



How to Apply:

100,000 Strong in the Americas STEM Alliance Grant Competition

August 17, 2026



PARTNERS
of the AMERICAS



Agenda

Webinar: How to Apply to the 100K Strong STEM Alliance Grant Competition

- **Eligibility and Requirements**
- **Navigating the 100K Application Portal**

Benjamin Rauch

*Senior Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Officer,
100,00 Strong In the Americas Innovation Fund,
Partners of the Americas*

- **Lessons Learned to Partnership Building**

Dr. Richard Johnson

*Director, Center for Global Education and Engagement
Harper College
(100K Strong Grant Recipient)*

Overview

- 100,000 Strong in the Americas (100K) is a regional education initiative by the U.S. Department of State that aims to stimulates **cross-sector collaboration** among governments, industry, and academia to expand **regional educational cooperation** and increase access to innovative opportunities for educational exchange and workforce training in the the Western Hemisphere.
- The 100K Innovation Fund builds **institutional partnerships**, strengthens institutional **capacity**, and increases access to innovative, **student and faculty exchange and training** programs in the Americas.

100K Strong Program Highlights

2013 - 2026



352 grants awarded to teams of 618 HEIs



26 countries and 49 U.S. states



11,200 student beneficiaries



1,350+ grant proposals submitted



2,300+ HEIs in Innovation Network



Over \$20 million from public & private sectors to support the Innovation Fund



100K STRONG DONOR-PARTNERS



Global Affairs
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Affaires mondiales
Canada



Ciencias



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Grupo Energía Bogotá



Santander



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FORD FOUNDATION



Fundación
Televisa



Compartimos Sueños, Construimos Realidades.



Sempra Energy



Alcaldía de Medellín

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Agencia de Educación
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FREEPORT McMoRAN
COPPER & GOLD

100KSTRONGAMERICAS



Open Now!

100,000 STRONG IN THE AMERICAS

STEM *Alliance*
GRANT COMPETITION

Application Period

AUGUST 11 – OCTOBER 18, 2026

WWW.100KSTRONGAMERICAS.ORG [#100KSTRONGAMERICAS](https://twitter.com/100KSTRONGAMERICAS)





◆ Eligibility

◆ Eligible Countries



Required Partnership

1 U.S. HEI + 1 Central America/Caribbean HEI

UNITED STATES

All U.S. States & Territories



Institutions located in any U.S. state or territory are eligible.



CENTRAL AMERICA

- ◆ Belize
- ◆ Costa Rica
- ◆ El Salvador
- ◆ Guatemala
- ◆ Honduras
- ◆ Panama



CARIBBEAN

- ◆ Antigua & Barbuda
- ◆ Bahamas
- ◆ Barbados
- ◆ Dominican Republic
- ◆ Grenada
- ◆ Jamaica
- ◆ Saint Kitts & Nevis
- ◆ Suriname
- ◆ Trinidad & Tobago
- ◆ Saint Lucia
- ◆ Saint Vincent & the Grenadines



Available Grants



**10
Grants**

**\$32,000
USD**

◆ Eligible Thematic Areas



**Science,
Technology,
Engineering, and
Mathematics
(STEM)**

Critical Minerals

Artificial intelligence (AI)

Entrepreneurship

Food Sciences

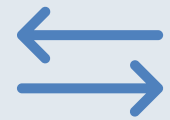
...and others.

***Read the RFP for more information!**



◆ Additional Requirements & Considerations

◆ Program Design



Student Mobility

- **In person travel required** in at least one direction.
 - *Bidirectional travel preferred*
- No minimum/maximum number of students.
- No minimum/maximum duration of stay.



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.

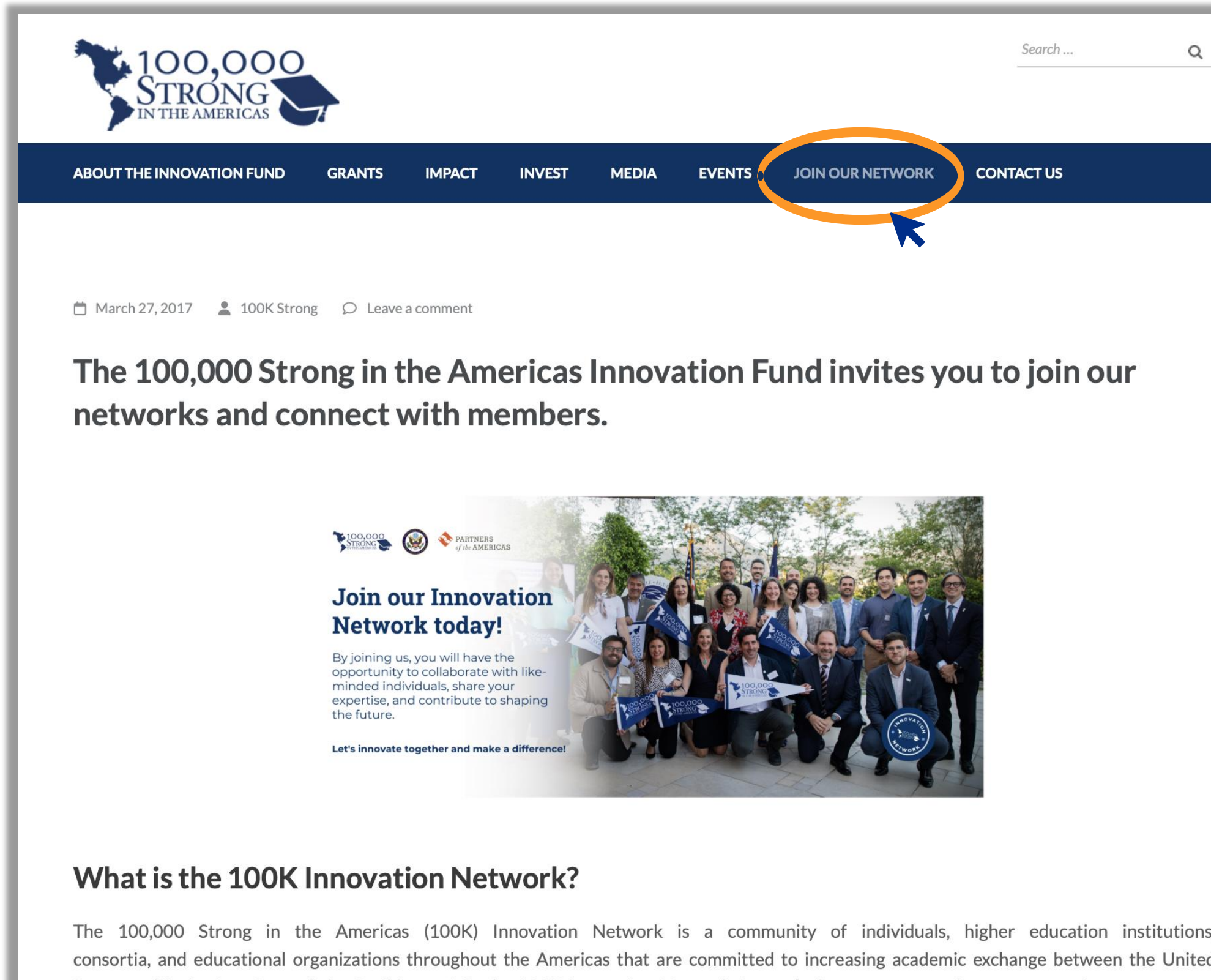


Inspiring **strategic partnerships** between colleges & universities
to increase **student mobility** and **training** in the Americas.

www.100kstrongamericas.org | #100KStrongAmericas

◆ How To Apply

◆ Join the Innovation Network



www.100kstrongamericas.org/join/



Connect with
2,300+ higher
education
institutions across
the Western
Hemisphere

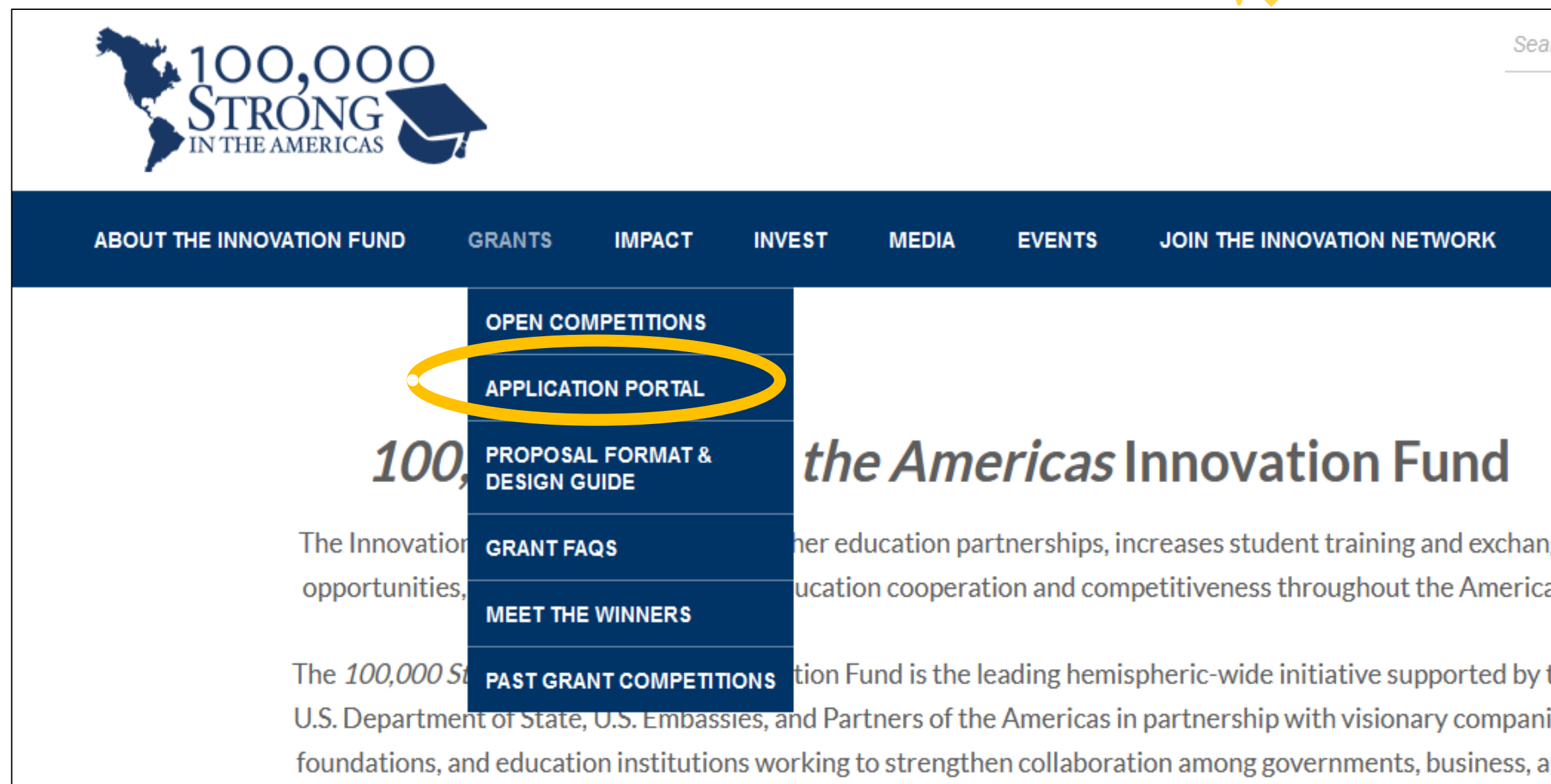


Receive news &
updates about
competitions,
conferences,
webinars, and more

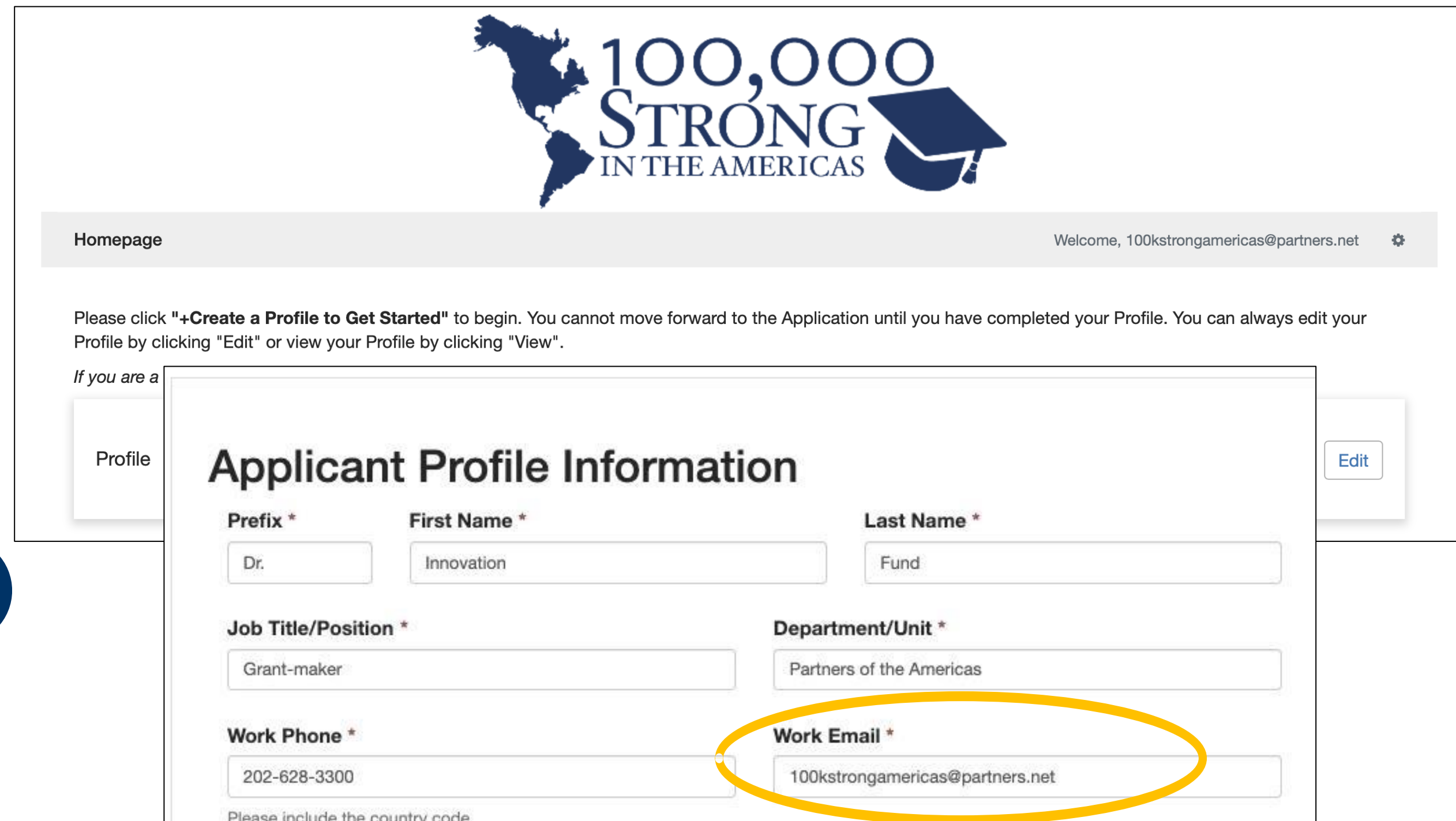
Step 1: Go to Application Portal



www.100kstrongamericas.org/application-portal/



Step 2: Create a Profile



100,000 STRONG IN THE AMERICAS

Homepage Welcome, 100kstrongamericas@partners.net

Please click **"Create a Profile to Get Started"** to begin. You cannot move forward to the Application until you have completed your Profile. You can always edit your Profile by clicking "Edit" or view your Profile by clicking "View".

If you are a

Profile Edit

Applicant Profile Information

Prefix *	First Name *	Last Name *
Dr.	Innovation	Fund
Job Title/Position *		Department/Unit *
Grant-maker		Partners of the Americas
Work Phone *	Work Email *	
202-628-3300	100kstrongamericas@partners.net	

Please include the country code

- Account can only be accessed via this email address.
- All communications will be sent to this email address.
 - *Make sure it's closely monitored!*

Step 3: Complete Required Tasks



Test University| -

Order by: Newest to Oldest ▾

Please complete the following tasks. When you have completed all steps, it will no longer state "Action Required." Instead, it will show "Complete".

☒ Grant Application

There are 41 hours remaining
to submit this.

Submit

When all required information is provided and all steps completed, the "Submit" button to the right will turn green, which means that your Application is ready for submission.

The Application will not be completed until you click the "Submit" button.

Warning: Once you click "Submit", your Application will no longer be available for edits.

1

Application Form

Action Required

Open

To begin or continue with the Application, please click the "Edit" button to the right.

Once you have completed the Application, you may return here to view or print your submission by clicking the "View" button to the right.

2

Partner Information Request

Action Required

Open

As part of the Application, you must provide at least one contact person at your partner institution(s), who will be collaborating with you on the implementation of your proposed project. This will be done by sending a request to your contact(s) to complete the required form.

To begin, please click the "Open" button to the right.

Partner Institution Information



Send request to your partner(s) as soon as they are identified, so that they have sufficient time to complete the form.

Partner Information Request

Close

Please use this screen to send and track your request(s) to your partner institution(s).
Click the **"New Request"** button to begin. [Click here to view a copy of the form that your partner\(s\) must complete.](#)
For questions about this form or process, please contact 100kstrongamericas@partners.net.

The minimum required requests have been sent. Please check back to ensure they have been completed.

Minimum required: 1 Maximum allowed: 100 Show: All **+ New Request**

Partners University	Sent 08/18/2020 11:13am EDT	Remind	View	Delete
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! This form is part of the application and must be completed by the deadline!

Application Form



Summary of Proposed Program

Program Goal & Objectives

Program Themes/Areas of Study

Partnering Institution(s)

of Students Traveling

Anticipated Travel Timeline

Description of Student Credit

Proposal Content



Application & all materials must be submitted in English

Technical Narrative (PDF)

- Cover Page
- Table of Contents
- Executive Summary
- Program Description
- Sustainability Plan
- Institutional Capacity, Challenges, and Opportunities for Growth
- Monitoring & Evaluation Plan

Budget Summary (Excel)

Budget Narrative (PDF)

Letters of Support (PDF)

Resumes/Bios of Project Directors (PDF)

(Optional) Additional Supporting Documents (PDF)



Grant Competition Timeline

ACTIVITY	DATES
Application Deadline	Sunday, October 18, 2026 by 11:59 pm
Proposal Evaluation	October 19 – November 30, 2026
Notification of Status of Proposal	By November 30, 2026
Award Period of Performance	January 1 – December 31, 2027

**Please note that these dates are subject to change.*



*Global Learning through Online
Virtual Exchange (GLOVE):
Transforming Teaching
and Training through
Immersive International
Education Experiences*



Harper College®



Dr. Richard Johnson

*Director, Center for Global
Education and Engagement
Harper College*



Building our Partnership

Our partnership began years before the proposal.

- Fulbright SIR from Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica, Campus Sarapiquí (UNA) at Harper (2018-19)
- Faculty and administrator exchanges
- Campus visits and delegations
- Collaborative internationalization initiatives
- Virtual exchange activities
- Development of an MoU



Strong proposals are built on strong relationships.

Finding Common Ground

Harper College

- First-generation student success
- Internationalization
- Global learning access



UNA

- Access for indigenous and underserved students
- International engagement
- Faculty development

-
- Expand access to global education
 - Promote virtual exchange
 - Create pathways to study abroad
 - Increase intercultural competence

Identify goals that matter equally to both institutions.

Proposal Development Process

HOW WE BUILT THE APPLICATION

- Small teams on each campus
- Multiple brainstorming sessions
- Shared priorities
- Common theme
- Activities around that theme
- Final editors

PRACTICAL ADVICE

- ✓ Start early
- ✓ Meet often
- ✓ Keep teams small
- ✓ Communicate consistently
- ✓ Involve grants staff
- ✓ Have a cool name/title



What Strengthened Our Proposal?

*How will this project
continue after the
grant ends?*

Four Elements Reviewers Like to See



Partnership: Existing relationship and prior collaboration



Innovation: VE + curriculum development + mobility + workforce skills



Access: First-generation and underrepresented students



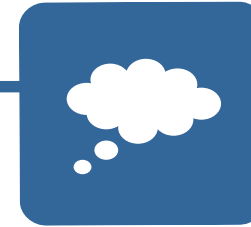
Sustainability: MoU, future exchanges, scholarships, and long-term program growth

◆ Lessons Learned & Final Advice



What Worked Well?

- Existing trust between partners
- Shared understanding of students and campuses
- Frequent communication
- Clear roles and responsibilities



What Would We Do Differently?

- Start earlier
- Engage campus grant team sooner
- Develop the budget alongside the program design

Successful 100K proposals are built on authentic partnerships, shared goals, and a clear vision for student impact.





How can I find a Partner Institution?



- Consult EducationUSA Advising Centers
<https://educationusa.state.gov/find-advising-center>



- Join the 100K Strong Innovation Network



- Connect with others from webinars!



- Contact us: 100kstrongamericas@partners.net

FAQs on Partnerships



1. How many partners can be included?
2. Can we build on an existing partnership?
3. Which institution should submit the application?

FAQs on Partnerships



4. What makes a strong partnership?

5. What communications practices have worked for you?

6. How did you divide project *responsibilities* (e.g., *funding management*)? Any cost-share expectations?



Questions?

Submit your questions
at

www.100kstrongamericas.org/questions/



Tips & Strategies

Consejos y estrategias

Join our upcoming webinars to learn how to develop your 100K Strong STEM Alliance proposal.



English

August 25, 2026
1:00 – 2:00 pm EDT



Spanish

August 27, 2026
1:00 – 2:00 pm EDT



Bilingual Q&A

September 15, 2026
1:00 – 2:00 pm EDT

Learn more:

www.100kstrongamericas.org/events/webinars/

UPCOMING WEBINARS



REGISTER NOW





100K Strong

 100kstrongamericas@partners.net

 www.100kstrongamericas.org

Harper College

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Thank you!