TechGirls is a one-month summer exchange program for young women ages 15–17 to inspire and prepare them to pursue higher education and careers in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields. The TechGirls alumnae network offers continuing opportunities for collaboration on STEM projects, competitions, and grants.

**TechGirls Program Outcomes**

**EXPECTED**
- Confidence
- Independence
- Improved communication skills
- Increased intercultural understanding
- Improved public speaking
- Learning to live in a new culture
- Increased motivation to study and/or live abroad
- Increased self-esteem
- Increased motivation to improve skills
- Increased flexibility
- Shift in parental relationships, viewing alumnae as being more mature
- Increased interest in and opportunities to travel abroad
- New world view
- Increased awareness of career options
- Women in STEM as role models
- Job readiness

**UNEXPECTED**
- Increased willingness to take risks
- Increased motivation to study and/or live abroad
- Increased self-esteem
- Increased motivation to improve skills
- Increased flexibility
- Shift in parental relationships, viewing alumnae as being more mature
- Increased interest in and opportunities to travel abroad
- New world view
- Teamwork
- Time management
- Goal setting
- Problem solving
- Research opportunities
- Entrepreneurship opportunities
- Increased ambition

**Education**
- Improved English language skills
- Increased focus on areas of interest within STEM
- Hands-on, practical approaches
- Undergraduate and graduate studies
- Scholarships and grants
- Unexpected opportunities to study abroad (U.S. and Europe)
- Internships, fellowships, and research opportunities
- Student leadership positions within university
- Ongoing advice and support from host family, job shadow host and/or program staff

**Network**
- Learning how to network
- Connections with cohort members
- Connections with prior TG alumnae
- Connections with TechWomen
- Connections to Americans (host families)
- Connections to subsequent TG alumnae
- Collaboration on projects & competitions
- STEM organizations and clubs
- Closer connections to community
- Community service
- Ongoing connections to Americans

--TechGirls helped me break out of my comfort zone. ...
It has helped me grow in ways I couldn’t imagine.--

TechGirls is a program of the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs.
Impact

- 98% of participants were more interested or as interested in STEM education and careers after the program.
- 80% of overseas alumnae and 77% of American alumnae reported that the program had helped improve their STEM skills.
- Participants learned and applied valuable soft skills: leadership (85%), intercultural communication (83%), networking (74%), and public speaking (63%).

“"I think seeing women in STEM has boosted my confidence and it made me personally consider an engineering degree, which I ended up getting."”

Trajectories

- The program helped alumnae decide on a university major, with 78% pursuing further studies in STEM fields.
- The program increased participants’ confidence to pursue a career in STEM, and 79% of working alumnae work in STEM fields.
- 73% of alumnae are also volunteering their time in STEM-related activities.

Connections

- 96% of overseas alumnae and 75% of U.S. alumnae stay in touch through social media.
- 57% of TechGirls alumnae have had some contact with TechWomen alumnae, and 48% of TechGirls alumnae having participated in TechWomen-TechGirls club activities.
- The TechGirls alumnae network offers information-sharing (such as opportunities for scholarships, other exchange programs, travel, competitions, and project funding), English language practice, collaboration on small projects, and, occasionally, mentoring.

TechGirls is a program of the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs. For more information about TechGirls, please visit www.legacyintl.org/techgirls