




American History & Civics Education: Presidential and Congressional Academies

FY2023 Grant Competition Applicant Resource



American History and Civics Education Academies



Applicants may receive **grants up to \$1 million** to support projects to raise student achievement in American history and civics by improving teachers' and students' knowledge, understanding, and engagement.

ABOUT

The Academies Program supports the establishment of:

(1) Presidential Academies for the Teaching of American History and Civics that offer workshops for both veteran and new teachers to strengthen their knowledge of American history, civics, and government education.

(2) Congressional Academies for Students of American History and Civics that provide high school students opportunities to enrich their understanding of these subjects.

This is particularly salient for Academies that benefit **students from low-income backgrounds and other underserved populations**.

FUNDING

The Department estimates making 3-5 awards. The estimated range of awards is \$300,000 to \$1,000,000 for each 12-month budget period. Project periods are up to 5 years, for a total of **\$1 million funding.****

ELIGIBLE ENTITIES

An **institution of higher education, nonprofit educational organization, museum, library, or research center** with demonstrated expertise in historical methodology or the teaching of American history and civics; or a consortium of these entities.

Eligible entities are also encouraged to partner with local educational agencies (LEAs).



***Note:** Over 5 year project period, \$1,000,000 maximum per year

****Note:** The Department is not bound by these estimates

This document is a brief summary of the American History and Civics Education—Presidential and Congressional Academies grant competition that highlights certain aspects of Notice Inviting Applications (NIA). Do not rely solely on the information in this document for guidance. Please refer to the NIA and the program regulations published in the Federal Register for additional information, as these are the official documents governing the competition.



Absolute Priorities – Presidential and Congressional Academies



The American History & Civics – Academies application has two absolute priorities. Applications must meet **both** priorities to be considered for funding.

The Focus

Professional Development and Instruction

of the subjects of American History and Civics.

Under these priorities, we provide funding to projects that are designed to establish a Presidential Academy that offers a seminar or institute for teachers of American history and civics and establish a seminar or institute for outstanding students of American history and civics.



To meet these priorities, a project must:



Show potential to improve the quality of teaching of and deepen student understandings in American history and Civics and



Demonstrate innovation, scalability, accountability, and a focus on underserved populations



Competitive Priorities & Selection Criteria



The American History & Civics – Presidential and Congressional Academies grants will be awarded based on applicants responding to the absolute priorities, two **optional** competitive preference priorities, and four selection criteria, described below.



National Park Service

An applicants must demonstrate that the proposed project is designed to develop innovative and comprehensive programs using the resources of the National Parks, including, to the extent practicable, through coordination or alignment of activities with the National Park Service National Centennial Parks initiative.



Promoting Equity in Student Access to Educational Resources and Opportunities

An applicant must demonstrate that the proposed project is designed to promote education equity and adequacy in resources and opportunity for underserved student in certain educational settings (see NIA for details). The project must also examine sources of inequity and inadequacy and implement responses in one or both of following: (i) rigorous, engaging, and well-rounded approaches to learning that are inclusive with regard to race, ethnicity, culture, language, and disability status and (ii) establishing, expanding, or improving the engagement or underserved community members (including underserved students and families)

Competitive Priorities



Quality of Project Design: the quality of the project design considers the: (i) extent to which the proposed project demonstrates a rationale; and (ii) extent to which a project represents an exceptional approach to the priority or priorities established for the competition.



Need for Project: The need for the project considers (i) the magnitude or severity of the problem to be addressed (ii) the extent to which specific gaps or weaknesses in services, infrastructure, or opportunities have been identified and will be addressed by the proposed project, including the nature and magnitude of those gaps and weaknesses (iii) the extent to which the proposed project will focus on serving or otherwise addressing the needs of disadvantaged individuals.



Quality of Management Plan: The quality of the management plan for the proposed project considers: (i) the adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project task (ii) the adequacy of procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project.



Adequacy of Resources: The adequacy of resources considers: (i) the adequacy of support, including facilities, equipment, supplies, and other resources, from the applicant organization or the lead applicant organization (ii) extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the objectives, design, and potential significant of proposed project (iii) extent to which the applicant demonstrates that it has the resources to operate the project beyond the length of the grant, including a multiyear financial and operating model and accompanying plan; the demonstrated commitment of any partners; evidence of broad support from stakeholders critical to the project's long term success; (iv) the relevance and demonstrated commitment of each partner in the proposed project to the implementation and success of the project

Selection Criteria





FAQs & Resources

? Common Questions

Is there a cost share/matching funds requirement for this grant?

Yes, there is a 100% matching funds requirement for this grant program.

Is my school district or LEA eligible to apply for the grant?

School districts interested in this grant are encouraged to partner with eligible institutions of higher education (IHEs), non-profit educational organizations, museums, libraries, or research centers.

Is it allowable for an organization, seeking funding under this competition, to issue subgrants to schools and/or local education agencies, community organizations, or other organizations that serve a concentration of high-need students for the purpose of carrying out allowable project activities?

No, under this grant program, a grantee may not award subgrants to entities to directly carry out project activities. Eligible institutions are encouraged to partner with school or LEAs, however.



Resources & Contact



[Program Website](#)



[Notice Inviting Applications \(NIA\)](#)

Points of Contact

Orman Feres, Program Lead
Orman.Feres@ed.gov
202-453-6921

Venitia Richardson, Division Director
Venitia.Richardson@ed.gov
202-260-2614

