



# FLEX Highschool Student Exchange Program

American Councils is proud to announce that the FLEX 2016-17 testing cycle for FLEX is open! We would like to thank the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan for their support of the program and increasing the number finalists to 25 for this cycle. American Councils would also like to thank the US Embassy in Turkmenistan for their support and providing full financing of the FLEX program. We wish good luck to everyone who applies!

## **FLEX Program Testing Schedule 2016/17 Academic Year**

<b>Testing Site</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>School</b>
Turkmenbashy, Balkan Region	September 11	9:00	School 10, Turkmenbashy
Balkanabat, Balkan Region	September 18	9:00	School 3, Balkanabat

Mary, Mary Region	September 25	9:00	Mary 19, Mary
Dashoguz, Dashoguz Region	October 2	9:00	School 2, Dashoguz
Turkmenabat, Lebap Region	October 9	9:00	School 2, Turkmenabat
Ahal Region	October 16	9:00	School 3, Tejen
Ashgabat	November 6	9:00	School 20, Ashgabat

We invite all students to participate in the fall 2016 competition who:

- were born in the period between **March 15, 1999** to **May 31, 2001**;
- have not lived in the United States for more than three months in the last five years;
- are a citizen of Turkmenistan;
- and who speak English well.

All eligible students are invited to take part in the first round of testing. They must:

- bring proof of eligibility (their passport or original birth certificate),
- one recent photograph (3×4 cm);
- a pen;
- and **be wearing their school uniform.**

The competition consists of a 15-minute test on basic knowledge of English (Round One), essays in English (Round Two), and an English test, essay and interview (Round Three).

Testing will be conducted by American Councils staff in all five regions of Turkmenistan. Students from the Ahal region can take the test in either Tejen or Ashgabat based on whichever is more convenient for them.

Now in its twenty fourth year, FLEX will offer scholarships to secondary school students from Turkmenistan for the 2017-2018 academic years. Scholarship

recipients will be provided with round-trip travel from their home to the United States and back, as well as an allowance for living expenses.

Scholarship recipients will learn about the United States firsthand by participating in family life, school study and extracurricular activities. Program participants will also participate in activities in their local communities or areas, and will also have the opportunity to share their own culture with others.

Recipients of FLEX scholarships are selected by an independent panel of experienced educators in the United States on the basis of merit demonstrated in application materials. Merit is determined by evaluating the written application, recommendations, English language proficiency and an applicant's demonstrated preparedness for a year-long exchange experience.

This program is open to all high school students who meet requirements of the program including students with disabilities. More than 200 disabled students have already studied in the U.S. on this program.

For more information about the program or testing in your area, please contact:

**American Councils for International Education (ACCELS)**  
**Gorogly Street 48a**  
**Telephone/Fax: +99312 36-90-16/21/22; +99369 01-90-95**

**Email: [flex@americancouncilstm.org](mailto:flex@americancouncilstm.org)**

**<http://americancouncilstm.org>**

**[www.vk.com/americancouncilstm](http://www.vk.com/americancouncilstm)**

ALTERNATES (click here to open the list)

	<b>ALTERNATES</b>			
1	Akopyan	Margarita	Kamoevna	Balkanabat school # 15
2	Arzimanova	Nikole	Rolandovna	Turkmenbashy school # 14
3	Bazarov	Azim	Rustamovich	Bayramali school # 2
4	Ilmuradova	Selbi	Serdarovna	Turkmenabat school # 29
5	Lukashova	Taisiya	Andreevna	Ashgabat school # 27
6	Muradov	Kervenmurat	Orazmuradovich	Ashgabat school # 20
7	Rozmetova	Alsu	Ahmedjahovna	Dashoguz school # 10

FLEX continues to be a very popular program in Turkmenistan. 914 students participated in the testing from across all five welaeyats, at seven different city testing centers.

FLEX also continues to be a very competitive program. The 2016-17 FLEX cycle in Turkmenistan had an acceptance rate of 2.2% while Harvard University had an acceptance rate of 5.2% in 2016. In future years we hope the number of FLEX Finalists will be increased to allow more talented Turkmen students to represent the best of their country in America.

Finalists in the competition will have the opportunity to live with an American family and study in an American high school during the 2016-2017 school year. The FLEX program pays for all travel, housing and living expenses for program participants with all funding generously provided by the Government of the United States of America. FLEX testing is open to all high school students who meet the requirements of the program including students with disabilities. More than 220 disabled students have participated in FLEX over the program's history, including 4 from Turkmenistan.

The next FLEX testing cycle for the 2017-2018 school year will likely begin in September of 2016, after the Ministry of Education of Turkmenistan provides permission for the program. Students, teachers, and parents should check our website or call our office in August of 2016 for details on testing dates, student eligibility requirements, and special testing opportunities for students with disabilities.

Best wishes to all the Finalists on their exchange year and good luck to applicants to the 2017-2018 cycle next Fall!







**For additional information please contact:**

Gorogly street 48A, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan

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