

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
FY-08 STUDY OF THE
UNITED STATES INSTITUTES
FOR SECONDARY EDUCATORS
(Deadline date January 26, 2008)**

1. INSTITUTE DESCRIPTION: The Study of the U.S. Institutes for Secondary Educators will provide two multinational groups of 30 secondary educators each (English teachers, teacher trainers, curriculum developers, textbook writers, ministry of education officials, etc.) with a deeper understanding of U.S. society, education, and culture, past and present. The programs will be organized around a central theme or themes in U.S. civilization and will have a strong contemporary component. Through a combination of traditional, multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches, the programs will elucidate the history and evolution of U.S. educational institutions and values. The programs also serve to illuminate contemporary political, social, and economic debates in American society.

The ultimate goal is to strengthen curricula and to improve the quality of teaching about the United States in secondary schools and other academic institutions abroad.

Pending ECA grant approval, one of these institutes will take place at the Institute for Training and Development in Amherst, Massachusetts. The second host institution is unknown at this time.

2. OTHER ESSENTIAL PROGRAM INFORMATION:

A. Program Funding: Through the grant to the host institutions, ECA/A/E/USS will cover all participant costs, including: program administration, domestic travel and ground transportation, book, cultural, mailing and incidental allowances, housing and subsistence.

B. Housing and Meal Arrangements: Typically, participants will have a private room with a shared bathroom during the residency portion (four weeks) of the institute, and will have to share a hotel room during the study tour (up to two weeks). Housing will typically be in college or university owned housing. Most meals will be provided at campus facilities, though participants may have access to a kitchen to cook some meals on their own. Full details will be provided once the grants have been approved. It is important that these arrangements be made clear to nominees and that they are comfortable with such

housing arrangements, particularly sharing a hotel room with another participant for up to two weeks.

C. Health Benefits: All participants will receive the Department of State's coverage of \$50,000 with a \$25 deductible for the duration of the program. Pre-existing conditions are not covered.

D. Program Requirements and Restrictions: Participants are expected to participate fully in the program. They are expected to attend all lectures and organized activities, and complete assigned readings. Family members and/or friends cannot accompany participants on any part of the program. Please note that teaching methodology and pedagogical methods will not be addressed formally in the institute. Candidates should be made aware that this is an intensive institute and there will be little time for personal pursuits unrelated to the program. The institute should not be viewed as a research program.

3. CANDIDATE DESCRIPTION AND QUALIFICATIONS:

A. Candidates should be mid-career, typically between the ages of 25-50, highly-motivated and experienced secondary educators. The ideal candidate will be a secondary teacher, teacher trainer, curriculum developer, textbook writer, ministry of education official, or other related professional with responsibility for secondary education.

B. The ideal candidate will also be an experienced professional with little or no prior experience in the United States, whose home institution is seeking to introduce aspects of U.S. studies into its curricula, to develop new courses in the subject of the institute, to enhance and update existing courses on the United States, or to offer specialized seminars/workshops for education professionals in U.S. studies. In this respect, while the nominee's scholarly and professional credentials are an important consideration, an equally important factor is how participation in the institute will enhance course offerings in U.S. studies at the nominee's home institution.

C. Candidates should be willing and able to fully take part in an intensive post-graduate level academic program and study tour. While senior educators are eligible applicants, Posts will give first consideration to younger and mid-career professionals, and to persons who are likely to be comfortable with campus life and an active program schedule.

D. Candidate Statement: In order to get a better sense of potential participants' motivations and goals, ECA/A/E/USS requests that each candidate provide a short personal statement (one page) indicating why he or she is interested in participating in the program and what he or she expects to get out of the experience.

E. English Language Ability: It is imperative that all candidates demonstrate English language fluency. Institutes are rigorous and demanding programs; participants will be expected to handle substantial reading assignments in English and to be full and active participants in all seminar and panel discussions. English fluency is vital to a successful experience in the institute, both for your participant and participants from other countries.

F. Priority Consideration: Priority will be given to candidates who have firm plans to enhance, update or develop courses and/or educational materials with a U.S. studies focus or component, who have limited experience in the United States, and who have special interest in the program subject areas as demonstrated through past scholarship, accomplishments, and professional duties.

Application Form to be filled out and be send to Public Affairs Section before January 26, 2008.