How to Apply for a USCIS Citizenship and Integration Grant

USCIS

April 11, 2023

- Thank you for joining us for our national engagement on How to Apply for a USCIS Citizenship and Integration Grant.

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**USCIS owns the images**
Welcome to today’s webinar on the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program.

Our agenda is listed on the slide and includes:

- Welcome
- Overview of the USCIS Citizenship and Integration Grant Program
- How to apply for federal grants
- Questions and Answers

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The mission of the USCIS Office of Citizenship is to:

- Provide federal leadership, tools, and resources to foster immigrant integration
- Promote instruction and training on citizenship rights and responsibilities
- Engage and support organizations in their integration efforts

The USCIS Citizenship and Integration Grant Program is an important component of our mission here in the Office of Citizenship and at USCIS.
The goal of the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program is to:

- Expand the availability of high-quality citizenship preparation services for immigrants across the nation; and
- Provide opportunities for immigrants to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to integrate into the fabric of American society.

* Photo from Baltimore City Community College and IRC Baltimore
• Since 2009, the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program has awarded more than $132 million through 579 competitive grants to immigrant-serving organizations in 39 states and the District of Columbia.

• The program has assisted more than 300,000 immigrants with preparing for citizenship.

* Photo from Hartford Public Library
FY 2022 Citizenship and Integration Grant Program

Congress appropriated $20 million for the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program. USCIS offered four competitive funding opportunities:

- Citizenship Instruction and Naturalization Application Services Grant
- Community and Regional Integration Network Grant
- Regional Hub Program
- Innovations in Citizenship Education Grant

- Last year, of FY 2022, Congress appropriated $20 million in funding for the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program. This is twice the amount appropriated in prior years.
- This increase in funding enabled us to offer two new funding opportunities, in addition to the two funding opportunities that we have traditionally offered.
- The two new programs were the Regional Hub program and Innovations in Citizenship Education.

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As you can see on this slide, the majority, 48 of the 66 grants in FY 2022 went to the Citizenship Instruction and Naturalization Services (CINAS) grant program.

This was followed by 12 Innovations grants and 3 of each CARING and HUB.

Last year, we had 20 organizations that were brand-new grantees under our program.

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Review and Selection Process

- Applications are due by the deadline on the Notice of Funding Opportunity
- USCIS conducts a technical review of all eligible applications:
  - USCIS convenes panels of grant reviewers
  - Applications are scored and ranked based on the criteria in the Notices of Funding Opportunity

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Decisions are announced by the end of September 2023.

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For FY 2023, Congress appropriated $25 million dollars to the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program. We are grateful for this continued and increased funding as we know there is a great need for citizenship and integration services, and hundreds of non-profits, state and local governments, and so many others who are working to provide these services. Stay tuned for USCIS funding announcements through Grants.Gov. NOFOs are typically published in May or by early June. USCIS will hold an engagement after Notices of Funding Opportunity are published.
Grants Application Process

To review the Grants.gov application process training visit:
https://www.grants.gov/documents/19/18243/GrantsgovApplicantOverviewTraining.pptx

For more information on Grants.gov visit:
www.grants.gov

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The Grants.gov training topics include:
• Navigating Grants.gov
• Registration
• Search Grants
• What’s In a Funding Opportunity?
• Applying with Workspace
• Track Application Submission
• Tips and Support Resources Training Topics
• Navigating Grant

For more information on Grants.gov visit:
www.grants.gov

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Resources

- USCIS Grant Program Office: citizenshipgrantprogram@uscis.dhs.gov
- Grants.gov: support@grants.gov or 1-800-518-4726
- Subscribe or view a list of upcoming local and national engagements: uscis.gov/outreach
- Share feedback on today’s engagement or contact us: Public.Engagement@uscis.dhs.gov

END OF PRESENTATION
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