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## **U.S.-Pakistan Women's Council FUTURE OF WOMEN IN ENERGY SCHOLARS PROGRAM 2023 ANNOUNCEMENT**

The U.S.-Pakistan Women's Council (<https://www.state.gov/u-s-pakistan-womens-council/>) is accepting applications for female university students to participate in the second annual U.S.-Pakistan Women's Council Future of Women in Energy Scholars Program. The program seeks to increase the number of women in Pakistan's energy sector by promoting education in energy studies and fostering young women's participation and leadership on energy issues. The program will provide an overview of energy production, economy, and policy, with practical immersion in the workforce.

The U.S.-Pakistan Women's Council will select up to 20 Pakistani women undergraduate students currently pursuing their bachelor's degrees in engineering or natural sciences to participate in a two-week certificate program hosted by Texas A&M University at Qatar in June 2023. In addition to participating in lectures on the full spectrum of the energy economy and developing an independent research project, Future of Women in Energy Scholars will have the opportunity to interact with industry and business leaders, experience Qatari culture, and participate in student life in Education City, a vibrant educational community with satellite campuses for major international universities. Upon completion, the scholars will receive a certificate of participation from Texas A&M University at Qatar.

Following the two-week course, the U.S.-Pakistan Women's Council will support a week-long familiarization program in the public and private sectors focused on advancing women's participation in the energy economy in Pakistan. This opportunity aims to inspire the next generation of talent to pursue a career in the energy sector or an advanced degree in energy-related disciplines, particularly with a focus on renewable resources.

The U.S.-Pakistan Women's Council is a public-private partnership that seeks to increase women's economic participation in Pakistan by catalyzing commitments from the private sector, civil society, and government leaders in both countries to advance women's economic empowerment in Pakistan. In addition to support from the U.S.-Pakistan Women's Council and Texas A&M University at Qatar, the Future of Women in Energy Scholars Program is generously supported by the U.S. Department of Energy and USAID.

### **Target Audience**

This program is directed at female Pakistani students pursuing a four-year bachelor's degree in a field of study related to engineering or natural sciences.

## **Program Objectives**

Future of Women in Energy Scholars will:

- Gain an in-depth understanding of the energy sector through an exploration of renewable energy (solar, biomass, hydro, geothermal, wind), fossil fuels, and nuclear energy.
- Understand the environmental and sustainability challenges related to fossil fuels.
- Foster leadership, management, and interpersonal communication skills.
- Enhance awareness of career opportunities in the energy sector, gaining a network of academics, leaders in industry, and fellow future scientists.

## **Program Content**

The Future of Women in Energy Scholars Program combines rigorous academic coursework on the energy economy and practical immersion in the workforce. During the two weeks, the scholars will engage in more than 40 hours of coursework on the selected topics, participate in four to six hours of hands-on and laboratory activities, and engage in open discussion forums with women leaders and alumnae in the energy sector. In addition, the program includes rich cultural activities and tours.

## **Pre-Departure Orientation**

Prior to departure from Pakistan, scholars will participate in a two-hour mandatory virtual orientation session led by Texas A&M at Qatar in coordination with other members of the U.S.-Pakistan Women's Council and U.S. Mission Pakistan. The session will provide scholars an opportunity to review the program schedule and to go over expectations of scholars for the course.

## **Part One: Academic Immersion at Texas A&M University at Qatar**

Scholars will participate in an intensive two-week academic enrichment program led by academic experts. While lectures will focus on various aspects of the energy economy and energy security, the concentration of the academic content of the program will focus on solar, wind, hydro, geothermal, and biomass resources. Scholars will meet with industry leaders, engage in extracurricular activities in Doha, and participate in career planning sessions. Completion of this phase of the program requires an independent study conducted under expert guidance from Texas A&M University at Qatar faculty. The initial two-week program will take place at Texas A&M University at Qatar's campus in Doha from June 4-15, 2023.

## **Part Two: Practicum and Externship**

Upon return to Pakistan, scholars will participate in a one week-long program to gain practical experience in public and private-sector energy enterprises. This portion of the program will allow scholars to see how the theoretical concepts gained at Texas A&M Qatar can be applied in real life in Pakistan.

## **Program Participation Requirements**

To be considered for selection, an interested applicant must meet the following criteria:

- A female citizen of Pakistan
- Currently living and studying in Pakistan
- Currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in engineering or natural sciences and have completed at least two years of university education at an accredited university in Pakistan
- Fluent in written and spoken English
- Have a Pakistani passport that is valid through at least February 2024
- Able to travel to Doha, Qatar for program dates of June 4-15, 2023
- Able to participate in the experiential program in Lahore and Islamabad with the Pakistani government and the private sector for one week following the two-week program in Qatar
- Able to meet the health entry requirements in accordance with the Qatari Ministry of Public Health guidelines (<https://covid19.moph.gov.qa/EN/travel-and-return-policy/Pages/default.aspx>)
- Has not previously participated in a U.S. government-funded educational program
- Is not in the process of applying for U.S. immigrant status

### **Application Process**

Each applicant must complete and submit the application package, including:

1. A current C.V. or resume
2. A recent university transcript in English
3. A written statement (300 words maximum) on the importance of energy in Pakistan, the role of women in this sector, and the importance of women's leadership in the energy sector in Pakistan (this statement should be the applicant's original words)
4. A personal statement (300 words maximum) on how this program will assist the applicant in reaching her personal and professional goals

### **Submission Instructions**

Please click on this link to access the online application form: [www.qatar.tamu.edu/summer](http://www.qatar.tamu.edu/summer) and choose the "Future of Women in Energy Scholars Program" track

**Application Deadline:** 9 April 2023

If you have questions, please email [rola.aboughaida@qatar.tamu.edu](mailto:rola.aboughaida@qatar.tamu.edu) with a subject line: **"Inquiry — Future of Women in Energy Scholars Program 2023"**