**Community College Initiative (CCI)**

**Program Announcement**

**Announcement:**

U.S. Embassy Tunis is accepting applications from the first- and second-year students of the University of Jendouba to participate in the 2024 Community College Initiative (CCI) program.

The Community College Initiative (CCI) program provides participants from interior areas with a one-year, non-degree academic program at a U.S. community college. The program is designed to build participants’ technical skills in applied fields, enhance their leadership capabilities, and strengthen their English language proficiency. The program also provides opportunities for professional internships, service learning, and community engagement to build mutual understanding through immersion in the culture and day-to-day life in the United States.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to visit [The 2022-2023 Year in Review – Community College Initiative Program Blog (nvcc.edu)](https://blogs.nvcc.edu/cci/2023/06/28/the-2022-2023-year-in-review/) to obtain general information about the program.

**Focus Areas:**

Students from the fields listed below can apply for this scholarship:

* Agriculture
* Management and Administration
* Early Childhood Education
* Engineering
* Health and Public Safety
* Information Technology

**Candidate description and qualifications:**

Competition for the CCI Program is merit-based and open to anyone who:

* Is a Tunisian citizen residing in Tunisia.
* Is 18 years or older by July 1, 2024.
* Has successfully earned a secondary school diploma.
* Has *not* completed the equivalent of three years toward a U.S. bachelor’s degree or higher in the field of study the applicant is nominated to pursue.
* Has demonstrated commitment to the selected field of study through some academic or professional experience. The program aims to identify participants with proven skills or interest and limited professional experience in the fields of study offered.
* Has basic working knowledge of English language as demonstrated by a minimum TOEFL score of 420.
* Nominees with no prior overseas study or travel to the United States will be given a placement priority.
* Is able to receive a U.S. J-1 visa and meet the program conditions to maintain that status.
* Is willing and able (with accommodations as required) to complete the program in its entirety, including activities or travel that may be programmed on any day of the week, possibly including early morning or evening hours.
* Is committed to returning to their home country after completion of the program and satisfying the J-visa two-year residency requirement.
* Is able to begin the academic exchange program in the United States in July 2024.

All communications and questions regarding the CCI program should be addressed to: TunisELprograms@state.gov

Potential participants should fill out the application form and send it, along with their High School Diploma, transcript, and CV, to TunisELprograms@state.gov **no later than January 8, 2024**.