

States Information Agency, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20547, telephone (202) 619-5319, fax (202) 619-4350, internet {CMINER@USIA.GOV}, to request a Solicitation Package, which includes award criteria; all application forms; and guidelines for preparing proposals, including specific criteria for preparation of the proposal budget. Please direct inquiries and correspondence to USIA Program Officer, Christina Miner. Interested applicants should read the complete Federal Register announcement before addressing inquiries to Office of Citizen Exchanges or submitting their proposals. Once the RFP deadline has passed, the Office of Citizen Exchanges may not discuss this competition in any way with applicants until the Bureau proposal review process has been completed.

SUBMISSIONS: Applicants must follow all instructions given in the Solicitation Package. The original and 8 copies of the complete application should be sent to: U.S. Information Agency, Ref.: E/P-96-9, Office of Grants Management, E/XE, Room 326, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20547.

Applicants must also submit to E/XE the "Executive Summary," "Proposal Narrative," and "Budget" sections of each proposal on a 3.5" diskett, formatted for DOS. This material must be provided in ASCII text (DOS) format with a maximum line length of 65 characters. USIA will transmit these files electronically to USIS posts overseas for their review, with the goal of reducing the time it takes to get posts' comments for the Agency's grants review process.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Bureau's authorizing legislation, programs must maintain a non-political character and should be balanced and representative of the diversity of American political, social, and cultural life. "Diversity" should be interpreted in the broadest sense and encompass differences including but not limited to race, gender, religion, geographic location, socio-economic status, and physical challenges. Applicants are strongly encouraged to adhere to the advancement of this principle.

Overview

There are four parts to the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Program (CBYX):

1. *Administration Component:* One grant will be awarded to an organization to administer the recruitment and selection process on behalf of, and in cooperation with, the other grantee

organizations. It will be responsible for preparing and distributing informational material, student selection criteria and applications to a wide audience including all public and private secondary schools, the media, and key networks such as the American Association of Teachers of German. Innovative methods of publicizing the program are welcome, within funding limitations. The organization will screen all written applications and identify a group of semi-finalists that reflects population distribution by state. In order to generate a roster of finalists the grantee will work with other organizations to assemble and coordinate state selection committees to interview semi-finalists. It will handle the notification of these finalists and work with the other organization in processing their files. The grantee will also set up and maintain a master list of all high school student participants and prepare a list of the Congressional representatives from whose districts the students are selected. The grantee will prepare a similar list of German participants and the Congressional districts in which they are hosted. Finally, it will work with the other grantee organizations in the preparation of general briefing materials, updated biannually, for use by all CBYX participants. The award may not exceed \$348,000.

In addition the grantee organization will be responsible for securing insurance for the German students. Coverage must include the following:

Illness and Accident Coverage

- * Physician—Any
- * Hospital—Any
- * Treatment and care—Unlimited
- * Specialist to sickbed—Unlimited
- * Medication—Unlimited
- * Prosthesis—Unlimited
- * Private Nurse—Unlimited
- * Chiropractors/Podiatrist—Unlimited if recommended by physician
- * Dental care due to accident—Unlimited
- * Emergency dental care—\$800 maximum
- * Psychiatric care—\$600 maximum

Except in cases of extreme emergency, approval is needed before surgery.

Travel Cost

- * Related to treatment—Unlimited
- * Post sickness room and board while not at usual place of residence—Unlimited
- * Repatriation of sick insured—Unlimited
- * Repatriation of remains—Unlimited

Indemnity in Case of Accident

- * Death—\$10,000

- * Dismemberment—\$500 to \$2,000 according to scale
- * Disability resulting from accident—\$100,000 maximum
- * Disfigurement—\$20,000 maximum
- * Burial expenses outside home country—\$7,500 maximum

Exclusions

1. Medical care required due to "cause majeure".
 2. Suicide, self-inflicted injuries, injuries due to fights.
 3. Treatments that are the result of accidents occurred while driving any motorized vehicle are excluded, except when applying to minors participating in an organized high school program, while learning to drive an automobile according to the laws of the state and the rules of the sponsoring entity. This will apply only to four-wheeled automobiles and insurer will act always and only as secondary insurer.
 4. Travel as crew on any aircraft or boat and travel on non-commercial flights.
 5. Any type of drug-related treatment.
 6. Preexisting conditions, even if not diagnosed, or incubating diseases.
 7. Routine and preventive medicine, such as sport physicals, vaccinations, tests, etc.
 8. Venereal diseases, elective termination of pregnancy, pregnancy, childbirth, AIDS.
 9. Prostheses of any type, including glasses and contact lenses, except in case of accident.
 10. Orthodontic and major dental care, fillings and root canals, except in case of accident.
 11. Any psychological or psychiatric treatment over the limit.
 12. Eating disorders.
 13. Plastic surgery and aesthetic treatments, including acne and wart removal.
 14. High risk sports and those normally not accepted as leisure sports, and sports practiced professionally.
 15. Chiropractors, podiatrists and similar practitioners, unless their services are prescribed by a physician (MD).
 16. Treatments not accepted as normal by the medical profession.
 17. Criminal acts and fraud by insured or his/her accomplices.
- Any policy, plan, or contract secured to fill the above requirements must, at a minimum, be:
- (1) Underwritten by an insurance corporation having an A.M. Best rating of "A—" or above, and Insurance Solvency International, Ltd. (ISI) rating of "A-i" or above, a Standard & Poor's Claims-paying Ability rating of "A—" or above, a Weiss Research, Inc. rating of