

THE U.S. EMBASSY AMBASSADOR'S GIRLS' SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM (AGSP)

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Africa Education Initiative (AEI) has been designed to improve educational opportunities for African girls. In Lesotho these funds are provided through the U.S. Embassy Ambassador's Girls' Scholarship Program exclusively for Basotho girls. The program supports scholarships for retention of girls who would otherwise have no means of staying in school. Mentoring complements the scholarship program to inspire and encourage girls in their educational pursuits. For this purpose, prominent Basotho women have been identified to assist in this respect. One component of the program is to support a focus on HIV/AIDS mitigation and prevention for these girls.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

The following criteria have been set for selection of girls: best academic performance, family's financial status, degree of applicant's disability, and whether affected by HIV/AIDS (orphaned).

LIMITATIONS OF THE AGSP

In Lesotho the program was launched in June 2005 with the signing of a Letter of Agreement between Winrock International (a prime contractor for USAID) and Lesotho Save the Children (LSC) (their local implementing organization). Scholarships are strictly for the funding of 172 scholarships to primary and secondary (Form A, B, and C) school girls in Lesotho annually.

WHEN TO APPLY

The application period for scholarships is open from November to December every year and awards to successful applicants are made in January when schools reopen.

HOW TO APPLY FOR THE AGSP SCHOLARSHIP

To receive more information on the scholarship program you may write or visit the below offices, while application forms are only available from the Lesotho Save the Children.

The Special Projects Coordinator
American Embassy
P.O. Box 333
Maseru 100
Lesotho

OR

The Bursaries Officer
Lesotho Save the Children
P.O. Box 151
Maseru 100
Lesotho