

2015

ALUMNI
ENGAGEMENT
INNOVATION
FUND



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE ALUMNI

www.iexa.state.gov



**Somewhere between your exchange,
your school, or your job, you had an idea.**

That crazy, brilliant, genius idea is going to
change your community and our world.



**But first, you need a team to help you,
and you need funding.**

Through AEIF, we help our alumni fund
their dream service projects.



Because Your Ideas Matter

The State Department created the Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund (AEIF) in 2011 to support alumni initiatives that promote shared values and innovative solutions to global challenges.

Proposed projects must embody one of the AEIF themes. In 2014, 66 grants of up \$25,000 were awarded to alumni teams to support their public service projects.



What are the AEIF Themes?

- Civic Participation
- Conflict Resolution
- Access to Education
- Global Health Awareness
- Empowering Women and Girls
- Entrepreneurship and Youth Employment
- Climate Change and Environmental Protection
- Social Inclusion/Alternatives for Vulnerable Populations

What is AEIF?

The AEIF competition provides small grants to teams of past and current participants of U.S. government-sponsored exchange programs to carry out public service projects that utilize skills and knowledge they have gained through their exchange experiences.

AEIF Alumni Teams

To participate, alumni must be members of the International Exchange Alumni (IEA) global online community and form teams of at least **five** IEA community members.



Ingredients for a Successful AEIF Project Proposal

Alumni led

- Are alumni the main implementers of the project?
- Is that clear in your proposal?

Clear Goals

- Will a panelist reading your proposal understand the goal of your project?
- Have you made the purpose of the project clear?

Implementation Steps

- How will you implement your idea?
- Have you described the steps you will take to implement your project?

Measurable Results

- What are the anticipated results of this project?
- Does your proposal clearly convey expected results?

Important Dates to Remember



Update your profile

An updated alumni profile on International Exchange Alumni is more appealing to AEIF teams



AEIF Launches

On February 3rd, AEIF 2014 begins! Gather your teams, ideas, and excitement!



Proposals are due today!

Proposals are due by noon EST on February 24th! Get your proposals done, and don't be late as exceptions will not be made.

Important Dates to Remember



Alumni Voting Begins

Finalists will be announced on March 10th. Log in to vote for your favorite projects!



Final Proposal Are Due

Don't be late for this very important date! Finalists have until March 31st at noon EST to refine their project proposals.



Winners Announced!

The winners of the 2015 Alumni Engagement Innovation Find will be announced in early May.

Join Our Facebook Q&A Sessions

Join us on the International Exchange Alumni Facebook page on February 5th (8 am ET) and 18th (1 pm ET), for live Q&As. Our AEIF team will be standing by to answer all of your questions.



The screenshot shows the Facebook profile for 'International Exchange Alumni', a Government Organization. The profile picture is a group photo of approximately 15 people, including students and mentors, standing together. The cover photo is the official seal of the Department of State, United States of America. The page has 149,300 likes and is followed by the user. A recent post from 1 hour ago features a photo of a group of people and text promoting a photo contest with the hashtag #ExchangeOurWorld. The post text reads: 'Tag your exchange photos with #ExchangeOurWorld, and we'll feature your snapshots here on Facebook and on Instagram <http://goo.gl/XUip5m>! This is a photo from the 2014 Pan-Africa Youth Leadership Program, which included 70 high school students and mentors from 15 countries. They participated in workshops and seminars on entrepreneurship, youth leadership, and civic engagement.'

Check out our **AEIF CAQs**

Have more questions?

Ask Team Exchange Alumni Anything!

Always feel free to drop a question about AEIF in our Ask Box on Tumblr. You don't need a Tumblr to submit a question.

Visit us at exchangealumni.tumblr.com.

Ask anonymously or [login](#)

Ask