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

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Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA)

• **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

www.exchanges.state.gov

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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

StudyAbroadCapacityBuilding.org

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Competition Overview

Phase One

“Concept Phase” | National open competition | Proposal summary: 750 words total | October 11 – December 13, 2023

Phase Two

“Proposal Phase” | Approximately 70 semifinalists selected from Phase One | Complete proposal | Early February - April 4, 2023
State Department Priorities + the IDEAS Program

Study abroad benefits all
- Students ➔ Communities ➔ The Country ➔ Global Relationships

Institutional capacity building
- Partnerships
- Grant project sustainability

Foreign Policy Goal alignment

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U.S. Foreign Policy Goals (FPGs)

- Civil Society, Journalism, and Education
- Climate, Energy, and the Environment
- Democracy and Human Rights
- Economic Development and Entrepreneurship
- Global Health
- Technology and Innovation

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FPG Resources

• U.S. Department of State website: State.gov
• U.S. Department of State policy issues: State.gov/policy-issues
• 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.

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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.

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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
IDEAS Consortium Grant

2024 IDEAS Consortium Grant

CHIPS and Science Act

Community Colleges

STEM study abroad

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# IDEAS Consortium Grant

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Funding Amount:</strong></th>
<th>Up to $50,000*</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>No. of Grants Available:</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Applicants:</strong></td>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project Types:</strong></td>
<td>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</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Resource Development:</strong></td>
<td>At least $5,000 must be allocated to resource development and dissemination</td>
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*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

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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

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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

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Questions?

Please enter your questions in the Q&A box.
Important Dates

Phase 1

October 11, 2023
• Phase 1 opens

October-November 2023
• Grant application support webinars

December 13, 2023
• Phase 1 closes

January 2024
• Phase 1 review

February 2024
• Semifinalists notified

Phase 2

February 2024
• Phase 2 opens
• Semi-finalist support webinars

April 4, 2024
• Phase 2 closes

April-May 2024
• Phase 2 review & panels

Mid-June 2024
• Finalists announced

September 2024-February 2026
• Grant period of performance

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

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