

Passport to India Innovation Grant: Request for Proposals Supported by the U.S. Department of State

Issuance Date: November 3, 2016

Closing Date/Time: December 4, 2016

Award Date: December 22, 2016

The Ohio State University and the U.S. Department of State (DOS) are pleased to announce a grant competition as part of former Secretary Clinton's ***Passport to India*** Initiative. Passport to India is a DOS signature initiative designed to build educational, business, cultural and diplomatic ties between the U.S. and India through U.S. students participating in study abroad and internship programs in India.

In applying for grants, applicants will be asked how they will assert leadership in implementing the activities and innovations proposed, how they will address on-campus barriers to student mobility to India, how they will increase student engagement and help to expand access to study and internship in India programs.

The goal of the competition is to award grants of up to \$1,000 to incentivize the creation of new partnerships or strengthen existing ones that will bring attention to and potentially expand opportunities for American college and university students in India.

The DOS and The Ohio State University reserve the right to fund all, a portion of or none of the applications submitted. Please refer to Section I: Funding Opportunity Description, for a complete statement of goals and expected results.

Table of Contents

- Section I: Funding Opportunity Description
- Section II: Award Information
- Section III: Eligibility Information
- Section IV: Application and Submission
- Section V: Application Contents
- Section VI: Evaluation Criteria

Section I: Funding Opportunity Description

An initiative of the U.S. Department of State in partnership with The Ohio State University, *Passport to India* aims to dramatically increase the number of American students going to India through education abroad and internship programs. In the words of President Obama, the U.S.-India relationship is a defining partnership of the 21st century. To fully realize this partnership, however, more young Americans need to experience India first hand. Passport to India works as a hub to do just that, by promoting and expanding education abroad and internship programs and through its free massive open online course (MOOC) on the Coursera platform for college and university students on the importance of India (<https://www.coursera.org/learn/passport-to-india>).

To accelerate impact, *Passport to India* is launching a grants program to inspire new activities and partnerships that promote India as a destination for students enrolled in American colleges and universities. Approximately 10 organizations will be selected for grants for up to \$1,000 each. Eligible individuals/organizations/entities to apply for grants include representatives of U.S. university or college programs, departments, student associations or clubs.

Awardees are expected to propose activities that last approximately 1 day to 3 months and activities must be conducted between February 1 and May 1, 2017. Awardees are encouraged to partner with and include representatives from private sector companies or non-profit organizations engaged with India. Programs may, for example, include talks, panel discussions, film screenings or other events designed to engage and inform student audiences about India as a destination for study abroad and internships or to create new cross-disciplinary programs on campuses that promote India as a destination among, for example (but not limited to), students engaged in engineering, business, information technology, human rights, gender or public health disciplines.

Section II: Award Information

The intent of the competition is to award grants of up to \$1,000 to individuals or groups representing U.S. college or university programs, clubs, organizations or associations.

Winning applicants will be notified no later than December 22, 2016 and the period of performance will be from February 1 to May 1, 2017.

Funding is not available for:

- Overlapping costs between federal awards, whether received directly from a federal agency or indirectly
- Programs restricted to any organization/departmental membership
- Programs that are not inclusive to any and all students on their university campus
- Programs that are intended to be experienced solely online
- Payment for facilities, purchase of capital equipment or software or non-project related administrative expenses
- Venue rental (it is hoped that venues can be supplied by the host university or donated as an in-kind contribution)
- Cash prizes
- Travel
- Most food and entertainment costs including hosting a reception or party

Grant recipients will be responsible for keeping The Ohio State University designated staff member Christopher Carey (carey.3@osu.edu) updated on the achievement of proposed program activities and events. A final report will be required of each grantee. Reports must be submitted online within 30 days of the close of grant activities.

Section III: Eligibility Information

Representatives and full time students of community colleges, land-grant colleges and universities that are located and legally registered in the U.S. are eligible to apply for a grant award. Full time faculty members, staff members or students representing a club, program or association are eligible to apply for grants. In addition, each applicant must:

- . (1) Partner with a business, corporation or non-profit organization with operations India such as, for example, a bio-technology company, an automobile manufacturer, an information technology, engineering or aerospace company or a non-profit organization such as Human Rights Watch, Girl Rising, Pratham, Room to Read or ASHA.
- . (2) Only one grant application per university will be considered. All grant funds will be remitted directly to the winning university or college for distribution to the relevant club, department or program.
- . (3) The application form must be completely filled out and received by the grants deadline. Ineligible applications will not be reviewed. Applicants must, as necessary, also seek the appropriate permissions for proposed activities on-campus.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to solicit and secure 1 to 1 matching resources from the institution, an outside resource, from private sector partners or a

combination, which contribute to the proposed activities. Applicants that demonstrate cost sharing that would not happen without this grant money will be considered favorably, as an incentive to bring local resources and new partnerships to bear on promoting U.S. student study abroad and internships in India.

Section IV: Application and Submission

Applications can only be submitted via electronic mail to carey.3@osu.edu by December 4, 2016 with the subject line: Passport to India RFP. Submissions should be one single PDF file and saved as: "PassporttoIndia – name of applicant or institution represented". Applications that are received late or are incomplete will not be considered in the review process.

Applications must not exceed a total of 3 pages (plus letters of support) and must utilize a 12-pt Times New Roman font, single-spaced, utilizing standard one-inch margins.

V. Application Contents

A. The following general information must be at the beginning of each application proposal (one page limit)

1. Applicant name and organization: Name and position of applicant, mailing address, telephone, email contact and name of sponsoring university or college. Please ensure that the applicant name is the formal/legal name that would be able to receive the award funds
2. A short (maximum 1 paragraph), summary of your proposed activity, why you chose the activity, where the activity(ies) will take place and anticipated total number of participants attending your proposed events.
3. Your proposed program/activity start and end dates
4. Total grant amount request (up to \$1,000.00)
5. Organizer biographies: Briefly outline the staff and/or volunteers who will plan and implement the program including their titles, roles and responsibilities for the proposed program.

B. Program/Activity Description (one page limit)

1. Describe your proposed program in more detail about the types of activities, target audiences for those activities, locations and intended dates.
2. Explain how your activities will engage and inform students about India.
3. Explain who your partners are on campus including the name(s) of the businesses/corporations/nonprofits you are involving.
4. Explain the role each partner will play in your program, and whether the partnerships are confirmed or pending.
5. Explain how the partnerships will allow you to reach your intended audience(s) and strengthen or build new connections with India study abroad and internship programs.
6. Describe how you will promote your program/activity.

7. Be sure that your plans meet the program/activities meet the requirements explained above.

C. Letter(s) of support (upload)

Include a one-page letter of support on official letterhead from your host institution. The letter should address the roles and responsibilities of the proposed sponsoring organization/department/club as well as those of the additional partners including businesses or nonprofit organization. The letters may be addressed to “Passport to India review panel”.

D. Proposal budget (one page limit)

1. Include a budget with all anticipated expenses necessary to fully implement the program plans proposed, including planning, programming and reporting.
2. Be sure to represent your 1 to 1 cost share/match for the program.

VI. Evaluation Criteria

Each application will be evaluated based on the following review criteria:

1. **Quality of relevant and creative programming** that shows a clear connection between the proposed program and the target audience(s); meets the requirements listed above; engages at least one partner (business entity or nonprofit organization) involved with the theme of the selected activity.
2. **Relevance of involvement with proposed private sector partner(s)** that will broaden student engagement beyond the typical on-campus activities and enrich the proposed program.
3. **Capacity to manage and implement the proposed program** including the designation of appropriate personnel, reasonable budget plan and evidence of the required 1 to 1 cost share/match.