



## ***FLEX: The Future Leaders Exchange Program - 2011 Recruitment Announcement***

**FLEX** is an exchange program for secondary school students. Participants live in the United States for an academic year, studying at a public high school and living with an American host family. They learn about the United States firsthand by taking part in school study, family life, extracurricular activities in their local communities. They also share their own culture with their families, schools, and communities.

**FLEX** was created by the U.S. Congress in order to extend a hand of friendship from the people of the U.S. to the people of the countries of the former Soviet Union. Now in its nineteenth year, the program has provided scholarships to more than 22,000 secondary school students in Eurasia. The program is fully funded by the U.S. government and is administered by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State.

**FLEX** is open to all Russian secondary school students who:

- are presently studying in the 8th, 9th and 10th grades
- were born in the period between January 1, 1995 to July 15, 1997
- speak English well (determined by an English proficiency test)
- possess personal skills, qualities, attitude and motivation that enable them to succeed as exchange students
- meet U.S. visa eligibility requirements.

**FLEX** is administered by American Councils for International Education: ACTR/ ACCELS. Representatives of ACTR/ACCELS will visit many regional (*oblast*) centers to conduct testing in the fall and winter of 2011. All eligible students are invited to take part in the first of three rounds. Students who pass Round One (a short test of English) will be invited to Round Two, which consists of a comprehensive test in English and written essay. Applicants who pass Round Two will receive application materials and will be invited to an interview.

*For more information and to view the testing schedule please go to*  
<http://apps.americancouncils.org/FLEX>

*Applicants can contact American Councils for International Education:*  
Central Russia- tel: (495) 638-45-58, e-mail: [scrflex@americancouncils.ru](mailto:scrflex@americancouncils.ru)  
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