

## **USCIS Announces Citizenship and Assimilation Grant Opportunities**

Fee-funded grants will support citizenship preparation services for lawful permanent residents

**WASHINGTON**—U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced today it is now accepting applications for two funding opportunities under the Citizenship and Assimilation Grant Program that will provide up to \$10 million in grants for citizenship preparation programs in communities across the country.

These competitive grant opportunities are for organizations that prepare lawful permanent residents for naturalization and promote civic assimilation through increased knowledge of English, U.S. history and civics.

USCIS seeks to expand availability of high-quality citizenship preparation services throughout the country with these two grant opportunities:

- **Citizenship Instruction and Naturalization Application Services.** This grant opportunity will fund up to 36 organizations that offer both citizenship instruction and naturalization application services to lawful permanent residents. Applications are due by Aug. 8, 2018.
- The Refugee and Asylee Assimilation Program. This grant opportunity will fund up to four organizations to provide individualized services to lawful permanent residents who entered the United States under the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program or were granted asylum. These services will help them to obtain the skills and knowledge required for successful citizenship and to foster a sense of belonging and attachment to the United States. This grant strives to promote long term civic assimilation of those lawful permanent residents who have identified naturalization as a goal, yet may need additional information, instruction and services to attain it. Applications are due by Aug. 15, 2018.

USCIS will take into account various program and organizational factors, including past grantee performance and whether an applicant and any sub-awardees are enrolled in E-Verify, when making final award decisions.

USCIS expects to announce award recipients in September.

Since 2009, USCIS has awarded approximately \$73 million through 353 grants to immigrant-serving organizations. These organizations have provided citizenship preparation services to more than 200,000 lawful permanent residents in 37 states and the District of Columbia. The funding of these grant opportunities is supported by fee funds.

To apply for one of these funding opportunities, visit <u>grants.gov</u>. For additional information on the Citizenship and Assimilation Grant Program for fiscal year 2018, visit <u>uscis.gov/grants</u> or email the USCIS Office of Citizenship at <u>citizenshipgrantprogram@uscis.dhs.gov</u>.

For more information on USCIS and our programs, please visit <u>uscis.gov</u> or follow us on Twitter (<u>@uscis</u>), Instagram (<u>/uscis</u>), YouTube (<u>/uscis</u>), and Facebook (<u>/uscis</u>).

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