launched an online platform to help target unemployment in the country. Their online platform, JISSER, matches students with internship providers and allow students to gain experience to boost their employability. Kulhoom and Hassan credit the YES program for providing “the spark” needed to initiate this great project!

Student Spotlight

In October 2016, 46 young women were invited to Washington DC to participate in Michelle Obama’s Let Girls Learn summit. Participants included four YES participants, including current YES Ayusa student Fatima el Adraoui and YES Ayusa alumni Samia Goualla. The summit helped inspire and empower the participants to “help young women overcome incredible odds and to exercise our right to education.”