



# 100,000 STRONG IN THE AMERICAS

## INNOVATION FUND PROGRAM

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September 21, 2023



PARTNERS  
*of the* AMERICAS



# AGENDA

- What is the 100K Innovation Fund?
- The 100k Team
- General Information for Applicants
- How members can get involved with 100k
- Q&A

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Partners of the Americas





# BACKGROUND: 100,000 STRONG IN THE AMERICAS INNOVATION FUND



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of the AMERICAS



The 100K Innovation Fund is the **public-private sector partnership and collaboration** among the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs at the U.S. Department of State (WHA/DOS), U.S. Embassies, and Partners of the Americas, working with companies, foundations, regional government entities, and academic networks throughout the United States, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

The goals of the 100K Innovation Fund are to build **institutional capacity**, increase access to **inclusive education** opportunities, stimulate **economic prosperity**, and contribute to **workforce development**.





# 100K INNOVATION FUND HIGHLIGHTS

2013 - 2023



**315** grants awarded to teams of **578** HEIs



**25** countries and **49** U.S. states



**Almost 10,000** students and counting



Over **1,200** grant proposals submitted (since 2014)



**2,300** HEIs in Innovation Network -- and counting



over **\$16** million from public / private sectors to support the Innovation Fund since **2013**

# TOP 5 STATES WITH 100K WINNING INSTITUTIONS

1. Texas (52)
2. California (31)
3. New York (31)
4. Illinois (24)
5. Indiana (22)



# 100K Innovation Fund Team

at Partners of the Americas



**Penelope Kim**

Director, 100,000 Strong in the  
Americas Innovation Fund



**Summar Lyons**

Associate Director, 100,000 Strong in  
the Americas Innovation Fund



**Mariana Cabrera Figueroa**

Program Officer, 100,000 Strong in  
the Americas Innovation Fund



# UPCOMING GRANT COMPETITIONS



# The 100K Strong Alliance for CLIMATE ACTION

— (100K CLIMA)

100K CLIMA will catalyze climate action and regional collaboration among higher education institutions in the U.S. and Latin America and the Caribbean to equip students with technical skill to lead in a climate-positive, 21st century green economy.

JOIN



JOIN





# The 100K Inclusive Education Initiative

**The 100K Strong Inclusive Education Initiative will expand partnerships between a diversity of U.S. colleges and universities with regional education institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean to provide critical access to new models of inclusive education exchange.**

100k cohorts include racial minority student at a rate that is 52 percentage points higher than U.S. average study abroad programs.

- 2021 Inter-American Dialogue 100K Impact Study



# GENERAL INFO & REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS

## Available Awards



At least 6 grants



\$25,000-\$50,000



## Student Mobility



Bidirectional travel preferred but not required.



No minimum/maximum number of students.



No minimum/maximum duration of travel/stay abroad.

# PROGRAM DESIGN



## Level of Study

Students can be at any level of post-secondary education.

- ✓ Undergraduate
- ✓ Graduate
- ✓ Doctoral



## Student Credit

**Required:** Students must receive some level of credit from their home institution during or as a result of the proposed program.



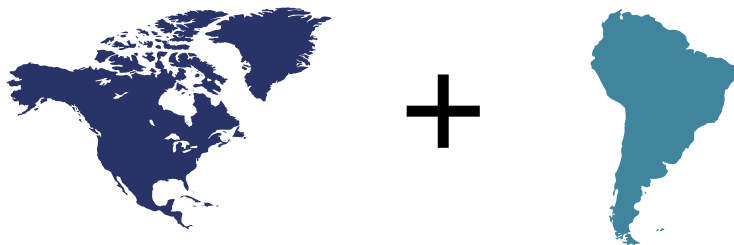
## Diverse Students

*Optional but encouraged:*  
Consider designing a program that includes/benefits underserved, non-traditional, and/or diverse student populations.

# PARTNERSHIPS



## How many institutions can be involved in my proposed project?



### Is an MOU required?

No, but you will be required to submit letters of support from all involved institutions.



### How many proposals can my institution submit?

There is no limit to the number of proposals that an institution can submit, however, it is unlikely that a single institution will receive more than one grant award in a single grant competition.



### Can I include companies, local government, or NGO partners in the project?

Yes, other non-HEI/community partners can participate in and support the project. They may not apply for a grant.



# CAMPUS ACTIVITIES





# HANDS-ON RESEARCH





# CULTURAL EXCURSIONS





# STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

Working in a team setting with people from different cultures and walks of life was the greatest experience.

El poder escuchar y aprender de primera mano junto a expertos en el tema ha sido una experiencia enriquecedora, lo que me ha inspirado a tratar de conocer mas sobre el tema.

These exchanges are important because they bridge a “gap” between cultures and break down stereotypes.

[These exchanges] give us a new vantage point into the lives of people living in another part of the world and make us more culturally sensitive.

# WHERE TO START?



**Join the Innovation Network**  
[www.100kstrongamericas.org/join/](http://www.100kstrongamericas.org/join/)



**Apply for a Grant**  
[www.100kstrongamericas.org/grants/](http://www.100kstrongamericas.org/grants/)



**Participate as a Reviewer**  
[www.100kstrongamericas.org/apply-to-be-a-reviewer/](http://www.100kstrongamericas.org/apply-to-be-a-reviewer/)

# STAY IN TOUCH WITH 100K

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Visit the **100K website** for general info, updates, and resources.



Follow Partners of the  
Americas on social media  
– our hashtag is  
**#100KSTRONGAMERICAS**



Email our team at  
**[100kstrongamericas@partners.net](mailto:100kstrongamericas@partners.net)**  
with any questions





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**QUESTIONS?**



[www.100kstrongamericas.org](http://www.100kstrongamericas.org)



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# THANK YOU!

