



# American History & Civics Education National Activities

## FY2023 Grant Competition Applicant Resource



# American History and Civics Education National Activities



Applicants may receive **grants up to \$3 million** to promote innovative American history and civics instruction and learning strategies\*

## ABOUT

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.

This is particularly salient for instruction, strategies, activities, and programs that benefit **students from low-income backgrounds and other underserved populations.**



## FUNDING

The Department estimates making 25-30 awards. The estimated range of awards is \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 for each 12-month budget period. Project periods are up to 3 years, for a total of **\$1.5 million - \$3 million in funding.\*\***

## ELIGIBLE ENTITIES

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



Please note that the application is due **July 12, 2023.**

\*Note: Over 3 year project period, \$1,000,000 maximum per year

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



## Absolute Priority – Innovation



The American History & Civics – National Activities application has one absolute priority. Applications must meet this priority to be considered for funding.

## The Focus

### 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:



Show potential to improve the quality of teaching of and student achievement in American history, civics and government, or geography, in elementary schools and secondary schools, and



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



# Competitive Priorities & Selection Criteria



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



## Innovative Activities for Civic Engagement

To meet this priority, a project must include one or both of the following:

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



## 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?**

No, there is no 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 organizations, or for-profit educations.

**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

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