



The American Consulate General in Jerusalem Announces The 2017 TechWomen Program

The American Consulate General in Jerusalem and the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) is pleased to announce TechWomen 2017, a professional exchange program designed to support development in the field of science and technology in participating countries, and to enable women in these fields to reach their full potential through five-week mentorships with American women at leading innovation companies and organizations in the United States. Inaugurated by former Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton in 2011, TechWomen provides a unique opportunity to women from Africa, Central Asia and the Middle East to gain firsthand experience in America's tech industry.

TechWomen is designed to support development in the field of technology, increase the trade capacity of the participating countries, promote economic advancement, and enable women to reach their full potential in the science and tech industry, almost 400 women from Africa, Central Asia, and the Middle East have taken part in this U.S.-based mentoring program. For five weeks beginning in September, 87 women in the 2016 TechWomen class worked on specific projects with their American Mentors at scientific research, technology, and innovation companies in Silicon Valley and the San Francisco Bay Area, an experience that was enhanced by several workshops organized to provide networking opportunities and leadership training, and to increase the participants' understanding of how Americans drive development. For more information please visit: <http://www.techwomen.org/>

Participant Qualifications

- Candidates must be Palestinian residents of Jerusalem, the West Bank, or Gaza Strip.
- Be a woman with a minimum of two years full-time professional experience in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) fields and/or a career requiring significant expertise/knowledge/application of technology;
- Have a university degree;
- Be proficient in written and spoken English;
- Demonstrate a willingness to participate in exchange programs, welcome opportunities for mentoring and new partnership development, and exhibit confidence and maturity;
- Not have applied for an immigrant visa to the United States, or participated in a visa lottery in the past five years;
- Have a proven record of voluntary or public service in their communities;
- Have a demonstrated track record of entrepreneurialism and commitment to innovation.

Important Note:

- Participation in the program is contingent upon the applicant qualifying for a J-1 visa to the United States.
- Holders of American passports or green cards are **not eligible to participate** in this program.

Application Deadline and inquiries:

The application is available online and will be available online for approximately two months starting from November 25, 2016. The TechWomen website can be found at:

www.techwomen.org.

For More Information:

Jerusalem and West Bank Applicants: For more information call 02-622-7107 or email jerusalemexchanges@state.gov.

Gaza Applicants: For more information please contact 0599-677317 or email Gazaexchanges@gmail.com.