



**Pre-application Meeting- Cohort 2009**

**VEF POLICY**

# Agenda for Today

- Applying to U.S. University
- How to write a good SOP
- Distribution of & instructions on LORs
- VEF policies
- Q & A

# Cohort 09 Selection Process

1. More than 1400 applicants; 285 applications completed by deadline; 258 met minimum qualifications & took the ETS Major Field Test; 132 took GRE; 85 invited to interviews.
2. Most important: You are recommended by the US professors/scientists.
3. The process was open, competitive and transparent. All of you were chosen by the interview panel. No intervention or “help” was possible.

# Next Steps: Application and Admission

1. Strong LORs from the U.S. scientists
2. Online LORs request:
  - [LOR2009@vef.gov](mailto:LOR2009@vef.gov) & [2009LOR@vef.gov](mailto:2009LOR@vef.gov) (for nominees)
  - [LOR-2009@vef.gov](mailto:LOR-2009@vef.gov) & [2009-LOR@vef.gov](mailto:2009-LOR@vef.gov) (for the recommended w/o fundings)
3. Financial support letter from VEF outlining fellowship terms
4. Updates on your admission status
5. Deadline for submitting admission letter to VEF for final decision on your fellowship: **April 1, 2009**

# Your Fellowship Pending on

- Admission to recommended schools or a leading graduate program that accepts VEF's financial terms
- Written permission to leave your work for the VEF Fellowship; and
- A visa to the U.S.

# VEF Investment in you

1. Required GRE subject test for recommended schools
2. School application fees for recommended schools
3. Visa application and SEVIS fees
4. Health checkup fees
5. Pre-departure orientation (PDO)
6. Required ESL program
7. Settling-in allowance
8. Air ticket to the U.S.

# Proof of payment

- If you apply online, you should provide:
  - The email notification/receipt from the university stating the amount paid. Or
  - A copy of the **credit card** statement stating the amount paid.
- If you apply via mail, you should provide:
  - A copy of the bank statement stating the amount of the check. Or
  - A copy of the money order stating the amount paid.
- GRE subject test, you should provide:
  - A copy of your registration demonstrating the fee has been paid. Or
  - A copy of the bank or credit card statement stating the amount paid.

# Note on Your Name

Decide now. No right or wrong but must be **CONSISTENT**

Example 1: Le Quoc = Quoc Le

Example 2: Nguyen Hai Anh = Anh Hai Nguyen = Anh H.  
Nguyen = Anh Nguyen

Example 3: Nguyen Tan Minh Duc = ?

1. Duc Tan-Minh Nguyen = Duc T. Nguyen = Duc  
Nguyen

2. Minh-Duc Tan Nguyen = Minh-Duc T. Nguyen  
= Minh-Duc Nguyen

3. Duc Minh Nguyen-Tan = Duc M. Nguyen-Tan  
= Duc Nguyen-Tan

# Q & A

1. Yes
2. May Be
3. No
4. Never



**Thank You and Good Luck  
w/ Your Application!**