The Iraqi Young Leaders Exchange Program (IYLEP) brings Iraqi students to the U.S. for summer exchanges exploring themes of leadership development, civic rights and responsibilities, respect for diversity, and community engagement.

Participants on this U.S. Department of State-funded program are recruited from all provinces in Iraq and come from many different communities and groups within the country.

World Learning is seeking host universities/colleges to help implement the 2020 Iraqi Young Leaders Exchange Program (IYLEP) for Undergraduate Students. Funding is conditional upon award and details subject to change.

**IYLEP GOALS**

- Promote mutual understanding between the people of the U.S. and the people of Iraq.
- Enable students to understand civic rights and responsibilities in a democracy.
- Promote community engagement among Iraqi youth.
- Develop leadership skills among Iraqi youth.
- Foster understanding and relationships between people of different ethnic and religious groups.

**Early July 2020:** Six-day program orientation for all participants.

**July 2020:** Two-week program at host university or college.

**Early August 2020:** Eight-day closing conference in Washington, DC.
UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS

- Host 25 participants and one traveling staff member for two weeks.
- Provide a variety of dynamic cultural and social activities.
- Expose participants to community issues related to larger policy issues and create a space for them to dissect and critically analyze these matters.
- Advance the critical thinking and problem solving skills of Iraqi youth to be able to reconcile complex matters in their home communities.
- Foster their leadership skills.
- Provide trainings on project management and support youth in identifying communities issues in Iraq.
- Create opportunities to engage with the local community.
- Offer programming that engages participants and is relevant to IYLEP’s objectives.

COSTS

Budget: ~$67,000
Cost Share: Up to $6,700
Total Ceiling: Up to $73,700

“I learned that with our skills and knowledge, we can develop our country and help improve the situation. We, as a team of members from different parts of Iraq with different ethnicities and beliefs, can work together to rebuild our country.”
- 2014 IYLEP participant

“To see these groups — which are in conflict at home — interact in the program is very inspiring. They are eager to build bridges and make connections with their American peers and dispel stereotypes of Iraqis.”
- IYLEP Program Associate