



October 2024

Dear Parents,

We are pleased that your child is interested in applying to the U.S. Government's Thomas Jefferson Scholarship Program.

The Thomas Jefferson Scholarship Program (TJSP) invests in Tunisia's development by providing scholarships for outstanding, undergraduate university/institute students from across Tunisia for one year of full-time, non-degree study in the United States. TJSP is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Department of State and implemented by IREX. TJSP is a fully funded scholarship.

If your child is a current undergraduate student at a Tunisian university or institute; is a citizen and current resident of Tunisia; and is committed to returning home to contribute to Tunisia's development, they may be eligible to apply for TJSP. A full list of eligibility criteria is available in the application instructions. TJSP does not discriminate against applicants on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, or any other protected characteristic as established by U.S. law.

TJSP scholars participate in a variety of cultural activities, a part-time professional internship, and 20 hours of community service during their year in the United States. Through integrated programming, students strengthen their leadership capacity and further develop their professional expertise. Alumni return home poised to contribute to their communities, their professional fields, and their country. Based on the results of an independent evaluation in 2023, TJSP alumni employment rates are 22% higher than non-selected applicants to the program, nearly 30% of alumni have created new products and services, and 22% have founded new organizations and businesses. 85% of alumni report that TJSP contributed to a great extent in increasing their confidence to become a leader; and two-thirds of TJSP alumni attribute the program to preparing them greatly to serve in leadership positions in Tunisia.

TJSP participants attend universities and colleges across the United States and are registered as full-time students at these host institutions. Participants may submit U.S. transcripts to their home institution for review upon completion of the program to determine if the credits are transferrable.

IREX provides comprehensive support to scholars while they are in the United States, including a toll-free emergency phone number through which they can contact an IREX staff person 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Please do not hesitate to contact IREX with any additional questions on the program or application process.

Sincerely,

Silvija Stoljevska
Deputy Project Director