Here’s what participants and administrators in the American Overseas Research Centers Program have to say about their experiences in the program:

“The caring attitude and friendliness of the West African Research Center staff made the center feel like my home in Senegal! On top of that, their ability to negotiate my research clearance, help me with housing, connect me to prominent local scholars, and provide computing services greatly facilitated my work.”
– Erin Augis, West African Research Center

“The Palestinian American Research Center’s research projects promote the understanding of important aspects of Palestinian life, history, and culture, an understanding that is essential to the ongoing effort to address the problems facing Palestinians today.”
– Ann M. Lesch, U.S. Director, Palestinian American Research Center

“The results of my research at the libraries of Istanbul will significantly influence the success of my academic career. As I would not have been able to conduct the research without the generous help provided by the American Research Institute in Turkey, I hereby express my gratitude for all the support I was given.”
– Selma Zecevic, Columbia University (New York)

“The American Institute of Maghrib Studies (AIMS) is an incredible resource for anyone conducting research in the Maghrib. The library, networking opportunities, and resources facilitate research on all topics.”
– Angel Foster, AIMS Fellow

“The American Institute of Yemeni Studies has been indispensable to the success of my work ... in a difficult political climate it has done a remarkable job in continuing with its work and providing a supportive environment to researchers.”
– John Willis, New York University
Access to the World and Its Languages

The mission of the International Education Programs Service (IEPS) is to meet the national needs for expertise and competence in foreign languages and area or international studies. IEPS administers 14 international education programs. These programs are complementary in nature and designed to benefit a variety of audiences through training programs, research, start-up or enhancement projects, and fellowships.

AMERICAN OVERSEAS RESEARCH CENTERS

This program provides grants to overseas research centers that are consortia of U.S. institutions of higher education to enable the centers to promote postgraduate research, exchanges, and area studies.

Eligible Applicants

Consortia of U.S. institutions of higher education centers that:

• Receive more than 50 percent of their funding from public or private U.S. sources.
• Have a permanent presence in the countries in which the centers are located.
• Are tax-exempt nonprofit organizations described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Center Activities

Grants may be used to support:

• Faculty and staff stipends and salaries
• Faculty, staff and student travel
• Operation and maintenance of the overseas center
• Teaching and research materials
• Acquisition, maintenance, and preservation of library collections
• Visiting scholars to teach or to conduct research at the center
• Conferences
• Publication and dissemination of outreach materials

Duration of Grant

• Four years

Since the inception of the American Overseas Research Centers Program in 1994, the U.S. Department of Education has awarded grants to centers in Africa, Central Asia, the Middle East, South Asia, and Western Europe, including:

Africa
• American Research Center in Egypt
• American Institute for Maghrib Studies
• West Africa Research Center

Central Asia
• American Center for Mongolian Studies

Middle East
• American Center of Oriental Research
• American Institute for Yemeni Studies
• American Institute of Iranian Studies
• American Research Institute in Turkey
• Cyprus American Archeological Research Institute
• Palestinian American Research Center
• W.F. Albright Institute of Archeological Research

South Asia
• American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies
• American Institute of Indian Studies
• American Institute of Pakistan Studies

Western Europe
• American Academy in Rome
• American School of Classical Studies at Athens

For More Information

E-mail questions to ope_iegps@ed.gov or visit the IEPS Web site at www.ed.gov/programs/iegps for more information, including: application deadline, application package, technical assistance, and program statute and regulations.

About the American Overseas Research Centers

The U.S. Department of Education conducted the first competition under the American Overseas Research Centers Program in 1994. Authorized under Title VI of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, the program provides grants to American overseas research centers that are consortia of U.S. institutions of higher education. The overseas centers must be permanent facilities in the host countries or regions, established to provide logistical and scholarly assistance to American postgraduate researchers and faculty.

Typically, the area studies or international studies research focuses on the humanities or social sciences.

Through a variety of grant activities, conferences, and publications, each overseas center facilitates research that is necessary for increased understanding of a foreign culture.

If you would like more information about the domestic international education programs, please visit the IEPS Web site at www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/iegps.