



From: Faculty Research Development Office
Office of the Vice President for Research

Subject: Limited Competitions: FY 2020 Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA):
Study of the U.S. Institutes for Scholars Program (SFOP0006158)

Date: September 5, 2019

UNM Researchers,

The Department of State, Office of Academic Exchange Programs, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), invites proposal submissions to design and implement two Study of the U.S. Institutes (SUSIs) for Scholars. Study of the U.S. Institutes for Scholars are intensive academic programs whose purpose is to provide foreign university faculty and other professionals the opportunity to deepen their positive understanding of U.S. society, culture, values, and institutions, broadly defined. The ultimate goal is to advance American foreign policy by promoting American prosperity and advancing American influence as outlined in the National Security Strategy. The Institutes will also enable participants to strengthen curricula and to improve the quality of teaching about the United States in academic institutions abroad.

Each Study of the U.S. Institute will be six weeks in duration, including an approximately four-week academic residency at an academic institution and up to two weeks of an integrated educational study tour. The academic residency should take place on a U.S. university or college campus and should include academic coursework, diverse speakers, time for personal research, and opportunities for interaction with American peers. The study tour should take scholars to another region of the United States and it should complement the academic residency. The programs should conclude in Washington, DC with a minimum stay of two days.

The Institutes should be designed for groups of 18 foreign university-level faculty or professionals, focusing on the themes of 1) Religious Freedom and Pluralism and 2) U.S. Economics and Business. Participants will represent all regions of the world and will be fluent or have advanced proficiency in English. Recipients will NOT participate in the selection of participants. U.S. embassies, consulates, and Fulbright commissions will nominate candidates. ECA will make the final participant selections. Institutes should begin no sooner than June 1, 2020, and should conclude no later than August 14, 2020. For additional details, please see the full announcement at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=320080>.

The recipient will be responsible for planning and implementing the program including the oversight and coordination of both Institutes and the oversight and management of performance of sub-award recipient(s) under the award. ECA intends to award one Cooperative Agreement for an estimated total amount of \$1,750,000 over 2 years, pending the availability of funds. There is no minimum or maximum percentage of cost sharing required for this competition. However, ECA encourages applicants to provide maximum levels of cost sharing in support of its programs.

Proposals are due to the sponsor October 28, 2019.

This is a limited competition. Each institution is limited to one proposal. If you are interested in submitting a proposal, send a statement of interest with a tentative project title and brief description (200 words) including the names of other institutions you intend to include in the proposal by **noon, September 13, 2019** via e-mail to limited@unm.edu **with the subject line: ECA Scholars– your name**. Based on the e-mail responses received, the Limited Competitions Management Team may announce a call for preproposals for both or either of these competitions.

If you are affiliated with HSC, please contact Corey Ford (CFord@salud.unm.edu) or Cassandra Misenar (CMisenar@salud.unm.edu) for more information.