



**Call for Nominations for
2025 John McCain Study of the U.S. Institutes
for Student Leaders
on the rule of Law and Public Service
(John McCain SUSIs)
U.S. Embassy Seoul**



U.S. Embassy Seoul is pleased to announce the 2025 John McCain Study of the U.S. Institute for Student Leaders on the Rule of Law and Public Service (John McCain SUSIs) Program. We encourage qualified applicants to apply for this unique opportunity to join the program in the United States.

Program Overview

2025 John McCain Study of the U.S. Institute for Student Leaders on the Rule of Law and Public Service (John McCain SUSIs) are intensive short-term academic programs whose purpose is to provide groups of undergraduate student leaders with a deeper understanding of the United States while simultaneously enhancing their leadership skills.

Each SUSI has 20 participants. SUSIs consist of a four-week academic residency with a balanced series of seminar discussions, readings, group presentations, and lectures. Site visits, leadership development, cultural activities, and community service complement the coursework and academic sessions.

John McCain SUSI will take place at University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) for five weeks in **summer 2025**, starting from **mid-June through late-July 2025**, including a **four-week academic residency and a one-week integrated study tour** in another region of the United States.

Program Description

The John McCain SUSI on the Rule of Law and Public Service will provide 20 foreign undergraduate and recently graduated students from military academies and law enforcement colleges and universities with a deeper understanding of U.S. society, culture, values, and institutions by examining the ways in which the rule of law supports American democracy. The SUSI will recognize the leadership of the late Senator John McCain and the values and principles he upheld in his lifelong commitment to public service. The SUSI will aim to develop participants' leadership skills to prepare them for future positions in public service. Using a multidisciplinary approach, the SUSI will provide participants with an overview of the U.S. government including its three branches, the U.S. Constitution, and U.S. federalism. Discussions will explore the rule of law as it relates to protecting democratic institutions and human rights, democratic governance and anti-corruption measures, and citizen security. Other topics may include, but are not limited to, civilian control of the military, civil/military relations, international alliances, national security, U.S. foreign policy, and countering authoritarianism. Participants will meet with U.S. leaders from diverse backgrounds, particularly those serving in the public and voluntary sectors, to offer a balanced view of the rule of law and public service in the United States. Specific program components may include a visit to a military base, detention center, courtroom observation, tribal court, meeting with local law enforcement, Nevada Army National Guard, and UNR's Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC), as well as observation at a local city council meeting. The SUSI may also include time at the Middlebury Institute for International Studies in Monterey, California, and will likely conclude with a

study tour in Washington, D.C. Leadership development opportunities will focus on topics such as critical decision-making in high pressure situations and community organizing to address social issues.

Program Funding

Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) will cover all participant costs, including travel allowances, domestic travel, health benefits, and ground transportation; book, cultural, mailing and incidental allowances; and housing and subsistence; as well as arrange and pay for participants' international and visa travel costs and travel allowances.

Eligibility

Candidates should

- demonstrate English language proficiency (speaking, reading, writing, listening);
- have an interest in the topics of rule of law and public service.
- be between 18 and 25 years of age.
- be enrolled at a military academy, law enforcement college or university, or other national defense institution or have recently graduated from one.
- be committed to returning to their home country following completion of the program.
- demonstrate strong leadership qualities and potential in their university and community activities.
- indicate a serious interest in learning about the United States.
- have a sustained high level of academic achievement, as indicated by grades, awards, and teacher recommendations.
- demonstrate commitment to community service and extracurricular university activities.
- have little or no prior study or travel experience in the United States or elsewhere outside of their home country.
- be mature, responsible, independent, confident, open-minded, tolerant, thoughtful, and inquisitive.
- be willing to respectfully engage with fellow participants representing different backgrounds and different points of view.
- be willing and able to fully participate in an intensive academic program, community service, and educational travel; and
- be comfortable with campus life, prepared to share living accommodations, and able to adjust to cultural and social practices different from those of their home country.

U.S. citizens and permanent residents (green card holders) are not eligible for these programs.

Relatives of U.S. embassy or Fulbright commission employees are not eligible for SUSIs.

How to Apply

Please fill out the SUSIs application form and submit it to pdseoulexchanges@state.gov by **November 30, 2024**. The personal interview will be scheduled in December 2024. SUSI office in Education of Cultural Affairs, Department of State, will announce the final participant on early April 2025.

For more information, please visit [Study of the U.S. Institutes | Exchange Programs \(state.gov\)](#)

For inquiries, please email to the Exchange & Alumni team in Public Diplomacy Section at pdseoulexchanges@state.gov.