

Questions and Answers

Public Diplomacy Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Program

Funding Opportunity Number STATE-BISHKEK-PDS-26-0003

Question Deadline: April 20, 2026, at 11:59 p.m., Bishkek Time

Deadline for Applications April 30, 2026; 11:59 p.m. (23:59) Bishkek time

Q-1

1. PDS-Project Application form 1

point g. Please choose an Annual Program Statement (APS) theme: Promoting Business and Free Markets. It is my choice. Is this correct? – **Please leave it blank.**

2. Form SF-424-Individual

point 1. Name of Federal Agency- what should I write at this point? – **This information is provided on page 3 of the NOFO (U.S. Department of State, SCA/Embassy Bishkek, Public Diplomacy Section).**

point 2. Assistance Listing Title- what should I write at this point? - **This information is provided on the p.3 of the NOFO (19.040)**

point 3. Date received- Should I write something at this point? - **Enter the date of submission if the form is submitted through other means as instructed by the Federal agency. If submitted via Grants.gov, the date received will be completed electronically.**

point 5d. Congressional District of Applicant- Should I write something at this point? - **If the program/project is outside the US, enter 00.0**

3. Form SF-424A

Section A-

What is the Grant Program function or Activity? Example please. – Please enter the project title from Attachment 1.

What is the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number? - This information is provided on the p.3 of the NOFO (19.040)

Section C-

What should I indicate as a non federal resources? – This field only needs to be filled in if you have cost-share from other resources.

Q-2

I am planning to apply for the "STEM Education and Partnerships" funding opportunity (STATE-BISHKEK-PDS-26-0003) as an **individual applicant**.

I have downloaded all the attachments (1 through 6), but I cannot find the mandatory **SF-424-I** and **SF-424B** forms for individuals on the website. Could you please provide direct links or attach these forms so I can complete my application? - as instructed in the NOFO please refer to grants.gov

Q-3

Please find below specific questions related to STATE-BISHKEK-PDS-26-0003:

1. Detailed Budget

- *Attachment 1 (PDS Project Application Form)*.

At the bottom of page 3, it is noted that “You are required to submit a detailed budget narrative in the template spreadsheet (Attachment 3)”; however

Attachment 3 is the *Applicant Organization Information Survey*.

Should this refer to Attachment 2 which is the *PDS Budget Narrative Sample Template*? – Correct. Please refer to Attachment 2.

2. Grant/Donor Funding

- In *Attachment 1*, sections 3.3 and 3.4 requests information on grants received in the past three years from US and non-U.S. government sources. How much additional detailed information is required if similar information is requested in Section 7.1 of *Attachment 3* for 5 years? In *Attachment 1*, can we refer to the section in Attachment 3 for this information? Since we have multiple funding sources, we don't want this to adversely impact the overall project narrative's six-page word limit. – Please list the project title, funding source, and budget for each project implemented in the past three years, as requested in these sections.

3. Performance Monitoring Plan

- In *Attachment 1*, the PMP is referred to as *Attachment 5*, but it's actually *Attachment 4*. If we fill out Attachment 4, can we simply refer to it in Attachment 1? – Correct. By completing Attachment 4 in either Word or Excel format, you can reference it in the application form.

4. **Characters for Project Work Plan** - Most fields in *Attachment 1* have a maximum character count. Is there a maximum word count for the section 2.10 *Project Work Plan*?- There are no character or word limits set in this section.

Q-4

In the application form (Attachment 1: PDS Project Application Form), section 2.1.g asks applicants to select one of the Annual Program Statement (APS) themes: *Counterterrorism and Security*, *Promoting Business and Free Markets*, or *Promoting Democracy and Stability*.

However, we could not find a clear connection between the announced STEM competition and these thematic areas.

We would like to kindly ask which theme would be most appropriate to select if our proposed project focuses on teaching digital literacy and basic programming

skills to students (grades 9–11) at a boarding school for blind and visually impaired children. – Please leave it blank.