

TECH WOMEN 2020 – US DEPARTMENT OF STATE’S EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS BUREAU

INTRODUCTION

TechWomen is an initiative of the U.S. Department of State’s Educational and Cultural Affairs Bureau. It brings together emerging women leaders in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) from Africa, Central and South Asia, and the Middle East together with their professional counterparts in the United States for a mentorship and exchange program. TechWomen provides participants with access to networks, resources, and knowledge to empower them to reach their full potential.

DURATION

TechWomen 2020 is currently accepting applications. During the **five-week program**, participants engage in project-based mentorship programs at leading companies in the San Francisco Bay Area and Silicon Valley, participate in professional development workshops and networking events, and travel to Washington, DC. for targeted meetings and special events to conclude the program.

FINANCIAL COVERAGE

The costs of international travel, housing, meals and incidentals, local transportation to official TechWomen events are covered by the program organizers. Participants are responsible for any personal costs associated with non-program activities, such as independent sightseeing.

FOR DETAILS

You can find additional program details and the application form online at www.techwomen.org. The application deadline is January 15, 2020.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applicants must:

- Be women with, at a minimum, two years of full-time professional experience in the STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields. Please note that internships and other unpaid work experience does not count toward the two-year professional experience requirement.
- Have, at a minimum, a bachelor’s degree/four-year university degree or equivalent.
- Be proficient in written and spoken English.
- Be citizens and permanent residents of Cameroon, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestinian Territories, Tunisia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan at the time of application and while participating in the program.
- Be eligible to obtain a U.S. J-1 exchange visitor visa.
- Not have applied for an immigrant visa to the United States or participated in a visa lottery in the past five years.
- Not hold U.S. citizenship or be a U.S. legal permanent resident.

Preference will be given to applicants who

- Demonstrate themselves as emerging leaders in their chosen professional track through their work experience, volunteer experience, community activities and education.
- Are committed to return to their home countries to share what they have learned and mentor women and girls.
- Have limited or no prior experience in the United States.
- Have a proven record of volunteering or public service in their communities.
- Have a demonstrated track record of entrepreneurialism and commitment to innovation.
- Demonstrate a willingness to participate in exchange programs, welcome opportunities for mentoring and new partnership development, and exhibit confidence and maturity.

TechWomen encourages people with diverse backgrounds and skills to apply, including individuals with disabilities.