

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

**American Prosperity:
Foreign Investment Readiness Program**

NEA/Amman, Department of State

Opportunity number: PAS-JOR-FY25-006

Application deadline: September 1, 2025

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U.S Department of State
NEA/Amman
Notice of Funding Opportunity

A. Basic Information

1. Overview

Funding Opportunity Title	American Prosperity: Foreign Investment Readiness Program
Funding Opportunity Number	PAS-JOR-FY25-006
Announcement Type	Initial announcement
Deadline for Applications	11:59 p.m. Standard Jordan Time, September 1, 2025
Assistance Listing Number	19.040- Public Diplomacy Programs
Length of performance period	10 to 12 months
Number of awards anticipated	1 award
Award amounts	awards may range from a minimum of \$ 200,000 to a maximum of \$500,000 (approximately)
Total available funding	\$500,000 pending availability of funds
Type of Funding	FY25 Smith Mundt Public Diplomacy Funds
Anticipated project start date	September 30, 2025

Funding Instrument Type: Cooperative agreement. Cooperative agreements include substantial involvement of the bureau or embassy in program implementation of the project.

Project Performance Period: Proposed projects should be completed in 12 months or less.

This notice is subject to availability of funding.

2. Executive Summary

Priority Region: Jordan

Executive Summary

Jordan's entrepreneurial ecosystem has witnessed substantial growth, driven by local public and private investment, notable U.S. business deals, innovation accelerators, and a growing number of entrepreneurs. Yet the majority of promising ventures remain concentrated in local or regional markets, without meaningful benefit to the U.S. market. Jordanian entrepreneurs face challenges in building the relevant networks, regulatory understanding, and investment readiness needed to compete successfully in the United States and partner with U.S.

businesses. Programs such as SelectUSA Tech – a U.S. Department of Commerce-led initiative which offers Jordanian startups a critical pathway to engage with the American market – can be leveraged to expand Jordanian investment in the United States.

This initiative will help enable Jordanian entrepreneurial ventures with the capacity potential to transform into high-growth startups, by studying U.S. business models and programs to become investment ready in the United States. By equipping Jordanian entrepreneurs with the awareness, preparation, and advisory services to be accessible to the U.S. market, this initiative will enable them to scale, attract U.S. business partnerships, and drive innovation, while embracing America's example of business growth. Promoting U.S. excellence and prominence in business will strengthen ties and highlight the United States as Jordan's preferred economic partner in entrepreneurship and innovation. The initiative will create new trade and investment opportunities that advance American prosperity and feature U.S. values of enterprise, innovation, and rule of law. The initiative's aim is to promote private-sector growth and bolster America's commercial influence through partnerships with Jordanian startups.

The project's goal is to build a pipeline of scalable Jordanian entrepreneurial ventures to be introduced to U.S. markets through SelectUSA. It will build the capacity of 15 Jordan-based entrepreneurs from the technology sector and other targeted sectors through a two-phase investment readiness program. The first phase consists of a 10-week training portion in Jordan, and the second phase includes a three-week business promotion tour to targeted states in the United States. This tour will culminate in attendance at the 2026 SelectUSA Investment Summit. The program will also connect participants to official tech-focused spin-off events around the SelectUSA Summit, with the potential for the implementing partner to organize additional events. Using a competitive process, five finalists out of the 15 participants will be selected to join the three-week visit to the United States.

B. Eligibility

1. Eligible Applicants

The following organizations from the United States and Jordan are eligible to apply:

- *Not-for-profit organizations, including think tanks, educational institutions, and civil society/non-governmental organizations*
- *Public and private educational institutions*

2. Cost Sharing or Matching

Cost sharing is required for the final selected candidates/companies that will participate in the 2026 SelectUSA Investment Summit. Each participant is expected to cover their **registration fees for the Investment Summit**:

- **\$1,500** for general companies
- **\$755** for Tech Startups

The implementing partner must obtain written consent from participants acknowledging their responsibility for this cost-sharing requirement. Participants should be fully informed about this cost-sharing element **before** they begin the program. The above costs are estimates and are based on 2025 fees.

3. Other Eligibility Requirements

All organizations must have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) issued via SAM.gov as well as a valid registration in SAM.gov. Please see Section D.3 for more information. Individuals are not required to have a UEI or be registered in SAM.gov.

Applicants are only allowed to submit one proposal per organization. If more than one proposal is submitted from an organization, all proposals from that institution will be considered ineligible for funding.

Jordanian organizations are expected to comply with the Government of Jordan's foreign funding approval process.

C. Program Description

1. Goals and Objectives

Background

According to the Jordanian Department of Statistics, Jordan's unemployment rate stood at 21.5 percent in Q3 of 2024, while labor-force participation remains low at 34.3 percent. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which account for over 90 percent of Jordan's private sector and approximately 70 percent of employment, struggle to achieve export readiness and U.S. market competitiveness. A 2023 report by Oasis500 and Intaj found that fewer than 10 percent of Jordanian startups reported meaningful engagement with global markets. Even among those with regional traction, just six percent had a formal strategy for international engagement, citing

as key constraints knowledge gaps in foreign investment readiness, legal compliance, and intellectual property protection.

SelectUSA is a U.S. Department of Commerce-led program that facilitates and promotes business investment into the United States to create jobs, spur economic growth, and promote U.S. competitiveness. Participation from Jordan in **SelectUSA** programs is limited due to the smaller size of the country's private sector, as well as limited market preparedness and awareness about programs that encourage investment. This gap restricts commercial engagement and limits the depth of U.S. involvement in Jordan's economy.

Goal: The primary goal of this project is to leverage the almost-ready capacity of 15 Jordanian entrepreneurs from high-impact sectors, including **ICT (Information and Communication Technology)**, **Health Innovation**, **Agri-Tech**, and **Advanced Manufacturing**. Through a two-phased readiness training program, the project will enhance their engagement with the U.S. market, leading to increased investment and business growth. This program aims to foster a preference for and ability to form partnerships with American businesses.

Objective 1/Phase 1: Conduct a **ten-week** readiness training program for 15 Jordanian scalable business enterprises to enhance investment opportunities with the United States.

Key activities include the following:

- **Market Research and Analysis:** Training participants on how to conduct thorough research to understand varied U.S. markets, opportunity identification, localized markets and adaption of their products and services accordingly.
- **Regulatory Compliance:** Guidance on understanding U.S. business law, federal and state tax structures, intellectual property rights, and other relevant legal compliance areas.
- **Pitching Preparation:** Tailored coaching on developing a U.S. state or regional -market-specific pitch and refining business models for investor presentation. This includes participating in InvesTech, a local pitch competition organized by the Foreign Commercial Service Office at the U.S. Embassy in Amman at the end of phase 1 for the 15 participants to select **five (5)** finalists and **two (2)** alternates to go to the United States in phase 2. Additionally, the implementing partner must select five (5) alternate participants who will be ready to step in if any of the selected finalists are unable to attend for any reason, including inability to secure a U.S. visa.
- **Mentorship and Networking:** Startups will be matched with U.S.-based mentors and industry experts to help them develop a strategy for scaling their operations in the United States.

Objective 2/Phase 2: Organize a three-week business promotion tour to the United States for five (5) selected participants identified in Phase 1. The participants will tour a minimum of two or a maximum of three potential states for investment opportunities and attend the **2026 SelectUSA Investment Summit** to be held from **May 3-6, 2026**.

Note: It is recommended to first consider the **SelectUSA tech spin-offs** in different states when planning for the trip. If these events are not suitable for the cohort, the implementing partner may organize separate events tailored to the group's needs.

Key activities include the following:

- **Market Exploration:** Participants will visit a minimum of two or a maximum of three U.S. states to explore potential markets, meet investors, and identify growth opportunities.
- **SelectUSA Investment Summit:** The program will cover **travel expenses** for participants attending the **2026 SelectUSA Investment Summit**, including airfare, accommodation, and local transportation. However, participants are required to pay their own **registration fees for the Investment Summit**.

Note: The participants trip to the United States should culminate in attending the 2026 **SelectUSA Summit**.

- **U.S.-based Mentorship and Networking:** Continued mentorship will be provided, including introductions to U.S. partners, accelerators, and investors to build long-term relationships.

Objective 3/Phase 2: Conduct a communications campaign concurrently with the visit to the United States to highlight experiences of participants and investment opportunities, highlighting the United States as the preferred partner for Jordanian entrepreneurs.

Key activities include the following:

- **Highlight Participant Experiences:** As participants explore U.S. markets, their experiences and success stories will be shared in various media (social media posts, content, stories, etc.) to promote the program's impact, increase awareness of the investment opportunities available for Jordanian startups in the United States, while also showcasing American excellence in innovation and to promote American business.
- **Digital Content Creation:** Participants will create and share content (e.g., social media posts, videos) to highlight their experiences.
- **Eligibility Criteria for selecting 15 participants:**

Participants for the program must meet the following criteria:

- **Business Stage:** Applicants must operate a legally registered business (minimum of two years for established firms) including an early-stage startup with a viable product or service.

- **Growth Potential:** The startup must demonstrate clear growth potential, such as an established revenue stream, workforce expansion, or scalability of the product or service.
- **Market Expansion Readiness:** The participant must show intent to enter the U.S. market, either through **SelectUSA**, soft-landing accelerators, or direct investor engagement.
- **Sector Focus:** Preference will be given to businesses in high-impact sectors, aligned with U.S. priorities:
 - **ICT (Information and Communication Technology)**
 - **Health Innovation**
 - **Agri-Tech**
 - **Advanced Manufacturing**
- **Commitment:** Startups must demonstrate the ability to commit resources, including time and financial investment, to the program and U.S. market engagement.

Expected Outcomes:

- **Increased Awareness of U.S. Market Opportunities:**
 - **Outcome:** 90 percent of participants will gain a clear understanding of U.S. market opportunities relevant to their business by the end of phase 1 based on survey results.
- **Successful Completion of Readiness Training:**
 - **Outcome:** 100 percent of selected startups will successfully complete the 10-week readiness training program, gaining key knowledge on U.S. market entry based on their pitch presentations.
- **Enhanced Investment Readiness:**
 - **Outcome:** 80 percent of participants in phase 1 will refine their business models and value propositions to be more appealing to U.S. investors based on review of pitch presentations by a panel of experts.
- **Pitching Success:**
 - **Outcome:** 75 percent of participants will successfully pitch their businesses to selected U.S. judges consisting of businesspeople, investors or accelerators during the program's pre-pitching event.
- **Networking with U.S. Experts:**
 - **Outcome:** 100 percent of participants in phase 2 will have direct networking opportunities with at least two U.S.-based mentors or industry experts.
- **Forming U.S. Partnerships:**
 - **Outcome:** 50 percent of participants in phase 2 will form at least one meaningful business connection with a U.S.-based entity (e.g., investor, accelerator, partner).
- **Increased Access to Resources:**

- **Outcome:** 90 percent of participants will gain access to tools, resources, or U.S. market data to assist with expansion planning based on post activity metrics and review of businesses three months after return from SelectUSA.
- **Improved U.S. Market Strategy:**
 - **Outcome:** 85 percent of participants will have a refined market entry strategy for the United States by the end of the program.

Note: The implementing organization must establish a baseline at the start of the program to measure all these outcomes. This baseline will be thoroughly detailed in the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan to track progress and ensure accurate measurement of the outcomes.

Guidelines for drafting budget (what costs the award recipient will be expected to cover from the cooperative agreement):

- **Trainer Fees:** Payment for experts and trainers who will provide the 10-week readiness training.
- **Venue Rental:** Costs for securing space for in-person or virtual sessions.
- **Meals and Refreshments:** Budget for providing meals or refreshments during the training sessions (if applicable).
- **Training Materials:** Development and distribution of materials such as manuals, workbooks, or digital content.
- **Audio-Visual Aides:** Equipment and materials necessary for delivering the training effectively (e.g., projectors, microphones).
- **Supplies:** General materials needed for training sessions (e.g., stationery, handouts).
- **Travel Expenses:**
 - **International Travel:** Airfare for five participants traveling to the United States for the soft-landing program.
 - **Domestic Travel:** Costs for travel within the United States for 21 days (e.g., local transportation for site visits, meetings, and events).
- **Accommodation and Meals:**
 - **Lodging:** Hotel or alternative accommodations for the duration of the U.S. visit (21 days).
 - **Meals and Incidental Expenses:** Daily meal stipends and incidental expenses for participants during their stay in the United States.
- **Transportation:** Local transportation (e.g., taxis, buses) within the United States during the 3-week visit.
- **Participant Cost Share:**
 - Participants are required to cover their own **SelectUSA Summit registration fees:**
 - **General Company:** Approximately \$1,500 per participant
 - **Tech Startup:** Approximately \$757 per participant

2. Substantial Involvement

U.S. Embassy Amman Grants Team will be substantially involved in the following:

- **Participant Selection:**
 - The **Embassy Public Diplomacy (PD)** and **Foreign Commercial Services (FCS)** Sections will advise and approve participant criteria.
 - The **Embassy Public Diplomacy (PD)** and **Foreign Commercial Services (FCS)** Sections will actively participate in the selection panel for finalists from the pitching contest, ensuring alignment with U.S. priorities.
- **Training Program Review:**
 - The **PD Grants Officer** and **FCS** will collaborate in the review and approval of the training program's content and schedule, ensuring that the training aligns with U.S. market entry requirements and relevant industry standards.
- **Target Market and State Selection:**
 - The **PD Grants Officer** and **FCS** will be involved in reviewing and approving the target U.S. markets and states that participants will visit, ensuring strategic alignment with the goals of the program and U.S. economic interests.

D. Application Contents and Format

Please follow all instructions below carefully. Proposals that do not meet the requirements of this announcement or fail to comply with the stated requirements will be ineligible.

Content of Application

Please ensure:

- The proposal clearly addresses the goals and objectives of this funding opportunity
- All documents are in English
- All budgets are in U.S. dollars
- All pages are numbered
- All documents are formatted to fit 8 ½ x 11 paper, and
- All Microsoft Word documents are single-spaced, 12-point Calibri font, with a minimum of 1-inch margins.

The following documents are **required**:

1. Mandatory application forms

- SF-424 (Application for Federal Assistance – organizations) at <https://www.grants.gov/forms/forms-repository/sf-424-mandatory-family>

- SF-424A (Budget Information for Non-Construction programs) at <https://www.grants.gov/forms/forms-repository/sf-424-mandatory-family>
- SF-424B (Assurances for Non-Construction programs) at <https://www.grants.gov/forms/forms-repository/sf-424-mandatory-family> (Note: the SF-424B is only required for individuals, organizations exempt from registration, and for organizations not required to fully register in SAM.gov)

2. Summary Page

Cover sheet stating the applicant's name and organization, proposal date, program title, program period proposed start and end date, and brief purpose of the program.

3. Proposal (10 pages maximum)

The proposal should contain sufficient information that anyone not familiar with it would understand exactly what the applicant wants to do. You may use your own proposal format, but it must include all the items below.

- **Proposal Summary:** Short narrative that outlines the proposed project, including project objectives and anticipated impact.
- **Introduction to the Organization or Individual applying:** A description of past and present operations, showing ability to carry out the program, including information on all previous grants from the State Department and/or U.S. government agencies. **To be considered for funding under this opportunity, applicants MUST have demonstrable previous experience working in Jordan. This should be addressed within the project narrative.**
- **Problem Statement:** Clear, concise and well-supported statement of the problem to be addressed and why the proposed program is needed
- **Project Goals and Objectives:** The "goals" describe what the program is intended to achieve. The "objectives" refer to the intermediate accomplishments on the way to the goals. These should be achievable and measurable.
- **Project Activities:** Describe the program activities and how they will help achieve the objectives.
- **Project Methods and Design:** A description of how the program is expected to work to solve the stated problem and achieve the goal. Include a logic model as appropriate.
- **Proposed Project Schedule and Timeline:** The proposed timeline for the program activities. Include the dates, times, and locations of planned activities and events.
- **Key Personnel:** Names, titles, roles and experience/qualifications of key personnel involved in the program. What proportion of their time will be used in support of this program?
- **Project Partners:** List the names and type of involvement of key partner organizations and sub-awardees.
- **Risk Analysis:** All programs inherently contain both internal and external risks. However, with proper identification and management, risks can be prepared for, minimized or mitigated. The purpose of a risk analysis is to identify the internal and external risks associated with the proposed program in the application, rate the likelihood of the risks,

rate the potential impact of the risks on the program, and identify actions that could help mitigate the risks. Applicants should include all assumptions and external factors identified in the logic model in the risk analysis. Applicants should rate the likelihood of a risk and potential impact of the risk as “High,” “Medium,” or “Low.” Note: PAS Amman requires organizations to conduct adequate risk analysis and remediation throughout the life of a program and provide revisions to risk analysis documents and processes as necessary.

- **Media Outreach Plan:** Provide a clear plan for how the program activities will be shared with secondary audiences via social media and how partnership with the U.S. government will be made visible.
- **Project Monitoring and Evaluation Plan:** This is an important part of successful grants. Throughout the timeframe of the grant, how will the activities be monitored to ensure they are happening in a timely manner, and how will the program be evaluated to make sure it is meeting the goals of the grant?
- **Future Funding or Sustainability** Applicant’s plan for continuing the program beyond the grant period, or the availability of other resources, if applicable.

4. Budget Justification Narrative

After filling out the SF-424A Budget (above), use a separate file to describe each of the budget expenses in detail. See section *I. Other Information: Guidelines for Budget Submissions* below for further information.

NOTE: Applicants are strongly encouraged to use the same format as provided in the template, and to submit a budget summary and detailed line-item budgets in Excel form, and the Budget Narrative as either a PDF or Word file. If the applicant does not use the template, the applicant must ensure that their submission includes all elements outlined in the sample.

5. Attachments

- 1-page Curriculum Vitae (CV) or resume of key personnel who are proposed for the program
- Letters of support from program partners describing the roles and responsibilities of each partner
- If your organization has a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) and includes NICRA charges in the budget, include your latest NICRA as a PDF file.
- Official permission letters, if required for program activities.
- Documentation of non-profit or non-commercial status; organizations who fail to submit their non-profit registration will not be eligible.

E. Submission Requirements and Deadlines

1. Address to Request Application Package

Application forms required above are available at www.Grants.gov

2. Department of State Contacts

If you have any questions about the grant application process, please contact:
Ammangrants@state.gov.

3. Unique entity identifier and System for Award Management (SAM.gov)

Required Registrations

All organizations, whether based in the United States or in another country, must have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and an active registration in SAM.gov. A UEI is one of the data elements mandated by Public Law 109-282, the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA), for all Federal awards. An applicant must maintain an active registration while it has a proposal under review by the Department and must continue to keep the registration active for the entire duration of the period of performance of any Federal award that results from this NOFO.

The 2 CFR 200 requires subrecipients to obtain a UEI. Please note the UEI for subrecipients is not required at the time of application but will be required before an award is processed and/or directed to a subrecipient.

Note: The process of obtaining or renewing a SAM.gov registration may take anywhere from 4-8 weeks. Please begin your registration as early as possible.

- Organizations **based in the United States** or that pay employees within the United States will need an Employer Identification Number (EIN) from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and a UEI prior to registering in SAM.gov.
- Organizations **based outside of the United States** and that do not pay employees within the United States do not need an EIN from the IRS but do need a UEI prior to registering in SAM.gov.
- **Organizations based outside of the United States that do not intend to apply for U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) awards are no longer required to have a NATO Commercial and Government Entity (NCAGE) code to apply for non-DoD foreign assistance funding opportunities.** If an applicant organization is mid-registration and wishes to remove an NCAGE code from their SAM.gov registration, the applicant should submit a help desk ticket ("incident") with the Federal Service Desk (FSD) online at www.fsd.gov using the following language: "I do not intend to seek financial assistance from the Department of Defense. I do not wish to obtain an NCAGE code. I understand that I will need to submit my registration after this incident is resolved in order to have my registration activated."

Organizations based outside of the United States and that DO NOT plan to do business with the DoD should follow the below instructions:

Step 1: Proceed to SAM.gov to obtain a UEI and complete the SAM.gov registration process. SAM.gov registration must be renewed annually.

Organizations based outside of the United States and that DO plan to do business with the DoD in addition to Department of State should follow the below instructions:

Step 1: Apply for an NCAGE code by following the instructions on the NSPA NATO website linked below:

NCAGE Homepage:

<https://eportal.nspa.nato.int/AC135Public/sc/CageList.aspx>

NCAGE Code Request Tool (NCRT):

[NCAGE Code Request Tool \(nato.int\)](#)

Exemptions

An exemption from the UEI and sam.gov registration requirements may be permitted on a case-by-case basis. See [2 CFR 25.110](#) for a full list of exemptions.

Organizations requesting exemption from UEI or SAM.gov requirements must email the point of contact listed in the NOFO at least two weeks prior to the deadline in the NOFO providing a justification of their request. Approval for a SAM.gov exemption must come from the warranted Grants Officer before the application can be deemed eligible for review.

4. Submission Dates and Times

Applications are due no later than 11:59 p.m. Standard Jordan Time, September 1, 2025.

5. Funding Restrictions

- i. Funding Restrictions for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA)

None of the funds awarded resulting from this Notice of Funding Opportunity may be made available for subawards, direct financial support, or otherwise used to provide any payment or transfer to United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA).

- ii. Certification Regarding Compliance with applicable Federal anti-discrimination laws

If the place of performance or delivery of any award made under this NOFO will be within the United States, applicants are advised that they will be required to certify the following at the time of award:

1) Its compliance in all respects with all applicable Federal anti-discrimination laws is material to the government's payment decisions for purposes of section 3729(b)(4) of title 31, United States Code and;

2) It does not operate any programs promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion that violate any applicable Federal anti-discrimination laws. A program promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion means a program whose purpose is to promote preferences based on race, color religion, sex, or national origins, such as in training or hiring.

iii. Certification Regarding Compliance with 20 U.S.C. 1011f and any other applicable foreign funding disclosure requirements. Applicants are advised that Institutes of Higher Education (IHEs) must certify the following at the time of award, and that this certification requirement must be included in any subaward agreements to IHEs:

1) Its compliance in all respects with section 1011f of title 20, United States Code, and any other applicable foreign funding disclosure requirements is material for purposes of section 3729 of title 31, United States Code, and for receipt of appropriate Federal grant funds.

6. Other Submission Requirements

All application materials must be submitted by **email** to Ammangrants@state.gov. Applications submitted via Grants.gov will **not** be accepted.

F. Application Review Information

1. Review Criteria

Each application will be evaluated and rated based on the evaluation criteria outlined below.

Quality and Feasibility of the Program Idea – 20 points: The program idea is well developed, with detail about how program activities will be carried out. The proposal includes a reasonable implementation timeline.

Organizational Capacity and Record on Previous Grants – 20 points: The organization has expertise in its stated field and has the internal controls in place to manage federal funds. This includes a financial management system and a bank account.

Program Planning/Ability to Achieve Objectives – 15 points: Goals and objectives are clearly stated and program approach is likely to provide maximum impact in achieving the proposed results.

Budget – 10 points: The budget justification is detailed. Costs are reasonable in relation to the proposed activities and anticipated results. The budget is realistic, accounting for all necessary expenses to achieve proposed activities.

Monitoring and evaluation plan – 15 points: Applicant demonstrates it is able to measure program success against key indicators and provides milestones to indicate progress toward goals outlined in the proposal. The program includes output and outcome indicators and shows how and when those will be measured.

Sustainability – 10 points: Program activities will continue to have positive impact after the end of the program.

Cost Sharing- 10 points: Cost sharing is required for the final five selected candidates/companies that will participate in the 2026 SelectUSA Investment Summit. Each participant is expected to cover their **registration fees for the Investment Summit**

2. Review and Selection Process

A review committee will evaluate all eligible applications.

3. Risk Review

i. Risk factors

Under the merit review as required by 2 CFR 200.206, prior to making a Federal Award the Department will review and consider the following risk factors:

- a. Financial stability
- b. Management systems and standards
- c. History of performance
- d. Audit reports and findings
- e. Ability to effectively implement requirements

ii. Responsibility/Qualification Information in SAM.gov

The Federal awarding agency, prior to making a Federal award with a total amount of Federal share greater than the simplified acquisition threshold, is required to review and

consider any information about the applicant that is in the U.S. government designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM.gov (see 41 U.S.C. 2313)

An applicant can review and comment on any information in the responsibility/qualification records available in SAM.gov.

Before making decisions in the risk review required by 2 CFR 200.206, the Department will consider any comments by the applicant, along with information available in the responsibility/qualification records in SAM.gov.

G. Award Notices

The award or cooperative agreement will be written, signed, awarded, and administered by the Grants Officer. The award agreement is the authorizing document, and it will be provided to the recipient for review and counter-signature. The recipient may only start incurring project expenses beginning on the start date shown on the award document signed by the Grants Officer.

If a proposal is selected for funding, the Department of State has no obligation to provide any additional future funding. Renewal of an award to increase funding or extend the period of performance is at the discretion of the Department of State.

Issuance of this NOFO does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the U.S. government, nor does it commit the U.S. government to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals. Further, the U.S. government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals received.

Unsuccessful applicants: Unsuccessful applicants will be notified by **October 1, 2025** via email.

Payment Method:

Recipients will be required to request payments by completing form SF-270—Request for Advance or Reimbursement and submitting the form to the Grants Officer.

H. Post-Award Requirements and Administration

1. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Before submitting an application, applicants should review all the terms and conditions and required certifications which will apply to this award, to ensure that they will be able to comply.

These include:

In accordance with the Office of Management and Budget's guidance located at 2 CFR part 200, all applicable Federal laws, and relevant Executive guidance, the Department of State will review and consider applications for funding, as applicable to specific programs, pursuant to this notice of funding opportunity in accordance with the following: NOTE:

- [Guidance for Grants and Agreements in Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations](#) (2 CFR), as updated in the Federal Register's 89 FR 30046 on April 22, 2024, particularly on:
 - Selecting recipients most likely to be successful in delivering results based on the program objectives through an impartial process of evaluating Federal award applications (2 CFR part 200.205),
 - Promoting the freedom of speech and religious liberty in alignment with *Promoting Free Speech and Religious Liberty* (E.O. 13798) and *Improving Free Inquiry, Transparency, and Accountability at Colleges and Universities* (E.O. 13864) (§§ 200.300, 200.303, 200.339, and 200.341),
 - Providing a preference, to the extent permitted by law, to maximize use of goods, products, and materials produced in the United States (2 CFR part 200.322), and
 - Terminating agreements pursuant to the U.S. Department of State Standard Terms and Conditions, including, to the greatest extent authorized by law, if an award no longer effectuates the program goals or agency priorities (2 CFR part 200.340).
- [2 CFR 25 - UNIVERSAL IDENTIFIER AND SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT](#)
- [2 CFR 170 - REPORTING SUBAWARD AND EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION INFORMATION](#)
- [2 CFR 175 - AWARD TERM FOR TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS](#)
- [2 CFR 182 - GOVERNMENTWIDE REQUIREMENTS FOR DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE \(FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE\)](#)
- [2 CFR 183 - NEVER CONTRACT WITH THE ENEMY](#)
- [2 CFR 600 – DEPARTMENT OF STATE REQUIREMENTS](#)
- [U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS](#)

2. Reporting

Reporting Requirements: Recipients will be required to submit semi-annual financial reports and performance progress reports. The award document will specify what reports are required and how often these reports must be submitted.

Foreign Assistance Data Review: As required by Congress, the Department of State must make progress in its efforts to improve tracking and reporting of foreign assistance data through the Foreign Assistance Data Review (FADR). The FADR requires tracking of foreign assistance activity data from budgeting, planning, and allocation through obligation and disbursement. Successful applicants will be required to report and draw down federal

funding based on the appropriate FADR Data Elements, indicated within their award documentation. In cases of more than one FADR Data Element, typically program or sector and/or regions or country, the successful applicant will be required to maintain separate accounting records.

I. Other Information

Guidelines for Budget Justification

Personnel and Fringe Benefits: Describe the wages, salaries, and benefits of temporary or permanent staff who will be working directly for the applicant on the program, and the percentage of their time that will be spent on the program.

Travel: Estimate the costs of travel and per diem for this program, for program staff, consultants or speakers, and participants/beneficiaries. If the program involves international travel, include a brief statement of justification for that travel.

Equipment: Describe any machinery, furniture, or other personal property that is required for the program, which has a useful life of more than one year (or a life longer than the duration of the program), and costs at least \$10,000 per unit.

Supplies: List and describe all the items and materials, including any computer devices, that are needed for the program. If an item costs more than \$10,000 per unit, then put it in the budget under Equipment.

Contractual: Describe goods and services that the applicant plans to acquire through a contract with a vendor. Also describe any sub-awards to non-profit partners that will help carry out the program activities. **Other Direct Costs:** Describe other costs directly associated with the program, which do not fit in the other categories. For example, shipping costs for materials and equipment or applicable taxes. **All “Other” or “Miscellaneous” expenses must be itemized and explained.**

Indirect Costs: These are costs that cannot be linked directly to the program activities, such as overhead costs needed to help keep the organization operating. If your organization has a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate (NICRA) and includes NICRA charges in the budget, attach a copy of your latest NICRA. Organizations that have never had a NICRA may request indirect costs of 15% of Modified Total Direct Costs as defined in 2 CFR 200.1.

“Cost Sharing” refers to contributions from the organization or other entities other than the U.S. Embassy. It also includes in-kind contributions such as volunteers’ time and donated venues.

Alcoholic Beverages: Please note that award funds cannot be used for alcoholic beverages.