



Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

YSEALI Summit 2026

U.S. Embassy Manila, Department of State

Opportunity number: OFOP0002771

Application deadline: July 6, 2026

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**U.S Department of State
U.S. Embassy Manila, Public Diplomacy Section
Notice of Funding Opportunity**

A. BASIC INFORMATION

1. Overview

Funding Opportunity Title	YSEALI Summit 2026
Funding Opportunity Number	OFOP0002771
Announcement Type	Initial Announcement
Deadline for Applications	July 6, 2026 11:59 p.m. Philippine Standard Time
Assistance Listing Number	19.452 (International Exchange Alumni Programs)
Length of performance period	12 to 15 months
Number of awards anticipated	1 award
Award amounts	\$200,000 - \$300,000
Total available funding	\$300,000 pending availability of funds
Type of Funding	FY25/26 Fulbright-Hays Funding
Anticipated project start date	September 1, 2026

Funding Instrument Type: Cooperative Agreement

Project Performance Period: Proposed projects should be completed in 15 months or less.

The Department of State will entertain applications for continuation grants funded under these awards beyond the initial budget period on a non-competitive basis subject to availability of funds, satisfactory progress of the program, and a determination that continued funding would be in the best interest of the U.S. Department of State.

This notice is subject to availability of funding. The Public Diplomacy Section reserves the right to award less or more than the funds described under circumstances deemed to be in the best interest of the U.S. government, pending the availability of funds and approval of the designated grants officer.

2. Executive Summary

The U.S. Department of State’s Embassy Manila announces an open competition to implement a program to hold the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) Summit 2026 in Manila, Philippines. The in-person program advances U.S. strategic interests in the Indo-Pacific by promoting regional security, peace, and stability. By building awareness of and spurring action on regional security issues, including maritime, cyber, and energy security, the program will help advance a free and open Indo-Pacific for the combined one billion people of the United States and Southeast Asia.

YSEALI is the flagship U.S. government initiative in Southeast Asia. Nearly 8,000 individuals have participated in YSEALI academic or professional fellowship exchanges, attended regional workshops, or implemented a small grant. Since 2016, the Department of State has convened competitively-selected YSEALI alumni for an annual summit to spur action around U.S. priorities.

The successful applicant will provide a compliant plan for facilitating the substance of a six-day regional security-focused workshop (including two travel days) supporting 100 participants from the 11 ASEAN countries and potential additional self-funded participants.

B. ELIGIBILITY

1. Eligible Applicants

The following organizations are eligible to apply:

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

For-profit entities, even those that may fall into the categories listed above, are **not** eligible to apply for this NOFO. Organizations may sub-contract with other entities, but only one, non-profit, non-governmental entity can be the prime recipient of the award. When sub-contracting with other entities, the responsibilities of each entity must be clearly defined in the proposal. For more information on the difference between sub-contract and sub-recipient, please refer to 2 CFR 200.[331](#).

2. Cost Sharing or Matching

There is no minimum or maximum percentage of cost sharing required for this program.

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 E.3 for more information.

Organizations may only submit one proposal as the primary applicant. If more than one proposal is submitted from an organization, all primary proposals from that institution will be considered ineligible for funding under this funding opportunity. Secondary members applying as part of a consortium may participate in multiple application packages, including as a primary applicant on one package.

4. This opportunity will not support:

- Projects relating to partisan political activity;
- Charitable or development activities; including direct social services such as medical, psychological, and/or humanitarian support
- Construction projects;
- Projects that support specific religious activities;
- Fund-raising campaigns;
- Lobbying for specific legislation or programs
- Scientific research or surveys;
- Commercial projects;
- Projects intended primarily for the growth or institutional development of the organization;
- Projects that duplicate existing projects;
- Illegal activities

C. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

1. Project Background, Goals, and Objectives

The Department of State Agency Strategic Plan prioritizes peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region (Goal 3) with a strong focus on regional security, resilient prosperity, and deeper ties with allies and partners. YSEALI Summit 2026 in Manila will support these priorities by equipping emerging leaders to strengthen regional security and help their societies see the United States as the partner of choice for security and economic opportunity.

YSEALI Summit 2026 will bring together exchange alumni who have demonstrated a commitment to:

- Promoting peace through strength and effective deterrence;
- Advancing maritime, cyber, and energy security; and
- Supporting economic growth that strengthens societies and national resilience.

The summit will help participants design and carry out projects that strengthen regional security cooperation and show how working with the United States can help protect sovereignty, enhance stability, and promote peace in their countries.

The six-day (including two travel days) event in Metro Manila will include:

1. **Plenary sessions and panel discussions** on Indo-Pacific security, with a focus on maritime domain awareness, transnational security threats, energy and critical infrastructure protection, and the role of reliable supply chains in supporting regional security.
2. **A day of small group dialogues and breakout sessions** that produce regional and country-specific action plans focused on strengthening security, improving public understanding of security challenges, and deepening practical security cooperation with the United States.
3. **An experiential “security in action” day** with site visits that show regional security efforts on the ground, such as maritime operations, transnational and financial crime units, critical infrastructure and energy sites, U.S. foreign assistance security initiatives, and/or U.S. commercial projects that contribute to a more secure region.
4. **A U.S.-ASEAN Futures fair** where university students engage with summit participants and U.S. diplomats on regional security policy and cooperation with the United States.
5. **Short-form and long-form video and other digital products** that share summit messages with wider audiences, emphasizing how U.S. leadership in maritime, cyber, energy, and other fields strengthens regional security and benefits people in the Indo-Pacific and the United States.

Project Audience:

Primary Audience:

At least 100 competitively selected early to mid-career professionals who are YSEALI alumni from the 11 ASEAN member states. Participants should:

- Work on or influence issues related to maritime security, cyber and information security, energy security, critical minerals and supply chains, or related economic security topics;
- Demonstrate a track record of mentoring others and speaking to public or professional audiences; and
- Exhibit leadership and communication skills, and the ability to build networks and inspire others to strengthen their societies' security and well-being.

Secondary Audiences:

- The general public in the Philippines and across Southeast Asia via traditional and social media content focusing on regional security, economic resilience, and the benefits of partnership with the United States.
- University students in Metro Manila, especially those studying international relations, military affairs, law, law enforcement, maritime studies, economics, engineering, cybersecurity, data science, and other STEM fields related to regional security and competitiveness.

Tertiary Audiences:

- The expected 8-15 mentors and resource speakers, including U.S. and ASEAN government officials, private sector leaders, and civil society experts, who will both inform and be informed by YSEALI alumni perspectives.

Project Goal:

- The project should result in coordinated, concrete exchange alumni-led actions and leadership that strengthen regional security and economic resilience such as maritime, cyber, and energy security, contributing to a free and open Indo-Pacific and deepening partnership with the United States.

Project Objectives:

- **Objective 1: Strengthen Understanding and Alignment on Regional Security:** By the end of the summit, participants will have a clearer understanding of U.S. priorities on regional security, especially maritime security, cyber and information security, energy and infrastructure protection, and secure supply chains, and will be ready to develop and lead regional initiatives that support these security goals.
 - **Activity 1.1. - Plenary Remarks and Strategic Discussions:** U.S. and Southeast Asian speakers will deliver remarks, give presentations, and participate in panel discussions on:
 - How peace through strength and strong alliances help deter conflict and protect sovereignty.
 - How governments, the public, and the private sector can work together to counter transnational organized crime and cybercrime that weaken national security, undermine economic growth, and victimize people.
 - How secure energy systems and reliable access to critical minerals support stable societies and reduce vulnerabilities that adversaries can exploit.
 - How U.S. cooperation in infrastructure, digital technology, and maritime capacity building supports regional security and helps countries protect their people and territory.

Success will look like:

- At least 70% of summit participants report a better understanding of how U.S. security and economic policies in Southeast Asia help protect their countries' sovereignty and stability.
- At least 70% of summit participants report greater confidence in mentoring others on key regional security topics, including maritime, transnational crime, and energy security.

- **Activity 1.2 - Experiential Visits to Deepen Knowledge on Regional Security:** Participants will take day trips to sites that demonstrate how security cooperation works in practice and how economic engagement advances sovereignty, peace, and prosperity. Possible sites may include:
 - Military or law enforcement facilities involved in maritime patrols, Illegal Underreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing enforcement, or domain awareness, with simple hands-on activities (e.g., basic vessel-tracking or scenario walk-throughs) so participants learn by doing.
 - NOTE: Applicants are not encouraged to contact military and law enforcement authorities during the proposal phase, but can and should demonstrate prior activities in relevant areas, as applicable. See Section 3 “Substantial Involvement” for more information on coordination with the U.S. Embassy in the Philippines.
 - Cyber or law-enforcement units working against cyber-enabled financial crime, including brief interactive demos of common scams and basic open-source checks.
 - Energy, critical minerals, or logistics sites involving U.S. companies, paired with practical exercises (e.g., mapping simple supply chains or spotting basic risk points).
 - Sites or memorials highlighting the U.S.-Philippines alliance, combined with guided discussions or small group problem solving on how allied cooperation responds to crises at sea and on shore.

Where possible, visits will include scenario-based discussions on how participants can turn lessons into concrete security-focused initiatives and communication efforts in their home countries.

Success will look like:

- At least 70% of summit participants report that the visits improved their understanding of regional security issues and the relationship between regional security and broader prosperity

and freedoms.

- At least 70% of summit participants report that the visits strengthened their view of the United States as the partner of choice for regional security.
 - At least 50% of summit participants report that the visits directly shaped their summit action plans.
- **Activity 1.3 – Develop and Implement Action Plans to Advance Regional Security:** Participants will form working groups to develop post-summit action plans that support regional security priorities. Plans should:
 - Address specific security challenges such as systemic risks, transnational crime, and unsafe maritime practices.
 - Support economic activity in ways that make societies stronger and more resilient to crime and coercion.
 - Include communication activities that raise public awareness of these security issues and explain how cooperation with the United States and regional partners helps address them.

Teams will pitch their action plans to a panel of judges, and the top three teams will receive micro-grants for implementation. All action plans should be able stand on their own, drawing on alumni's existing roles and networks and a mix of local, regional, and private sector partners. U.S. Government support will primarily be collaborative or in-kind, so teams should diversify sources of support and realistic next steps. Each plan should include quick wins, intermediate milestones, and long-term goals. Success will look like:

- Three top teams receive micro-grants (sub-awards) to fully implement their action plans by June 30, 2027, with at least two formal briefings to both U.S. Embassy Manila and U.S. Mission to ASEAN teams on progress, challenges, and lessons learned.
- The three top teams develop and execute a communications plan that include at least one public event or media product that:

- Addresses harmful behaviors (e.g. unsafe maritime conduct, military or security incidents that threaten societal cohesion, or misleading information about regional security); or
- Shows how cooperation with the United States and regional partners helps protect people and economies beginning at the local level.
- The three top teams showcase their projects and results to relevant stakeholders including home country government officials, civil society leaders, and private sector partners through at least one targeted briefing or meeting. Success will look like:
 - At least 50 percent of non-funded teams take meaningful steps to implement parts of their action plans by June 30, 2027.
 - At least 50 percent of “quick win” activities across all action plans are finish by June 30, 2027, with evidence that they have increased public awareness of regional security challenges or strengthened cooperation with U.S. or regional security efforts.
- **Objective 2: Present the United States as ASEAN’s Comprehensive Strategic Partner to the Next Generation of Leaders:** Show the depth and breadth of U.S. engagement in Southeast Asia as ASEAN’s Comprehensive Strategic Partner by collaborating with at least **five U.S. companies** in key industries that demonstrate U.S. leadership in regional security, reaching **200 students** with in-person engagements, and achieving at least **one million organic views** through summit-related social media content.
 - **Activity 2.1 – U.S.-ASEAN Fair:** Summit participants will present their team action plans at the fair, with U.S. company representatives acting as judges and university students participating in voting/supporting the action plans, with the top three action plans awarded a micro-grant for implementation. The fair should also feature speakers, including a speaker about the 80th anniversary of the

U.S.-Philippine diplomatic relationship and a speaker on the U.S.-ASEAN 50th anniversary, the relevant Comprehensive Strategic Partnerships, and cultural performers. Commercial representatives should also address the group. Success will look like:

- At least 70% of surveyed fair attendees report increased awareness of American contributions to ASEAN countries.
 - At least 70% of surveyed fair attendees report more favorable perceptions of U.S.-ASEAN relations.
 - At least 70% of surveyed fair attendees report increased awareness of regional security issues.
- **Activity 2.2 - Closing Ceremony:** Summit participants will highlight the key takeaways from the summit. Speakers and cultural performers should participate in the closing ceremony. Success will look like:
 - At least 70% of summit participants report that the closing ceremony accurately conveyed the summit experience.
 - At least 70% of surveyed fair attendees report the closing ceremony energized them to continue working with the U.S. Department of State.
- **Activity 2.3 - Social and Traditional Media Content:** Applicants should propose a series of at least three medium-to-long form videos for social media and multiple short-form social media videos to showcase summit outcomes and key regional security topics. Applicants should also have a track record of engaging traditional media. Success will look like:
 - The summit generates at least 20 reports in Philippine print and broadcast media and another 10 in other ASEAN media outlets.
 - Summit-specific social media content achieves a collective total of at least one million organic views.
 - Applicants are encouraged to include in their budget proposals any necessary online applications and

platforms that would assist with collecting social media data.

- Applicants may include in their proposed budgets funding allocations for social media advertising.

2. Program Specific Guidelines

The proposal should fully integrate program goals and objectives throughout its design and implementation. It should also demonstrate relevant regional and thematic expertise. Award recipients must coordinate closely with U.S. Embassy Manila to ensure program design and implementation advance American foreign policy objectives, including the recruitment and selection of participating YSEALI Alumni.

2b. Participants

The YSEALI Summit will bring together 100 YSEALI alumni, which includes alumni from the U.S.-based YSEALI Professional and Academic Fellowship programs, YSEALI regional workshops, YSEALI Women's Leadership Academy, and the YSEALI Seeds for the Future competition winners.

There is no age minimum or maximum, but the expectation is that most participants will be working professionals. Program participants are YSEALI alumni who travel from their ASEAN member state of residence (Brunei, Burma/Myanmar, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam) to or within the Philippines under cooperative agreement funding. The award recipient will coordinate with the U.S. Department of State to recruit YSEALI alumni as participants of the YSEALI Summit. The application to participate in the YSEALI Summit will be open on a competitive, merit basis to all categories of alumni. Competitive applicants will demonstrate their substantial involvement in projects that have had a considerable impact in their communities, countries, or the region based on their YSEALI experience. Projects that demonstrate active regional engagement or strengthen partnerships between the United States and ASEAN will receive special consideration. Each U.S. Embassy will review and approve applicant shortlists for their countries.

Employees of the U.S. Department of State, the recipient, subaward recipients, and/or contractors are not eligible to benefit from the program as participants but may contribute to the program as facilitators or resource speakers.

Proposals must support approximately 100 participants and 8-15 resource speakers from ASEAN member countries and/or the United States. Nationals from other countries may be considered on a case-by-case basis to serve as resource speakers.

2c. Overview of key program components

All proposals should contain detailed information related to the following key program components.

Program Promotion and Outreach – The recipient will develop a public communication plan that includes managing a program website, creating informational documents, and developing and managing official program social media accounts in line with U.S. government branding requirements

Recruitment and Selection – The recipient will create and disseminate recruitment materials, develop and manage an online, mobile-friendly application system, and create an application scoring system to ensure a fair and open competition. The applicant must demonstrate that it has the internal capacity and expertise to carry out recruitment and related activities directly, without reliance on an in-country partner.

Virtual Program Launch / Pre-Departure Orientations (PDOs) – The recipient will develop and host at least one virtual pre-departure orientation for summit participants. The PDO(s) should prepare the participants for their summit experience and include elements related to program goals, expectations, and health and safety information. PDO planning and execution should take place in collaboration with the Public Diplomacy Section of U.S. Embassy Manila. The recipient may compensate resource speakers and delivery of thematic content with a reasonable honorarium but this is not a requirement.

Safety – The recipient will develop and implement a plan to monitor the health, safety, and welfare of summit participants, including identifying adequate resources to respond to potential emergencies. The recipient is responsible for promptly informing U.S. Embassy Manila regarding any program or participant issues or emergencies and any actions the recipient takes to address these.

Post Summit Support – The recipient will provide adequate mentorship support for the alumni groups as they implement their summit action plans. The recipient will monitor their progress. The recipient will design and produce media and communication materials that highlight summit outcomes and success stories featuring the participants – including short impact videos and related digital

content – to showcase achievements, demonstrate results, and communicate the summit’s contribution to U.S. foreign policy objectives and compliance with Department of State branding and communication standards.

3. Substantial Involvement

The U.S. Embassy anticipates awarding a cooperative agreement and will undertake reasonable and programmatically necessary substantial involvement.

U.S. Embassy Roles and Responsibilities

Examples of substantial involvement include but are not limited to:

- **Government Approvals** - The Embassy will coordinate the participation of and necessary approvals by U.S. government agencies, the Government of the Philippines (aside from routine permitting), and diplomatic missions in Southeast Asia. The Embassy’s role includes coordinating on matters related to the security of the summit and its attendees, as well as site visits with partner government agencies. U.S. Embassy Manila will coordinate with the U.S. Mission to ASEAN and other U.S. missions on Summit follow-on activities;
- **Vetting and Selection of Summit Participants, Mentors, Speakers, and Implementation Partners** - The Embassy will review and approve the final selection of participants, site visits, mentors and resource speakers, in coordination with other U.S. Embassies and the Department of State, as needed. The Embassy will coordinate with the Government of the Philippines and other Diplomatic missions on the chosen implementer’s behalf;
- **Program Materials** – The Embassy will review and approve all program materials, including but not limited to a communications plan that outlines a traditional and social media strategy for public announcements, press releases, social media kits, and website design, for example.;
- **Sub-Awards and Action Plans** – The Embassy will review and approve any sub-awards not included in the original proposal, including but not limited to the selection of both action plans whether they do or do not receive further U.S. Government funding.

- **Lodging** – The Embassy will review and approve proposed lodging based on single occupancy for safety and suitability.

Recipient Roles and Responsibilities

- **Participant Recruitment** – develop and implement a recruitment strategy for YSEALI alumni from across the region, including outreach materials, application management, and selection criteria.
- **Mentor Engagement and Oversight** - Identify, vet, and manage — including travel arrangements — at least 10 mentors. Mentors must be alumni of U.S. international exchange programs with a minimum of five (5) years of professional experience. They are expected to participate for at least two (2) days to join panel discussions and facilitate consultation sessions with participants on their action plans.
- **Communications and Visibility** – develop outreach materials, branding, documentation, and social media content aligned with U.S. government public diplomacy guidelines.
- **Curriculum Development** – design a comprehensive curriculum for the plenary and relevant thematic working groups, including learning objectives, session sequencing, and expected outputs. Develop a comprehensive calendar of milestones before, during, and after the summit.
- **Field Exposure Activity** – design and coordinate relevant institutional visits (e.g., policy institute, energy facility, maritime operations center, cybersecurity center) to reinforce workshop themes.
- **Participant Support** – provide pre-departure information, orientation materials, safeguarding protocols, and on-site support throughout the workshop.
- **Expert/Speaker Engagement** – identify, vet, and manage speakers, facilitators, and resource personnel for all thematic areas. Support selected experts with travel, visas (as applicable), honoraria, accommodations, and required program-related rentals or services, including transportation.

- **Event Management** – Manage all event logistics including securing venues and procuring items and rentals necessary for program events.
- **Press and Social Media Engagement** – develop and execute a comprehensive media strategy that includes drafting press releases, managing media inquiries, and coordinating on-site interviews. Produce high-quality digital content for real-time social media amplification, including video highlights and participant features, to broaden the summit’s reach and showcase U.S. commitment to regional security and shared prosperity to Southeast Asian publics.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)** – design and implement an M&E plan that includes pre- and post-event assessments, participant feedback tools, outcome tracking, and analysis of material learning and retention. The recipient must devote at least 5 percent to M&E.
- **Final Reporting** – produce a comprehensive final report summarizing activities, outputs, participant demographics, M&E findings, challenges, and recommendations for future programming.

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
- A complete application including authorized signatures are where indicated on the forms.

The following documents are **required**:

1. Mandatory application forms

- SF-424 (Application for Federal Assistance – organizations) at [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov)
- SF-424A (Budget Information for Non-Construction programs) at [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov)

2. Proposal (20 pages maximum)

Applicants must submit a complete narrative proposal in a format of their choice, or they may use the attached proposal template if they like (Attachment 7). The proposal should contain enough information for anyone not familiar with it to be able to understand exactly what the applicant wants to do. The proposal must include all the items below:

- **Proposal Summary:** Short narrative that outlines the proposed project, including project objectives and anticipated impact.
- **Applicant Introduction:** 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 other U.S. government agencies as well as experience with and expertise in areas related to those in the NOFO. While it is not a requirement, Applicants may use the attached Applicant Organization Information Survey form to provide this information (Attachment 8). If the applicant chooses not to use the attached form, the applicant must still provide all the information on the form in some other part of the application package.
- **Problem Statement:** Clear, concise and well-supported statement of the problem and why the proposed program is necessary.
- **Program Methods, Design, Activities, and Deliverables:** 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. Describe the program activities and how they will help achieve the objectives.
- **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 (if applicable).
- **Future Funding for or Sustainability** of Applicant’s plan for continuing the program beyond the grant period, or the availability of other resources, if applicable.
- **Monitoring & Evaluation Plan:** Proposals must include a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP). The M&E plan should show how applicants intend to measure and demonstrate progress towards the project’s objectives and goals. Applicants should devote at least five and no more than ten percent of the program budget to monitoring and evaluation costs. Applicants should adopt and explain how they would apply the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) Monitoring Data for ECA (MODE) framework to the Summit. MODE resources are available here: <https://www.state.gov/eca-monitoring-evaluation-learning-and-innovation-meli-unit/>

The key components to the PMP are as follows:

- **Monitoring and Evaluation Narrative:** In narrative form, applicants should describe how they intend to monitor and evaluate the activities of their award. In addition, the applicant should describe any M&E processes, including key personnel, management structure (where M&E fits into the overall program’s staff structure), technology, and a brief budget narrative explaining any line-item expenditures for M&E listed in the program’s budget. If the proposal is from a prior grantee, the proposal discusses how the grantee has adapted, improved, or otherwise modified their approach based on their previous experience. This narrative may not exceed two pages.
- **Theory of Change Diagram:** Applicants must submit either a Theory of Change diagram or an If-Then Statement that illustrates how project activities will lead to intended outcomes.

- **Monitoring and Evaluation Datasheet:** Applicant must include their proposed activities and their expected outputs and outcomes as well as the goals and objectives in accordance with the NOFO. The datasheet's purpose is to explicitly illustrate how a project's activities lead to tangible results (such as increased beneficiary skills, knowledge, or attitudes) that ultimately address a PD objective.
 - The selected applicant's M&E PMP is subject to review and approval before issuance of any award under this NOFO. The selected applicant may need to work with U.S. Department of State Monitoring and Evaluation Specialists as a condition for receiving the award to ensure the applicant's M&E PMP achieves an expected level of expertise and meets PD objectives.
 - Expenses directly associated with monitoring and evaluation are allowable and limited to no more than 10 percent of the total award.

3. *Budget Justification Narrative*

- **Detailed Budget** – Applicants must submit a detailed line-item budget. Applicants should utilize the template provided with the funding opportunity but it is not a requirement (Attachment 5A). Line-item expenditures should include as much detail as possible. The budget must identify the total amount of funding requested, with a breakdown of amounts to be spent in the following budget categories: Personnel; fringe benefits; travel; equipment; supplies; consultants/contracts; other direct costs; and indirect costs. See Annex Section I for a description of the types of costs to include in each category. Personnel salaries should include the level of effort and the rate of pay, which should cover the percentage of time each staff member will dedicate to grant-based activities. If an organization is charging an indirect cost rate without a NICRA, it must apply it to the modified total budget costs (MTDC), refer to 2CFR§[200.1](#). **Budgets must be in U.S. dollars** and final grant agreements will also be denominated in U.S. dollars.
- **Budget Justification Narrative** – Applicants must submit a budget justification narrative to accompany the detailed line-item budget. Applicants should utilize the template provided with the funding opportunity but it is not a requirement (Attachment 5B). The purpose of the budget justification narrative is to supplement the information provided in the

detailed budget spreadsheet by justifying how the budget cost elements are necessary to implement project objectives and accomplish the project goals. The budget justification narrative is a tool to help Embassy staff fully understand the budgetary needs of the applicant and is an opportunity to provide descriptive information about the requested costs beyond the constraints of the budget template. Together, the detailed budget spreadsheet, the budget justification narrative, and the SF-424A should provide a complete financial and qualitative description that supports the proposed project plan and should be directly relatable to the specific project components described in the applicant's proposal.

Additional Budget Notes:

- **Audit Requirements:** Please note the audit requirements for Department of State awards in the Standard Terms and Conditions <https://www.state.gov/m/a/ope/index.htm> and [2CFR200](#), Subpart F – Audit Requirements. The cost of the required audits may be charged either as an allowable direct cost to the award OR included in the organization's established indirect costs in the award's detailed budget.

4. *Attachments*

- **Key Personnel Resumes:** A résumé, not to exceed one page in length, must be included for the proposed key staff persons, such as the Project Director and Finance Officer, as well as any speakers or trainers (if applicable). If an individual for this type of position has not been identified, the applicant may submit a 1-page position description, identifying the qualifications and skills required for that position, in lieu of a résumé.
- **Letters of support from program partners:** Letters of support should be included for sub-recipients or other partners. The letters must identify the type of relationship to be entered into (formal or informal), the roles and responsibilities of each partner in relation to the proposed project activities, and the expected result of the partnership. The individual letters cannot exceed 1 page in length.
- **Indirect Costs:** If your organization has a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) and includes NICRA charges in the budget, your latest NICRA should be included in the application submission.

- **Proof of Non-profit Status:** Documentation to demonstrate the applicant’s non-profit status (e.g., U.S.-based organizations should submit a copy of their 501(c)(3) Internal Revenue Service determination letter, and non-U.S. organizations should provide evidence of non-profit status issued by a government entity).
- **Proof of Registration:** A copy of the organization’s registration should be provided with the proposal application. U.S.-based organizations should submit a copy of their IRS determination letter. Organizations based in the Philippines or another ASEAN member state should submit a copy of their certificate of registration from the appropriate government organization.

Other items NOT required/requested with the application submission, but which *may* be requested if your application is approved to move forward in the review process include:

- a. Copies of an organization or program audit within the last two (2) years
- b. Copies of relevant human resources, financial, or procurement policies
- c. Copies of other relevant organizational policies or documentation that would help the Department determine your organization’s capacity to manage a federal grant award overseas
- d. Documentation that demonstrates the recipients’ plan and/or policy to safeguard PII of participants and beneficiaries. It is the responsibility of the recipient to ensure protection of personally identifiable information (PII) and safeguard PII when collecting, maintaining, using and disseminating such information
- e. Information to determine what financial controls and standard operating procedures an organization uses to procure goods and services, hire staff and track time and attendance, pay for grant-related travel, and identify other financial transactions that may be necessary to undertake the project activities
- f. The Embassy reserves the right to request any additional programmatic and/or financial information regarding the proposal.

E. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES

1. Address to Request Application Package

Application forms required above are available on the website of the U.S. Embassy in the Philippines, grants.gov, and MyGrants.

2. Department of State Contacts

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

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

Required Registration: 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 also 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.

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.

Please note: Any applicant with an exclusion in the System for Award Management (SAM) is not eligible to apply for an assistance award in accordance with the OMB guidelines at 2 CFR 180 that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 CFR, 1986 Comp., p. 189) and 12689 (3 CFR, 1989 Comp., p. 235), “Debarment and Suspension.”

4. Submission Dates and Times

Submission Deadline: All applications must be received by Monday, July 6, 2026 by 11:59 p.m. Philippine Standard Time. For the purposes of determining if an award is submitted on time, PDS will utilize the e-mail timestamp. This deadline is firm and is not a rolling deadline. If organizations fail to meet the deadline noted above their application will be considered ineligible and will not be considered for funding.

Submission Method: Submit all application materials directly to the following email address: grantsmanila@state.gov. The subject line of the email **must** include the Funding Opportunity Title and Funding Opportunity Number.

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:
 - a. 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;
 - b. 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 IHEs must certify the following at the time of award, and that this certification requirement must be included in any subaward agreements to IHEs:
 - a. 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.
 - b. Applicants seeking clarification on the reporting requirement are encouraged to review the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) resource developed by the U.S. Department of Education.
- iv. Certification of Trafficking in Persons Compliance and Compliance Plan: Applicants are advised that they will be required to certify the following at the time of award for awards where the estimated value of services to be performed outside the United States exceeds \$500,000:

- a. To the best of the Recipient’s knowledge, neither the Recipient, nor any subrecipient, contractor, or subcontractor of the Recipient or any agent of the recipient or of such a subrecipient, contractor, or subcontractor, is engaged in any of the activities described in 2 CFR 175.105(a);
 - b. The recipient has implemented a Trafficking in Persons compliance plan to prevent activities described in 2 CFR 175(a) and is compliant with this plan; and the compliance plan must follow the minimum requirements described in 2 CFR 175(b)(5).
 - c. That the Recipient has and will implement procedures to prevent activities described in 2 CFR 175.105(a) and to monitor, detect, and terminate any subrecipient, contractor, subcontractor, or employee of the recipient engaging in these activities.
- i. Recipients do not need to submit a copy of the plan. However, they must provide it to the Grants Officer upon request, and as appropriate, must post the useful and relevant contents of the plan or related materials on its website and at the workplace. Recipients must re-certify on an annual basis for the entire award period of performance.
- v. Prohibition on Unmanned Aircraft Systems Manufactured or Assembled by American Security Drone Act-Covered Foreign Entities
 - a. (a) *Definitions.*
 - i. *American Security Drone Act-covered foreign entity* means an entity included on a list developed and maintained by the Federal Acquisition Security Council (FASC) and published in the System for Award Management (SAM) at <https://www.sam.gov>
 - ii. *FASC-prohibited unmanned aircraft system* means an unmanned aircraft system manufactured or assembled by an American Security Drone Act-covered foreign entity.
 - iii. *Unmanned aircraft* means an aircraft that is operated without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the aircraft.
 - iv. *Unmanned aircraft system* means an unmanned aircraft and associated elements (including communication links and the components that control the unmanned aircraft) that are

required for the operator to operate safely and efficiently in the national airspace system.

- b. (b) *Prohibition*. Recipients of funding under this Notice of Funding Opportunity (including subawards and subcontracts issued by the recipient) will be prohibited from:
 - i. delivering any FASC-prohibited unmanned aircraft system, which includes unmanned aircraft (i.e., drones) and associated elements
 - ii. Operating a FASC-prohibited unmanned aircraft system in the performance of the award; and
 - iii. Using Federal funds for the purchase or operation of a FASC-prohibited unmanned aircraft system.
 - c. c) *Exemptions, exceptions, and waivers*. The prohibitions described above will not apply if the agency determines that an exemption, exception, or waiver applies and the award indicates that such a determination has been made. [See sections 1823 through 1825 and 1832 of Public Law 118-31 ([41 U.S.C. 3901](#) note prec.) for statutory requirements pertaining to exemptions, exceptions, and waivers.].
- vi. Pre-Award Costs: Pre-award costs are not an allowable expense for this funding opportunity.
 - vii. Construction: Any award made as a result of this NOFO will not allow for construction activities or costs.
 - viii. Direct Social Services: Costs that cover and provide direct social services, such as welfare, charity, health or economic relief, are unallowable. Medical assistance, such as costs to include medical professionals, including but not limited to doctors, nurses, and psychiatrists to participate in the project activities are not allowed.

6. *Other Submission Requirements: Copyrights and Proprietary Information*

If any of the information contained in your application is proprietary, please note in the footer of the appropriate pages that the information is Confidential – Proprietary. Applicants should also note what parts of the application, program, concept, etc. are covered by copyright(s), trademark(s), or any other intellectual

property rights and provide copies of the relevant documentation to support these copyrights.

Applicants must acquire all required registrations and rights in the United States and the Philippines. All intellectual property considerations and rights must be fully met in the United States and the Philippines.

Any sub-recipient organization must also meet all the U.S. and Philippine requirements described above.

F. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

1. Review Criteria

Criteria: Each application submitted under this announcement will be evaluated and rated on the basis of the criteria enumerated below. The criteria are designed to assess the quality of the proposed project, and to determine the likelihood of its success.

- **Quality and Feasibility of the Program Idea** – 30 points: The program idea should be innovative and well developed, with sufficient detail about how project activities will be carried out. The proposals should demonstrate originality and outline clear, achievable objectives that align directly with the priorities and requirements of the NOFO. The proposal includes a reasonable implementation timeline, and the project scope is appropriate and clearly defined. Finally, the proposal aligns with the following:
 - The project clearly demonstrates a direct contribution to current U.S. foreign policy priorities.
 - The project will positively impact America’s reputation among foreign government partners.
 - The project will positively impact American’s reputation among foreign publics.
 - The proposal does not include any activities contrary to the following Executive Orders:
 - Executive Order 14173: ["Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity"](#)
 - Executive Order 14287: ["Protecting American Communities from Criminal Aliens"](#)
 - Executive Order 14168: [Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government](#)

- **Organizational Capacity and Record on Previous Grants** – 25 points:
 - The project proposal demonstrates that the organization has sufficient expertise, skills, and human resources to implement the project, including internal controls in place to manage federal funds. If sub-awards are proposed, applicant demonstrates experience managing subawards.
 - The organization demonstrates that it has a clear understanding of the underlying issue that the project will address.
 - The organization demonstrates capacity for successful planning and responsible fiscal management. This includes a financial management system, a bank account, and if applicable, satisfactory audit findings.
 - Applicants who have received grant funds previously have been compliant with applicable rules and regulations, including the Award Provisions and Standard Terms and Conditions.
 - Where partners are described, the applicant details each partner’s respective role and provides curriculum vitae (CVs) for persons responsible for the project and financial administration. Proposed personnel, institutional resources, and partners are adequate and appropriate.

- **Project Planning/Ability to Achieve Objectives** – 20 points: The project plan is well developed, with sufficient detail about how activities will be carried out. The proposal specifies target audiences, participant recruitment, and geographic areas of implementation. The proposal outlines clear, achievable objectives. The proposal includes a reasonable implementation timeline. The project scope is appropriate and clearly defined.

- **Budget** – 10 points: The budget and narrative justification are sufficiently detailed. The budget demonstrates that the organization has devoted time to accurately determine expenses associated with the project instead of providing rough estimates. Costs are reasonable in relation to the proposed activities and anticipated results. The results and proposed outcomes justify the total cost of the project. Budget items are reasonable, allowable, and allocable.

- **Monitoring and Evaluation** - 10 points: The project proposal includes an M&E plan. The applicant demonstrates it is able to measure program success against key indicators and provides milestones to indicate progress toward goals and objectives outlined in the proposal. The proposal includes

output and outcome indicators and shows how and when those will be measured. Funded projects will have their plans finalized during the negotiation phase, and monitoring plans may be subject to periodic updates throughout the life of the project.

- **Sustainability** – 5 points: The project proposal describes clearly the approach that will be used to ensure maximum sustainability or advancement of project goals after the end of project activity.

2. Indirect Costs

If two or more applications receive equivalent scores based on the evaluation criteria outlined in this NOFO, preference will be given to the applicant with the lower indirect cost rate, as consistent with Executive Order 14332, Section 4(b)(iii). This preference will only be applied as a tie-breaking mechanism and does not supersede the primary evaluation criteria.

3. Review and Selection Process

- a. Acknowledgement of receipt. Applicants will receive acknowledgment of receipt of their proposal.
- b. Review. All submissions are screened for technical. **If a submission is missing any required forms/documents listed above in [Section D. Application Contents and Format](#), it will be considered ineligible and will not be reviewed by the grants review committee.** A technical review panel will review eligible proposals based upon the criteria noted in this NOFO.
- c. Follow up notification. Applicants will generally be notified within 120 days after the NOFO deadline regarding the results of the review panel.

2. Risk Review

- i. 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 project requirements

ii. High Risk Designation

Awardees that are deemed to be high risk based on the above risk factors will be held to special award conditions. At a minimum, the recipient and/or project designated as High Risk will be required to submit monthly narrative reports and/or quarterly detailed financial reports. Recipients may also be required, upon request of the Grants Officer or Grants Officer Representative, to provide electronic copies of receipts or other supporting documentation (e.g., timesheets, travel documents) for costs incurred. The Grants Officer may withhold 10% of the award amount until final reports have been reviewed and approved by the GO. The recipient may be required to pay all salaries supported by the grant via electronic funds transfer. Other special award conditions may also be included if deemed appropriate by the Grants Officer.

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.

Payment Method:

Recipients may only request payments by completing form SF-270 Request for Advance or Reimbursement and submitting the form to the Grants Officer and Grants Officer Representative.

Recipients may not draw down funds without the affirmative authorization of the Department of State. In addition, recipients must submit, with each SF-270 payment request, a detailed explanation justifying the request.

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:

- [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). For the avoidance of doubt,

the Department has sole discretion over the determination that an award no longer effectuates program goals or agency priorities, and this provision permits awards to be terminated at the Department's convenience, including when it determines that the award no longer advances the national interest.

- [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](#)
- Recipients must comply with all applicable Executive Orders. A searchable list can be found in the Federal Register: <https://www.federalregister.gov/> .

2. Reporting

Reporting Requirements: Recipients will be required to submit financial reports and program reports. The award document will specify what reports are required and how often these reports must be submitted. *Note:* most recipients will be required to submit quarterly program progress and financial reports throughout the project period. The quarterly progress report must include updated M&E data for that quarter. Progress and financial reports are due 30 days after the reporting period. Final certified programmatic and financial reports are due 120 days after the close of the project period.

All reports are to be submitted electronically.

The Awardee must also provide the Embassy on an annual basis an inventory of all the U.S. government provided equipment using the SF428 form.

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.

3. Branding and Marking

The Department of State, its programs, and U.S. Government funding and assistance should be easily identifiable to the Department's global audiences.

Recipients of federal assistance awards must follow the branding guidance published at Guidance for Contracts and Grants - U.S. Department of State Brand System. Branding policy exceptions are outlined in the U.S. Department of State Foreign Affairs Manual 10 FAM 416, Policy Exceptions. For more information, visit: <https://brand.america.gov/>

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 (MTDC) 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 and other entertainment related expenses.

STEP Enrollment

U.S. citizens who travel to the Philippines are encouraged to enroll in the Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) available at: <https://step.state.gov/step/>. Enrollment enables citizens to receive security-related messages from the Embassy and makes it easier for us to locate you in an emergency. The Embassy also recommends that all travelers review the State

Department's [travel website at travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov) for the [Travel Warnings](#), Travel Alerts, and Philippines Specific Information.