



USA Study Abroad



World Learning  
Education | Development | Exchange

# IDEAS

INCREASE & DIVERSIFY  
EDUCATION ABROAD  
FOR U.S. STUDENTS

## CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM FOR U.S. STUDY ABROAD

Forum on Education Abroad – Virtual Conference

April 21-23, 2020

[StudyAbroadCapacityBuilding.org](https://StudyAbroadCapacityBuilding.org)

# AGENDA

- ECA and World Learning Introductions
- IDEAS Overview
- IDEAS Grant Competition
- IDEAS Initiatives



## About the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

The **Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA)**'s mission at the U.S. Department of State is 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](http://www.exchanges.state.gov) #ExchangeOurWorld [www.eca.state.gov](http://www.eca.state.gov)  
[StudyAbroad.State.gov](http://StudyAbroad.State.gov)



## WORLD LEARNING

- Four Pillars
  - The Experiment
  - SIT Study Abroad
  - SIT Graduate Institute
  - Development and Exchange
- Headquarters: Brattleboro, VT and Washington, DC
- Global Exchange
  - 64 active grants, 162 countries, 200 staff

WORLD  
LEARNING STAFF



Amy Fisher Bruey – Project  
Director



Megan Zacher – Program  
Officer



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## IDEAS

### INCREASE AND DIVERSIFY EDUCATION ABROAD FOR US STUDENTS

The Capacity Building Program for U.S. Study Abroad, also known as IDEAS (Increase and Diversify Education Abroad for US Students) is 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
- Diversify American student mobility
- Expand U.S. Study Abroad capacity

Grant Competition

- Approx. 21 grants of up to \$35,000

IDEAS Program Initiatives

- Virtual and in-person, open to everyone

[StudyAbroadCapacityBuilding.org](http://StudyAbroadCapacityBuilding.org)



# IDEAS GRANT COMPETITION

The IDEAS grant competition is looking for creative and innovative project ideas to increase and diversify study abroad programming. Examples of the types of projects that applicants may propose include, but are not limited to:

- Create a faculty-led study abroad program,
- Create a new study abroad position or office 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 or further develop relationships with universities in a wide variety of international locations, and/or
- Create or enhance study abroad programs around theme areas such as cybersecurity, entrepreneurship, human rights, food security, STEAM, and public health.

Proposals may not include requests for funding to cover student scholarships, student travel, or travel to the United States for faculty and/or staff at higher education institutions overseas.

The FY20 IDEAS grant competition RFP will launch in later 2020/early 2021, pending U.S. Government funding. The [FY19 RFP](#) is available on our website for a sneak-peek of what that proposal process will likely look like.

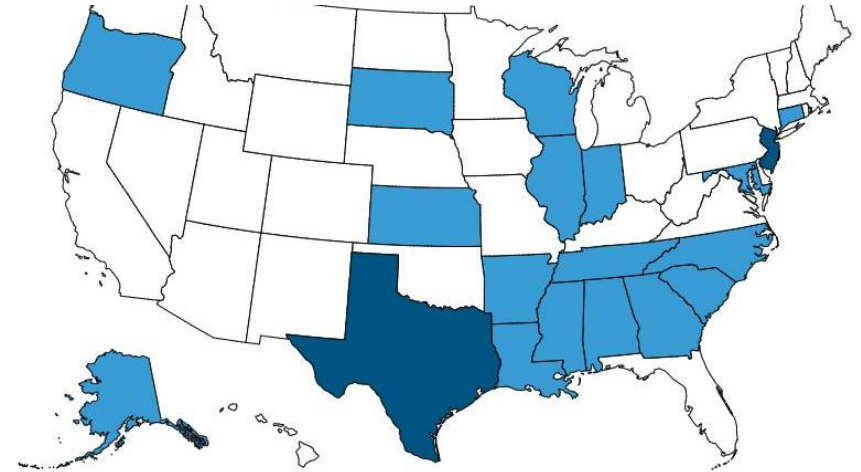


## THE IDEAS GRANT COMPETITION



# ELIGIBILITY

- All accredited U.S. colleges and universities
  - 2- and 4-year; public, private; Minority Serving Institutions
  - All levels of study abroad experience
- Proposals must support primarily undergraduate students
- Funding cannot support student scholarships
- Proposals to locations with US DOS Travel Advisory Level 3 must outline safety and security procedures
  - Proposals to locations with US DOS Travel Advisory Level 4 are not permitted



# THE APPLICATION

Cover page

Executive Summary of your grant proposal

Program Description:

- Plan for sustainability after grant funding ends,
- Statement of need,
- Project management plan
- Logic model

Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

Calendar of Activities (Work Plan)

Budget (submit in Excel) and Budget Narrative

CVs of relevant staff members

## APPLICATION TIP

- For institutions applying to expand or diversify already existing study abroad programming, preference may be given to applications that also address one or more of the following U.S. foreign policy goals:
  - Cyber issues (including cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, technology);
  - Entrepreneurship and innovation;
  - Energy and natural resources;
  - Closing the skills gap (including manufacturing, high-tech sectors, human resources, business, management, education);
  - Democracy and human rights (including refugees and trafficking of persons);
  - Economic development and trade policy;
  - Food security/sustainable agriculture/natural resource management;
  - Infrastructure (including engineering and urban planning);
  - Public health; and/or
  - Women's empowerment.



FUTURE IDEAS  
GRANT  
COMPETITIONS

- The FY19 grant competition selection process is taking place now. FY19 grant winners will be announced in June 2020
- The FY20 IDEAS grant competition RFP will launch in later 2020/early 2021, pending U.S. Government funding

IDEAS INITIATIVES

## IDEAS INITIATIVES



Free in-person workshops, webinars, and virtual resources for the wider U.S. study abroad community to help expand and diversify U.S. student mobility abroad.



Resources will be made available to bolster the capacity and knowledge sharing of U.S. higher education in support of expanding American student mobility overseas.



**Goal: to convey best practices in study abroad capacity building, increase knowledge sharing and networking, and provide capacity building resources to the wider U.S. study abroad community.**

# SAMPLE 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

COVID-19 Response

Expanding programming to diverse destinations



## FUTURE IDEAS INITIATIVES

- Future IDEAS webinars and workshops will be announced on our website, via SECUSS-L listserv, and on World Learning social media
- Please contact [IDEAS@worldlearning.org](mailto:IDEAS@worldlearning.org) if you'd like to be added to a contact list to receive updates on IDEAS Initiatives





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