The Capacity Building Program for U.S. Study Abroad is a program of the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and supported in its implementation by World Learning. The initiative seeks to expand higher education institutions’ capacity to grow and diversify study abroad programs for U.S. students through the provision of grants and capacity building activities.

In collaboration with the U.S. Department of State, World Learning manages a competitive review process to award 21 grants of up to $35,000 to selected higher education institutions in the United States. The program also offers U.S. colleges and universities opportunities to participate in a series of study abroad capacity building activities, both virtual and in-person, to help create, expand, or diversify their study abroad programs.

PROGRAM GOALS AND OUTCOMES

- Diversify American student mobility, both in terms of the students taking part and the destinations where they travel.
- Increase the number of U.S. undergraduate students studying or interning abroad for credit.
- Gain access to study abroad best practices through an in-person community and virtual library of resources.
SMALL GRANT COMPETITION
In collaboration with the U.S. Department of State, World Learning manages a competitive review process to award small grants of up to $35,000 to selected higher education institutions in the United States to expand and diversify U.S. student mobility overseas. Small grant recipients will build institutional capacity and create, expand, and/or diversify opportunities for U.S. students.

Program Examples:
● Create a faculty-led study abroad program,
● Create a new study abroad position at the college or university,
● Support minority student participation in study abroad,
● Provide resources for students with disabilities to study abroad,
● Create programming for students in underrepresented majors,
● Form relationships with universities in a wide variety of international locations,
● Focus study abroad programs around U.S. foreign policy goals such as cybersecurity, public health, women's empowerment, economic development

CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVES
The Capacity Building Initiatives will expand and diversify U.S. student mobility overseas by providing the U.S. study abroad community with in-person workshops, webinars, and virtual resources. Study abroad stakeholders at U.S. higher education institutions will have opportunities to share their own study abroad best practices and to network with and learn from their peers about study abroad capacity building. Registration, dates, locations, and workshop/webinar topic descriptions are available on our website: StudyAbroadCapacityBuilding.org/capacity-building-initiatives/

Upcoming Topics:
● Developing financial strategies for expanding study abroad
● Recruiting and supporting students from underrepresented groups
● Faculty-led study abroad best practices
● Campus outreach and recruitment
● Best practices in program assessment and evaluation
● Risk management
● Experiential activities & study abroad

For more details regarding the Capacity Building Initiatives, please consult the program website: StudyAbroadCapacityBuilding.org. Please contact CBPSA@worldlearning.org with any questions regarding the Capacity Building Initiatives or grant competition.

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