



DEMOCRACY OUTREACH / ALUMNI GRANTS PROGRAM

The purposes of the U.S. Embassy's Democracy Outreach / Alumni Grants Program are to provide U.S. government exchange program alumni with networking opportunities; to further the professional development of alumni and their colleagues; to assist alumni in implementing and disseminating the concepts learned during exchange programs. Primarily the grants are awarded to indigenous organizations that have U.S. Government exchange program alumni as members or to individual alumni for activities that support democratic advancement and economic reform in Uzbekistan.

Democracy Outreach / Alumni Grants may be used for the following:

- To initiate a public or community service program;
- To provide support for alumni association events;
- To organize training programs or conferences for professional colleagues and/or other alumni;
- For travel grants within Europe and Eurasia, including for regional alumni events;
- To provide cost-sharing for international travel to U.S.;
- To provide continued funding for existing alumni centers, and minimal start-up costs for alumni associations;
- To organize and plan networking events;
- To develop and publish curricula, textbooks, or related reference or educational materials;
- To publish public information pamphlets or brochures on topics that further U.S. Government assistance goals; and
- To conduct other projects that support democratic and economic reform initiatives.

Projects not funded by the U.S. Embassy's Democracy Outreach / Alumni Grants Program include (1) those requested by non-Uzbekistani organizations and individuals; (2) those relating to partisan political activities, charitable activities, political fund-raising, commercial enterprises and humanitarian aid; and (3) those that duplicate existing projects.

Proposals will be evaluated according to the nature of the project's goals, the applicant's clearly formulated plan to achieve those goals, the adequacy of the proposed budget, and the proposal's targeted audience.

Democracy Outreach / Alumni Grants application form can be downloaded at <http://uzbekistan.usembassy.gov/alumni.html>. Proposals together with supporting documents must be sent via e-mail to Tashkent-Alumni@state.gov.

In case of any questions about the Democracy Outreach / Alumni Grants Program, please contact:

Alumni Coordinator
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E-mail: Tashkent-Alumni@state.gov
Website: <http://uzbekistan.usembassy.gov/alumni.html>

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE DEMOCRACY OUTREACH / ALUMNI GRANTS PROGRAM

What is the Democracy Outreach / Alumni Grants Program?

Funded through the Assistance to Europe, Eurasia, and Central Asia (AEECA) funds, the U.S. Department of State's Democracy Outreach / Alumni Grants Program enables U.S. Embassies in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union to provide financial support to the alumni of U.S. Government exchange programs in developing democratic institutions and creating a civil society.

Who can apply for a Democracy Outreach / Alumni grant?

Grants are awarded to indigenous organizations and initiative groups that have U.S. Government exchange program alumni as members or to individual alumni that are engaged in, or propose to carry out, a project whose purpose fits within the program guidelines.

Is there a deadline for submitting proposals?

Proposals can be submitted to the Democracy Outreach / Alumni Grants Program throughout the year. The awards committee reviews proposals and issue grants bimonthly.

How much money does the typical recipient receive?

A typical alumni grant does not exceed \$2,000. All proposed project expenses must be realistic. Committee members will not authorize a grant if there are any questions about the budget.

What kinds of expenses will a Democracy Outreach / Alumni Grant cover?

Democracy Outreach / Alumni Grants can be used to pay for:

- supplies or equipment necessary for the fulfillment of the project;
- expenses related to workshops, seminars or conferences (e.g. preparation of course materials and post-event publications, room and audio-visual equipment rentals, etc.);
- administrative expenses relating to the project (e.g. phone, fax, Internet, postage); and
- for travel grants within Europe and Eurasia and to provide cost-sharing for international travel to U.S.

Although generally not allowed, the Democracy Outreach / Alumni Grants Program will cover salaries and honoraria under special circumstances, provided the salaries or honoraria (1) are justified in the context of the goals of grant proposal, (2) the amount of the salary relates directly to the amount of time the recipient works on the project (for example, if the applicant intends to devote 30% of his/her time to the proposed project, then he/she should request no more than 30% of the applicant's salary), and (3) the salary or honoraria is reasonable as compared with that received by similarly situated workers. **Please note that once a grant has been awarded, the recipient cannot use the funds received for any purpose other than that specified in the approved budget.**

What kinds of expenses will a Democracy Outreach / Alumni Grant not cover?

Democracy Outreach / Alumni Grants cannot be used to pay for coffee breaks and meals that exceed 10% of the total project costs. The Embassy does not fund social taxes separately; organizations and individuals will be responsible for paying those taxes on their own from the salaries provided in the grant.