



World Learning  
EDUCATION | DEVELOPMENT | EXCHANGE

**IDEAS**  
INCREASE & DIVERSIFY  
EDUCATION ABROAD  
FOR U.S. STUDENTS

**2024 IDEAS Grant Competition**

# **Aligning Your Proposal with U.S. Department of State Priorities**

**#LaunchIDEASabroad**

This session is being recorded and will be posted on the IDEAS website within one week.

The IDEAS (Increase and Diversify Education Abroad for U.S. Students) Program 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.

# Agenda

- ECA and USA Study Abroad Introduction
- IDEAS Program Introduction
- Brief Overview of the 2023 IDEAS Grant Competition
- U.S. Government Priorities + the IDEAS Program
- Foreign Policy Goal Overview
- Deep Dive: Supporting the CHIPS Act, STEM study abroad, and community colleges
- Best Practices and Tips
- Q&A
- Important Dates and Reminders

# Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA)

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- **Mission:** To increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries by means of educational and cultural exchange that assist in the development of peaceful relations.
- ECA is committed to fairness, equity and inclusion, and its programs strive to reflect the diversity of the United States and global society.



55,000 participants engage in exchange programs funded by ECA annually



15,000 American participants travel abroad on exchanges each year



101 U.S. public and private non-profit institutions funded



# IDEAS Program

A program of the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, USA Study Abroad branch

**Seeking to expand higher education institutions' capacity to grow and diversify study abroad programs for U.S. students**

- Increase number of students studying abroad from underrepresented groups
- Increase the number of U.S. higher education institutions offering study abroad programs
- Expand study abroad to new overseas destinations, particularly those that are less common

## **2024 Grant Competition**

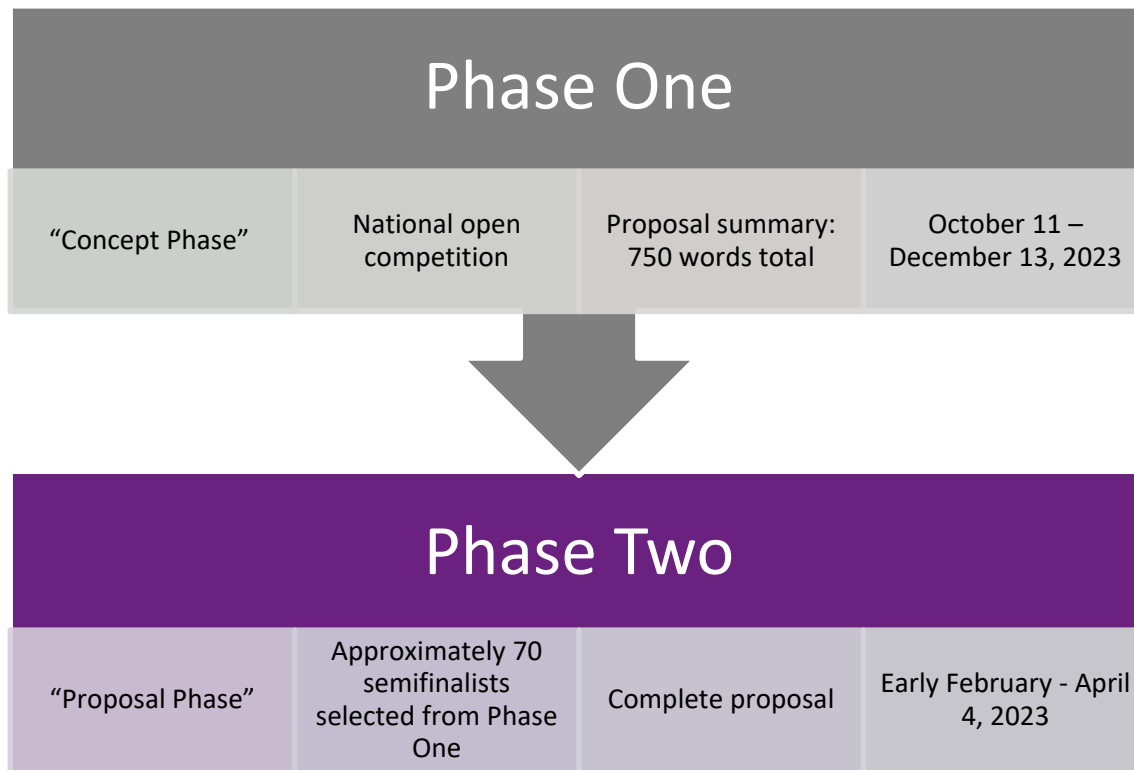
- Approximately 35 grants of up to \$35,000
- Approximately 1 IDEAS consortium grant of up to \$50,000

## **IDEAS Program Initiatives**

- Virtual and in-person, open to everyone



# Competition Overview



# State Department Priorities + the IDEAS Program

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Study abroad benefits all

- Students → Communities → The Country → Global Relationships

Institutional capacity building

- Partnerships
- Grant project sustainability

Foreign Policy Goal alignment

# U.S. Foreign Policy Goals (FPGs)

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Civil Society,  
Journalism,  
and  
Education



Climate,  
Energy,  
and the  
Environment



Democracy  
and  
Human  
Rights



Economic  
Development  
and  
Entrepreneurship



Global Health



Technology  
and  
Innovation

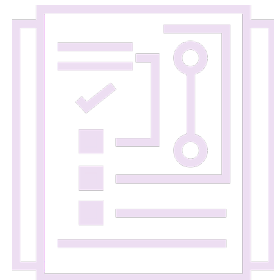
# FPG Resources

- U.S. Department of State website:  
[State.gov](https://www.state.gov)
- U.S. Department of State policy issues:  
[State.gov/policy-issues](https://www.state.gov/policy-issues)
- National Security  
Strategy: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Biden-Harris-Administrations-National-Security-Strategy-10.2022.pdf>
- University, local, and state government documents



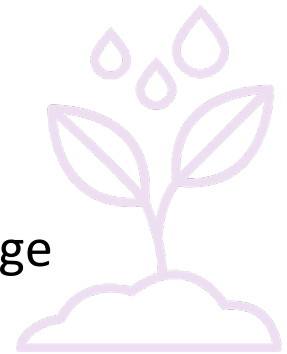
# Civil Society, Journalism, and Education

- Example theme:
  - The role civil society, journalism, and/or education play in shaping public knowledge, social movements, and governance.
- **University of Southern California Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism** is developing a dual language, semester-length, hybrid study abroad program that will train students in international journalism in Mexico.



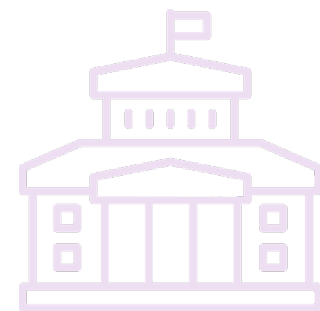
# Climate, Energy, and the Environment

- Example themes:
  - Climate crisis
  - Conserving nature
  - Economic promise of climate action
  - Food security
  - Ocean and polar affairs
  - Renewable energy
  - Sustainable agriculture
- **Bennett College** is launching faculty-led study abroad programs rooted in environmental justice and climate change in Costa Rica, South Africa, or Tanzania.



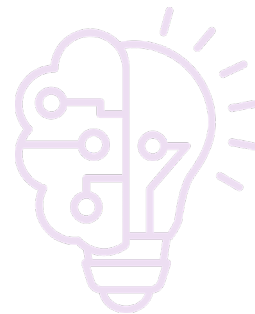
# Democracy and Human Rights

- Example themes:
  - Governance
  - Human trafficking
  - Immigration
  - Refugees
  - Women's empowerment
- **North Dakota State University** is establishing a network of sport-for-development organizations in South Africa and Tanzania to facilitate internship placements focused on women's empowerment, social cohesion, and global health.



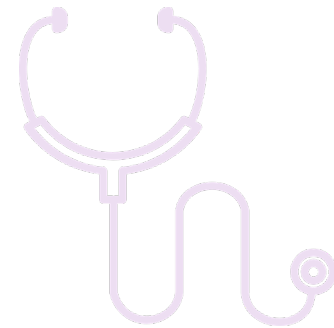
# Economic Development and Entrepreneurship

- Example themes:
  - Business
  - Closing skills gaps in local communities
  - Human resources
  - Infrastructure
  - Resource development
  - Trade
- **Colorado Mountain College** developed a study abroad program in Chile to teach business and recreation industry skills to rural U.S. community college students, critical job skill needs in the college's community.



# Global Health

- Example themes:
  - Combatting drugs
  - Contagious and infectious diseases
  - COVID-19 recovery
  - Nursing
  - Public health policy and management
- **Hollins University** is creating study abroad programs in Kenya that will examine comparative health systems between the United States and Kenya and enhance students' knowledge of women's health advocacy.



# Technology and Innovation

- Example themes:
  - Artificial Intelligence
  - Cybersecurity
  - Critical and emerging technologies
  - Digital engagement and policies
  - Engineering
  - Technology cooperation
- **Northern Virginia Community College** developed in-person and virtual study abroad programming focused on cybersecurity with a partner university in Scotland.



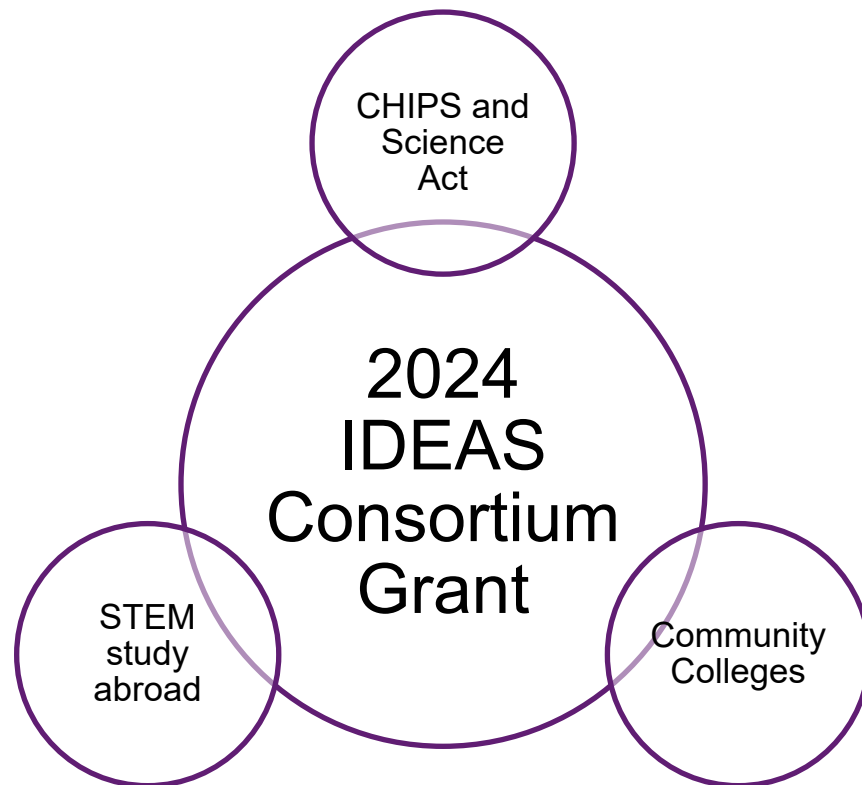
# CHIPS and Science Act

- Part of the Biden-Harris Administration's industrial strategy to revitalize domestic manufacturing, create good-paying American jobs, strengthen American supply chains, and accelerate the industries of the future
  - For example: artificial intelligence, clean energy, semiconductors
- Invests in research and development, science and technology, and the workforce
- Provides STEM opportunities to more of America to participate in good-paying skilled jobs
  - STEM education and workforce development activities are critical to developing skills needed for taking on the highly-skilled jobs of emerging industries built on technologies of the future
- Read More: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/08/09/fact-sheet-chips-and-science-act-will-lower-costs-create-jobs-strengthen-supply-chains-and-counter-china/>



# IDEAS Consortium Grant

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# IDEAS Consortium Grant

<b>Funding Amount:</b>	Up to \$50,000*
<b>No. of Grants Available:</b>	1
<b>Applicants:</b>	Consortia of 2+ colleges and/or universities, at least one of which must be officially recognized as a community college, which will be defined using the <a href="#">Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education</a>
<b>Project Types:</b>	Programming focuses on building study abroad capacity, programs, and resources at U.S. community colleges that will prepare students for careers in STEM, technical, and/or vocational fields
<b>Resource Development:</b>	At least \$5,000 must be allocated to resource development and dissemination

\*Applicants not chosen for the consortium grant can still be awarded a \$35,000 IDEAS grant, pending an updated budget and proposal.

# IDEAS Grants Priorities

## Sustainability



Leadership support



Connection to institutional mission and/or goals



Assurance of continued funding or support beyond grant period



Partnerships: on campus, in the community, nationally,  
internationally

# IDEAS Community College Consortia Examples

- **Riverside Community College District**
  - Developing pathways for low-income and technical career students to participate in study abroad on behalf of three Hispanic-serving partner institutions
- **Community College of Baltimore County**
  - A consortium of six partners developed two faculty-led study abroad programs to Trinidad and Tobago and the United Kingdom for rural community college students in occupational fields of study
- **University of Washington – Tacoma, Green River College, and Tacoma Community College**
  - Three institutions partnering with local tribal communities and organizations to develop resources to support Indigenous students to study abroad

# Best Practices & Tips

**Involve  
your faculty**

**Locations  
matter**

**Be creative!**

**Sustainability  
is key**

**Engage  
students**

**You can choose  
1+ FPG, but be  
sure to align your  
project well**

**Don't  
confine  
yourself to  
the sample  
themes**

# Questions?

Please enter your questions in the Q&A box.

# Important Dates

## Phase 1



## Phase 2



# Follow us on LinkedIn!

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The image shows a screenshot of the LinkedIn profile for the IDEAS Program. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the LinkedIn logo, a search bar, and icons for Home, My Network, Jobs, and Messaging. The profile banner is purple with the IDEAS logo and the text "INCREASE & DIVERSIFY EDUCATION ABROAD FOR U.S. STUDENTS". Below the banner, the profile name "IDEAS Program" is displayed, followed by a description: "The Increase and Diversify Education Abroad for U.S. Students (IDEAS) Program is a program of the U.S. State Department." and "Higher Education · Washington, DC · 2 followers". There are three buttons: "+ Follow", "Visit website", and "More". At the bottom of the profile, there are tabs for "Home", "About", "Posts", "Jobs", and "People". A QR code is located on the right side of the profile, labeled "IDEAS LinkedIn".

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/ideas-program/>



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# StudyAbroadCapacityBuilding.org

**[IDEAS@worldlearning.org](mailto:IDEAS@worldlearning.org)**

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