



**"No country can get ahead if it leaves half of its people behind.
This is why the United States believes gender equality is critical to our
shared goals of prosperity, stability, and peace, and why investing in women
and girls worldwide is critical to advancing U.S. foreign policy."**

– Secretary of State John Kerry

Purpose:

The NeXt Scholars Program offers young women pursuing undergraduate education in STEM fields at U.S. women's colleges the opportunity for career advancement via professional development, workshops, leadership, and mentoring support. ***We prepare the next generation of female global leaders to discover the next great idea and solve the next big challenge.***

Background:

- The NeXt Scholars Program was launched in December 2011 by then-Secretary of State Clinton (<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2012/01/180291.htm>).
- The Program enrolls young women from the United States and from countries with Muslim-majority populations who are interested in pursuing STEM careers.
- The double X in the Program's title symbolizes the X chromosomes of women.
- The inaugural class of NeXt Scholars started their undergraduate degrees in the Fall of 2012 (<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2012/10/199153.htm>).
- In its second year during 2013, the number of new NeXt Scholars in the Program has more than doubled (<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2013/218379.htm>).

Benefits:

- 5-year membership to the New York Academy of Sciences with access to networks and events (<http://www.nyas.org/WhatWeDo/ScienceEd/NeXtScholars.aspx>).
- Matching to a successful female STEM mentor for one-on-one career support.
- Each International NeXt Scholar is paired with an American NeXt Scholar from the same college for exploring the Program together.
- Opportunities for professional development, live and virtual seminars, internship training, and research so the young women can acquire the skills and confidence needed to become future leaders, problem-solvers, and innovators worldwide.

Details:

- For additional information, contact us at nextscholars@state.gov.
- The NeXt Scholars Program guide and other materials are available at <http://www.state.gov/e/stas/nexxt>.



Focus Countries and Regions:

*Afghanistan
Albania
Algeria
Azerbaijan
Bahrain
Bangladesh
Brunei
Burkina Faso
Chad
Comoros
Djibouti
Egypt
Gambia
Guinea
Indonesia
Iran
Iraq
Jordan
Kosovo
Kuwait
Kyrgyzstan
Lebanon
Libya
Malaysia
Maldives
Mali
Mauritania
Morocco
Niger
Nigeria
Oman
Pakistan
Palestinian Territories
(Gaza & West Bank)
Qatar
Saudi Arabia
Senegal
Sierra Leone
Somalia
Sudan
Syria
Tajikistan
Tunisia
Turkey
Turkmenistan
United Arab Emirates
Uzbekistan
Yemen*

Participating Women's Colleges:

- Agnes Scott College
- Barnard College
- Bay Path College
- Bennett College for Women
- Bryn Mawr College
- Carlow University
- Cedar Crest College
- Chatham University
- College of Saint Benedict
- College of Saint Elizabeth
- College of Saint Mary
- Colorado Women's College at the University of Denver
- Columbia College
- Converse College
- Cottey College
- Douglass Residential College at Rutgers University
- Hollins University
- Mary Baldwin College
- Meredith College
- Mills College
- Mount Holyoke College
- Notre Dame of Maryland University
- Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College
- Saint Mary's College
- Salem College
- Scripps College
- Simmons College
- Smith College
- Spelman College
- St. Catherine University
- Stephens College
- Sweet Briar College
- Ursuline College
- University of Saint Joseph
- Wellesley College
- Wesleyan College
- Wilson College
(Co-ed since 2013)
- The Women's College at Brenau University
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