



# FY 21 Grant Competition American History And Civics Education - National Activities (AHC-NA)

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U.S. Department Of Education  
Office of Elementary And Secondary Education  
Effective Educator Development Division  
**Closing Date: August 18, 2021 @ 11:59:59 pm**  
**Washington, DC Time**

# Notes About These Slides

- The official document for this AHC-NA grant competition is the Notice Inviting Applications (NIA) published in the Federal Register on July 19, 2021. Applicants should refer to this document for official application and submission instructions.
- The slides presented on this webinar are used to provide guidance only. Applicants may download these slides from the AHC-NA webpage.
- Applicants are strongly encouraged to download the AHC-NA NIA, AHC-NA Application Instructions Package and other program resources from the AHC-NA program webpage listed below.



# Agenda for This Webinar

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**I. AHC-NA Program Purpose and Funding Legislation**

**II. Eligible Applicants**

**III. FY 21 Program Priorities**

V. Selection Criteria, GPRA & Application Scoring

VII. Budget Requirements



# AHC-NA Program Purpose

The purpose of this program is to promote new and existing evidence-based strategies to encourage innovative American history, civics and government, and geography instruction, learning strategies, and professional development activities and programs for teachers, principals, or other school leaders, particularly such instruction, strategies, activities, and programs that benefit low-income students and underserved populations.

<https://oese.ed.gov/offices/office-of-discretionary-grants-support-services/effective-educator-development-programs/national-activities-grant/>





# Authorizing Legislation

The American History and Civics Education, National Activities program statute is contained in Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended, Title II, Part B, Subpart 3 and Section 2233.

<https://www.congress.gov/114/plaws/publ95/PLAW-114publ95.pdf>



# AHC-NA Renewal Authority (Section 233(c)(2))

- Under ESSA, several discretionary grant programs were restructured to allow for a base period of performance and opportunity for renewal period
- These provisions give the Secretary authorization to renew a grant in the event a grantee is making substantial progress and for other purposes
- Up to three years, with renewal of up to two additional years if the grantee demonstrates to the Secretary that the grantee is effectively using funds.

## **NOTE:**

- Renewal awards are issued as part of a competitive process.
- Be mindful of producing strong data in the first three years of the grant to better position yourself to be competitive in receiving renewal funding.



# Eligible Applicants

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- An institution of higher education or other nonprofit or for-profit organization with demonstrated expertise in the development of evidence-based approaches with the potential to improve the quality of American history, civics and government, or geography learning and teaching.
- In its application, an applicant is required to submit documentation of its organization's demonstrated expertise in historical methodology or the teaching of American history or civics.
- **Consortium Partnership** -Consortium applicants must follow the procedures for group applications described in 34 CFR 75.127 through 34 CFR 75.129.



# DOCUMENTATION OF DEMONSTRATED EXPERTISE

Applicants must demonstrate expertise in the development of evidence-based approaches with the potential to improve the quality of American history, civics and government, or geography learning and teaching. Applicants are encouraged to include one or more of the following documents in Appendix B of the proposed application as proof of meeting this requirement.

- Copy of Eligible Applicant's mission statement.
- Samples of current or previous work completed by the applicant where PD or other educational training is provided in history and/or civics.
- Samples of applicant's work developing evidence-based approaches to teaching and learning history and civics
- Project staff resumes that support a strong background or experience in history and civics
- Sample artifacts created by the applicant to support history and civics expertise.



# FY 21 AHC-NA Program Priorities

**AP 1:** Innovative Instruction or Professional Development in American History, Civics and Government, and Geography

**REQUIRED**

Applicants **MUST** address the *Absolute Priority*



**CPP 1:** Innovative Activities for Civic Engagement.  
(up to 5 points)

**OPTIONAL**

Applicants may address this *Competitive Preference Priority*



**IP 1:** Projects That Incorporate Racially, Ethnically, Culturally, and Linguistically Diverse Perspectives into Teaching and Learning.

**IP 2:** Promoting Information Literacy Skills.

**OPTIONAL**

Applicants may address these *Invitational Priorities*

# Absolute Priority

## **Innovative Instruction or Professional Development in American History, Civics and Government, and Geography.**

Under this priority, we provide funding to projects that are designed to develop, implement, expand, evaluate, and disseminate for voluntary use, innovative, evidence-based approaches or professional development programs in American history, civics and government, and geography. To meet this priority, a project must—

- (i) Show potential to improve the quality of student achievement in, and teaching of, American history, civics and government, or geography, in elementary schools and secondary schools; and
- (ii) Demonstrate innovation, scalability, accountability, and a focus on underserved populations.



# Competitive Preference Priority (up to 5 points)

## Innovative Activities for Civic Engagement

Projects that include one or both of the following—

- (i) Hands-on civic engagement activities for teachers and students; or
- (ii) Programs that educate students about the history and principles of the Constitution of the United States, including the Bill of Rights.



# Invitational Priority 1

Projects that incorporate teaching and learning practices that reflect the diversity, identities, histories, contributions, and experiences of all students to create inclusive, supportive, and identity-safe learning environments that—

- (a) Take into account systemic marginalization, biases, inequities, and discriminatory policy and practice in American history;
- (b) Incorporate racially, ethnically, culturally, and linguistically diverse perspectives and perspectives on the experience of individuals with disabilities;
- (c) Encourage students to critically analyze the diverse perspectives of historical and contemporary media and its impacts;
- (d) Support the creation of learning environments that validate and reflect the diversity, identities, and experiences of all students; and
- (e) Contribute to inclusive, supportive, and identity-safe learning environments.





# Invitational Priority 2

Projects that describe how they will foster critical thinking and promote student engagement in civics education through professional development or other activities designed to support students in—

- (a) Evaluating sources and evidence using standards of proof;
- (b) Understanding their own biases when reviewing information, as well as uncovering and recognizing bias in primary and secondary sources;
- (c) Synthesizing information into cogent communications; and
- (d) Understanding how inaccurate information may be used to manipulate individuals and developing strategies to recognize accurate and inaccurate information.



# AHC-NA Competition Resources

## Program Webpage:

<https://oese.ed.gov/offices/office-of-discretionary-grants-support-services/effective-educator-development-programs/national-activities-grant/>

- FY 21 AHC-NA Notice Inviting Applications (NIA)
- FY 21 AHC-NA Application Instructions Package
- FY 21 Applicant Information Webinars
- AHC-NA EED Budget Narrative Template

**QUESTIONS:** Email questions to [AmericanHistoryandCivics@ed.gov](mailto:AmericanHistoryandCivics@ed.gov)



# AHC-NA Competition Reminders

- Closing Date: **August 18, 2021** at 11:59:59 p.m., Washington, DC time
- Late applications WILL NOT be reviewed
- FY 21 Intent to Apply Due Date: **July 30, 2021**
- Send Intents to Apply to: [AmericanHistoryandCivics@ed.gov](mailto:AmericanHistoryandCivics@ed.gov)
- All applications must be submitted electronically using **Grants.gov**
- Grants.gov Help Desk: **1-800-519-4726**



# AHC-NA APPLICATION APPENDICES

- Appendix A:** Demonstrates a Rationale: (Logic Model)
- Appendix B:** Documentation of its organization's demonstrated expertise in the development of evidence-based approaches with the potential to improve the quality of American history, civics and government, or geography learning and teaching
- Appendix C:** Resumes of Key Personnel
- Appendix D:** Current Approved Indirect Cost Rate Agreement, as applicable.
- Appendix E:** Other documents, as applicable, for example, sources of the matching funds, letters of support and/or partnerships.
- Appendix F:** Proprietary Information (Eligible Applicants should identify any specific proprietary information and page numbers in the application where it can be found.)







# **Thank You for your interest in the AHC-National Activities grant program!**

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**Best wishes on a successful AHC-NA application submission!**

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