

International Studies Teacher Ambassadors Program

Call for applications for the 2019-2020 academic year

Application deadline: August 18, 2019

This fellowship program will support 10 teams (each comprised of 2 K-12 educators) from rural school districts in Arizona and New Mexico, who will train to become International Studies Teacher Ambassadors. The program is organized by the University of Arizona Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES) and Center for Latin American Studies (LAS), two U.S. Department of Education designated National Resource Centers, and is made possible by an award sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs (ECA), with funding provided by the U.S. Government and administered by IREX. (The views and information are those of CMES and LAS and do not represent the U.S. Department of State or IREX.)

Participating teams will receive individual certificates recognizing their leadership role in international education, funding to attend a conference in Tucson, and \$250 to implement a teacher training or cultural project of their choice within their district or community.

Eligibility and Requirements

Requirements of Applicants:

- This program is open to full-time K-12 educators in rural districts of Arizona and New Mexico. (Teachers from the Phoenix, Tucson, or Albuquerque metropolitan areas are not eligible to apply.)
- Applicants must apply as a two-person team. A team may consist of two teachers from the same school, teaching in different content areas or (for elementary schools) different grade levels. Alternatively, a team may consist of two teachers in the same content area in two different schools. A few examples of teams are: a Biology teacher and a Social Studies teacher from the same high school, a high school English teacher and a middle school English teacher from different schools, a 2nd grade and a 5th grade teacher from the same school, or two 3rd grade teachers from different schools. Team members should complete the cover page of the application and the essay portion together, submitting one application per pair.
- Each applicant must intend to stay in the teaching profession until 2022.
- Each applicant must agree to complete a self-paced online program (20 hours over the course of the fall 2019 semester). The program is designed to be practical as well as informative, giving participants the opportunity to develop lessons and look at children's/youth literature directly relevant to their teaching. Participants will receive a certificate verifying the completion of 20 hours of professional development work for this course.

- Each applicant must attend a workshop in Tucson on Saturday, September 28. Note: Through University of Arizona and U.S. State Department funding, good-quality hotel rooms and stipends for most/all travel expenses will be provided. Participants will need to arrive in Tucson on Friday evening, September 27, and can leave to return home any time on Sunday, September 29. Participants will receive a certificate for 8 hours of professional development work.

- During and just after the conference, each pair will develop – with the approval of their district – a plan for a teacher training session, curriculum development project, or cultural event, which they will implement in their school, district, or community, ideally during the spring 2020 semester. If this is not possible due to district scheduling, the project may be undertaken in fall 2020. The team will receive up to \$250 for the cost of the program.

Requirement of the school/district:

- The school or district must allow applicants to carry out a project that teacher ambassadors develop, taking into account the needs of their school and community.

Participant Rewards

- recognition as a teacher leader in international studies education
- assistance in applying to/being accepted for competitive national-level teacher programs
- professional development hours toward recertification
- the opportunity to design and be recognized for conducting a program of your choice in your district/community (as well as some funding to implement the program)

How to Apply

- Submit the application cover page with the required information and signatures.
- Write an essay of 2-3 double spaced pages (one essay per team). In it describe:
 - both applicants' teaching positions and experience
 - a description of your school(s) and district: location, size, demographics (socioeconomic, ethnic, linguistic background of the students)
 - why you feel that internationalizing the school curriculum is important to the education of your students
 - preliminary plan for a project to increase the international understanding of the teachers, students, and/or parents in your district. (You may refine or change your plan later.) Note that this project cannot be simply something you do in your class or with two classes, but should be designed as a school-wide, district-wide, or community event. Possible projects would include organizing a district-wide

professional development program for teachers, the development and implementation of an international studies course at a high school or middle school, an evening cultural festival for students and their families, or anything else you can imagine.

- Submit the cover page and essay by email to: adeli@email.arizona.edu AND cconlin@email.arizona.edu. The cover page with signatures should be scanned and then submitted with the rest of the application. If this is not possible (if your school doesn't have a scanner), email the materials without signatures, but then send the signed cover page by regular mail to: CMES, attn.. L. Adeli, 845 N. Park Ave., #470, Tucson, AZ 85721.

- The submission deadline is August 18, 2019. Notifications will be emailed to all applicants within a week of that date.

For more information, contact Lisa Adeli, Director of Educational Outreach at the UA Center for Middle Eastern Studies: adeli@email.arizona.edu or Clea Conlin, Program Coordinator Senior at the UA Center for Latin American Studies: cconlin@email.arizona.edu.