

Frequently Asked Questions from Grantee Applications

Q: What type of projects can I submit for a grant?

A: LACLEARN invites project proposals in various technical themes to address development challenges in different regions. Here are the eligible technical themes for current grant opportunities:

- Theme 1:
 - Citizen Security and Crime and Violence Prevention Prevention of gender-based violence
 - Innovative citizen security, criminal governance, and community youth violence interventions.
 - Evidence-based interventions to improve learning on security as it relates to economic, environmental, and social outcomes, including migration in LAC.
 - People-centered justice, ensuring services cater to all citizens, including those requiring reintegration assistance.
 - Justice and security sector interventions which foster an enabling environment for community violence prevention.

(Above includes violence against specific cohorts such as indigenous people, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex (LGBTQI+) people, and people from other marginalized populations.)

- Theme 2:
 - Democratic backsliding and authoritarian resurgence New approaches to strengthen citizen commitment to democracy in the region.
 - Innovative strategies in working with local partners to prevent or reverse democratic backsliding in LAC.
 - Innovative interventions to build citizen resilience to disinformation and misinformation.
 - Innovative strategies to understand the impact of digital authoritarianism on journalism, independent media outlets, and elections, considering both preventive and responsive stance
- Theme 3:
 - Accountable, transparent, and effective governance: Effective, evidence-based approaches to reduce national and transnational corruption and promote transparency in LAC.
 - Bottom-up accountability and transparency interventions seeking to reduce corruption through the actions of the citizenry, civil society, media, and the private sector..
 - Innovative strategies to raise awareness and increase accountability for meaningful and sustainable outcomes and highlight open justice methodologies and insights from people-centered justice programming.
- Theme 4:
 - Innovations in monitoring, evaluation, and learning Innovative measurement strategies (e.g., rubrics) and technologies (e.g., big data, remote and digital tools) to (1) track program performance and (2) gauge illicit, hard-to-observe, or underreported activities (e.g., corruption, GBV, migration, and gang membership—including the role of children or women).
 - Relevant learning and adaptation approaches to citizen security, democratic norms, and accountable governance, to evaluate relevant policies and programs in LAC.

Q: Are there any restrictions on the geographic location of the projects eligible for funding?

A: While LACLEARN operates regionally, we must adhere to USAID's approved project countries. Below are the eligible regions and countries:

1. Mexico
2. Central America: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama.
3. South America: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Venezuela.
4. Caribbean: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.

Q: Is there a maximum or minimum grant amount I can request?

A: The grant amounts vary depending on the location of the organization. Individual applications from US organizations will be considered for grants in value between USD25,000 and USD100,000. Individual applications from non-US organizations will be considered for grants in value between USD25,000 and USD250,000. It's important to review the Annual Program Statement carefully to understand the specific financial parameters and requirements.

Q: Can I apply for multiple grants simultaneously?

A: Yes, it is possible to apply for multiple grants simultaneously, as long as you meet the eligibility criteria for each opportunity and can dedicate sufficient resources to manage and implement multiple projects concurrently. However, it's essential to ensure that you can effectively execute and oversee all the projects you are awarded. If you decide to apply for multiple grants, make sure to clearly articulate your capacity to handle multiple commitments in your application and demonstrate how you will manage the potential workload and coordination challenges.

Q: How long does the grant application review process usually take?

A: The grant application review process duration can vary depending on the complexity of the funding opportunity and the number of applications received. Typically, it takes two weeks from the concept submission deadline until we make the funding recommendations. During this period, the applications undergo a comprehensive evaluation and review process, including technical assessments, budget analysis, and peer reviews. Once the review process is complete, successful applicants will be notified, and the steps for grant award and implementation will be initiated.

Q: Can individuals or for-profit businesses apply for grants, or are they limited to non-profit organizations?

A: LACLEARN grants are typically open to a wide range of entities, including non-profit organizations, universities, and research institutions. It's important to review the Annual Program Statement carefully to understand the specific eligibility parameters and requirements.

Q: What are the reporting requirements for grantees after receiving funding?

A: As a grantee, you will have reporting obligations to LACLEARN throughout the grant period. The specific reporting requirements will be detailed in the grant agreement and may include progress reports, among others. These reports help us monitor the implementation of the project, assess the achievement of outcomes, and ensure accountability for the use of funds.

Q: Can I collaborate with other organizations or partners on a grant application?

A: We highly encouraged Collaborations and partnerships in LACLEARN-funded projects. We recognize that addressing complex development challenges often requires a collective effort. Many grant opportunities allow or even encourage collaborations between different organizations, including partnerships between non-profit organizations, academic institutions, private sector entities, and local stakeholders. Some specific calls for concepts may specifically ask that you collaborate with other organizations.