



Education Advising Center
Public Affairs Section
United States Embassy, Lilongwe
United States Achievers Program Application Form 2013
Malawi

The United States Embassy seeks to identify highly academically qualified and motivated, low-income, students in Malawi to join the United States Student Achievers Program (USAP). USAP's mission is to assist highly-talented and determined, economically-disadvantaged students to negotiate and finance the admissions process for colleges and universities in the United States with the aim of producing highly-skilled and widely-educated leaders to build tomorrow's Malawi. USAP works closely with students through regularly scheduled meetings and seminars to assist them throughout the application process for colleges and universities in the United States. ***ENTRANCE INTO THIS PROGRAM IS NO GUARANTEE OF A SCHOLARSHIP OR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO STUDY IN THE UNITED STATES.*** USAP finances all costs of the application process, including registration fees for required standardized examinations and provides free membership to the US Educational Advising Center for its participants. USAP expects a sincere commitment of students to give back their energy and time to the program and to their communities and to be the best they can be.

We do not limit the program geographically; however, students must be able to reach our offices in Lilongwe for 5 weeks in February/ March and monthly for the rest of the year.

To be eligible for USAP, you **must** have written your MSCE and passed within the last two years. You must have a **VERY** strong academic record, be actively involved in co-curricular and leadership activities and have a strong record of giving back to community. You must also demonstrate financial need that your family would not be capable of financing the US application process on your own.

Please complete this application form fully and send all parts of the application to

EducationUSA Adviser
Public Affairs Section- US Embassy
Old Mutual Bldg, City Center, Lilongwe
Tel- 01 772 222
Email: lilongwe@educationusa.info

We cannot consider incomplete applications. **Because of the high volume of applications received, we can ONLY respond individually to those who are successfully selected to participate in the program.**

Please provide the following documents with your application:

- 1) A **photocopy** of your MSCE and your JCE stamped by your current school or a copy of your O level results.
- 2) A letter of recommendation (please use form attached) attesting to your character, talent and skills by a teacher, headmaster, pastor or community leader who knows you well. Please do not include a basic testimonial that does not talk about you as an individual.
- 3) A copy of **both** your end-of-year report from your Form Three year and your full year report from Form Four. If taking A levels, submit a copy of your end of year report from Lower Sixth and a copy of your first term report from Upper Sixth.

Thank you for applying to the USAP program. We look forward to reviewing your application! USAP 2013
Application Deadline: February 22, 2013.

USAP Application Form – 2013

TODAY’S DATE: _____

LAST NAME: _____ **FIRST NAME:** _____ **Gender:** *F/M*
(Circle one above)

Date of Birth {MM/DD/YYYY(10/31/1985)} _____

Home address (where you reside when you are not at school):

Contact telephone (s): _____ Email address: _____

Mother’s current occupation and workplace (Be specific, even if self-employed):

Father’s current occupation and workplace (Be specific, even if self-employed):

If parents are deceased, state name, relationship, occupation and workplace of your guardian:

Name and age of each of your siblings, their ages and for each one state if they are in school and what standard/form they are in:

Names	Ages	School (Y/N)	Standard/Form
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Number of dependent people currently living with and supported by your family and their relationships to you:

Amount of your secondary school fees (inclusive of boarding fees, if applicable) paid per term.

Who currently pays for your school fees? If fees are paid by a relative other than your parents, how many other children’s fees are paid by this person? Are you on any bursary/scholarship? If so, how much does the bursary cover?

Academic and School Information

School Name and Mailing Address:

Headmaster/Headmistress' Name: _____

School Telephone Number: _____

What is your strongest subject? _____

What exams are you taking/have you taken at your school and the results (Indicate N/R for No Results and approximate dates you will take them if applicable):

List below all schools you have attended and forms complete:

Name of School and Head	Location	Form(s) Completed	Reason for leaving
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1. _____

2. _____

List the extra-curricular clubs, sports and activities that you participate in at high school and in your community and/or church, the position you held and the number of hours dedicated in a wk/year:

Activity	Position	Number of hours Per Week/Year (circle)
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Please describe which one of the above activities has the most meaning for you and why.

What, if any, is the most important academic prize or honor you have been awarded?

Did you hold any leadership positions at school? Please list them here and in which forms you held these positions (prefect, head girl/head boy, President/ Secretary of a club, Captain of team etc).

Financial Information

What amounts of financial resources will you family be able to provide for your education? Describe.

Short answer questions (For all questions below - Use the back of this paper or use additional paper if the space is insufficient.)

1. What do you hope to study at university? What is your planned career and why? Feel free to mention more than one potential field of study and career path. US education offers many new opportunities, so think widely – beyond medicine, pharmacy, engineering, actuarial science, business and accounting.

2. Outside of your planned career path, name several things you would like to learn just for the pure joy of learning – what do you have a burning desire to know more about?

3. What else should we know about your background, your family and financial condition?

4. Tell us about a situation where you had to deal with conflict and how you resolved it.

5. Dream a little. What impact do you want to make on the future of Malawi? How will you contribute positively to your home community and country once you return from your studies in the USA?

6. Is there anything else about you that you would want us to know about you, your dreams, aspirations, and the contributions you want to make on Malawian society?

7. USAP is more of a family than merely access to colleges. What do you feel you could give back to the USAP family?

8. Selection to USAP is very competitive. What makes you unique? Why should we choose you?

9. Below is a list of motivators. Write them down in order of their decreasing importance to you. Explain your choice of the most important one.
 - Financial Security
 - Leadership role in a given field
 - Family Life
 - Giving back to your community

Write two essays, one from Group A and one from Group B, each of at least one page:

Group A – Choose one only

Colleges and universities in the United States will want to get to know you as a person, both in and out of the classroom. Use this essay as an opportunity to let us get to know you, how you think and what's important to you. As we want to get to know you and not look for the most dramatic tale, is essential that all experiences related in these essays are a true and accurate depiction of your life.

A1. Sociologists argue that individuals must be defined in the context of both their families and their communities, and anthropologists add that this is particularly so in the communal settings of Africa. How do you personally define community and family and to what extent do they have an impact of your growth and development? Write specifically about a positive impact you have you made in your family and in your community.

A2. Describe a situation where your opinion was unpopular and you were thus in the minority. How did you make yourself heard and how did you deal with the response to your decision or opinion? What can you learn from this experience to apply to your future? (**Please tell a true experience from your own life.**)

A3. Explain a risk that you have taken that has influenced your life greatly, either positively or negatively. What have you learned about yourself and about risk taking from this experience? What do you think is the value of taking risks?

Group B – Choose one only

No matter whether you have studied science, commercial or arts subjects at A level, if you attend college or university in the US, you will be exposed to and will take a wide variety of subjects from the humanities, social sciences, and pure sciences. With this liberal arts education in mind, please answer one of the following questions to demonstrate your intellectual strengths.

B1. Discontent often leads to action. Use evidence from your studies, your knowledge of current affairs and you experience to write a paper agreeing or disagreeing with this statement.

B2. If you were on a committee to give an award for an unsung hero who has positively changed the world, that is someone who society has not yet recognized for the valuable contribution they have made, who would you nominate and why? Include your definition of a hero when making your decision.

B3. What is the greatest scientific discovery so far in the history of humankind? Describe its positive and potentially negative impact to justify your choice. Now if you could make one scientific discovery in your life, what discovery would you want to make and why?

USAP 2013 Application Recommendation Form

_____ is a student applying to be a participant in the United States Student Achievers Program. USAP's mission is to assist highly-talented and determined, economically-disadvantaged students to negotiate and finance the admissions process for colleges and universities in the United States with the aim of producing highly-skilled and widely-educated leaders to build tomorrow's Malawi. We are asking you to take a moment to comment on his/her suitability for the program by completing this form and returning it the student to attach to his/her USAP application. Applications are due to the EducationUSA Advising Center in Lilongwe by February 1, 2013.

To be completed by the recommender:

Name:

Title/Role:

School/Organization:

Contact Email and/or Telephone Number:

For how long and in what context have you known this student?

What are the first words that come to mind when you think of this student?

Please evaluate this student against the following USAP selection criteria:

Academic Excellence –

Demonstrated Leadership Potential –

Ethos of Giving Back –

Economic Disadvantage –

Feel free to use this space, the back of this paper or a separate letter for your additional comments about the accomplishments and potential of this student and their suitability for the USAP program.

