



Question & Answer Report

Informational Webinar: How to Apply for the 100K CLIMA/IE North America Innovation Fund Grant Competition

December 14, 2023

- 1. If the student does not have a visa, what type of visa is recommendable to apply for it? Are you going to offer letters to support her visa application?**

The 100K team does provide all grantees with a visa guidance document to prepare them for this process. We typically recommend the Visitor Visa (B1/B2) or Exchange Visitor Visa (J-1) for students, depending on the amount of time that the student is staying in the partner country. Although we cannot provide you with letters of support for their visas, we do also provide grantees with a template for an invitation letter, which should come from the U.S. institution.

- 2. My institution is Canadian institution, so does that mean that we'll receive the award letter from GAC?**

If you submit a proposal and are selected as a winner of this grant competition, your project will be in part funded by GAC, however your award letter will come from the 100,000 Strong in the Americas Innovation Fund at Partners of the Americas.

- 3. Are we expected to have a team where 1 institution is the lead organization and other 2 organizations are partner organizations? How is project management expected to be done?**

When submitting the proposal, the institution that submits the proposal on behalf of your team/partners will become the "primary" institution for your project. This will be the leading institution that will be responsible for receiving the funds, disbursing the funds between your partners, reporting on the project, and more. This will be the institution that the 100K team will be in contact with throughout the project implementation. Project management within the 100K-funded project can be set up however you and your partners decide works best for you.

- 4. How are indirect costs supposed to be split?**

We do not have requirements for how indirect costs should be split, only that they should be no more than 20% of the requested grant funds.

- 5. Can we have different type of cooperations with partners within the same project (eg with Mexican partner, a student exchange and the US partner faculty exchange)?**

Yes, you may propose different types of cooperations as long as you meet the requirements of having at least 1 U.S., 1 Mexican, and 1 Canadian institution in your team, student mobility in at least one direction, and academic credit being awarded to students who participate in the proposed program.



6. Can students who begin studying at our institutions in August 2024 participate in our programs or do they need to be students currently?

Yes, the project implementation period for this competition is May 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025. You may complete your project at any time during these months. Students will need to be enrolled at your institution at the time of project participation.

7. Is \$25,000 the total amount for all 3 institutions or is it \$25,000 per institution?

The total grant amount for each winning project is \$25,000. How the \$25,000 is split will be decided by your team and explained in the budget of your proposed project.

8. Is each individual required to join the Innovation Network or only one point of contact per institution?

We only require the contact from the primary institution that submits the proposal to register for the Innovation Network, however, any member of an institution who is interested can join the Innovation Network, whether there is another point of contact from your institution on the network or not.

9. The Mexican HEI I work at benefitted from an innovation fund grant in 2022 alongside a US HEI. Does this mean that we are already part of the 100K Exchange Network?

Not technically, we sent a message to the primary contacts that we had in our databases. You can check your email to see if you have any messages from 100K about the Exchange Network or you can join on our website at <https://www.100kstrongamericas.org/join/>.

10. Are we able to receive the link to T&C of the award/agreement, so we can take a look at them before we apply?

You may check the Request for Proposals (RFP) on our website, in English, French, and Spanish, to learn about specific terms, conditions, and responsibilities of this competition. Read the RFP at <https://www.100kstrongamericas.org/grants/>.

11. Who is supposed to apply on behalf of the team and which role does the person submitting the application have to have within the institution?

Any of the eligible institutions may submit the proposal/apply on behalf of the team; we do not have a preference for which institution submits. The person who applies on behalf of your team can be either a grants officer at your institution, or the project director (faculty or admin) who will be leading the proposed project.



12. Are the partner institutions submitting the same materials as the primary institution?

No, the primary institution will be the one submitting all necessary proposal materials. They will also be the institution in charge of sending the information request to their partners, including the letters of support from all involved HEIs. Partner institutions only need to submit their Partner Information Form.

13. Can we leverage existing mobility agreements and add a climate component to it?

Yes, you may expand on an existing partnership or program already established, as long as your proposal details how you will expand on the project and what you will use the grant funds for. The mobility portion should be tied to the Climate Action Project (CAP) in some way.

14. Could students be recruited for an in-person program before the start-date of the grant implementation?

You can begin recruitment efforts before the program itself begins, however you do have 11 months to implement the program (May 2024-March 2025).

15. Will there be 100K competitions beyond 2024?

Yes! The 100K Innovation Fund launches 2-4 competitions per year, in a variety of eligible themes and countries.

16. Are international students on study permit eligible to participate in our programs?

Yes, any student currently enrolled at your institution may participate in your proposed program.

17. Does participation in the exchange have to be for credit bearing courses or it is enough if the home institution validates the participation on the student's transcripts?

The students participating in your program must receive some form of academic credit as a result of their participation, this can be a letter grade (A,B,C..) or a pass/fail grade (credit/no credit).

18. Do you have any templates for the proposal? Where we can find them?

Yes, we do have templates for many aspects of the 100K proposal. You can find these templates and more information about the proposal format at <https://www.100kstrongamericas.org/app-format/>.