



# USCIS-IMLS WEBINAR

## Citizenship and Integration Grant Program

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**USCIS**

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March 21, 2024

# Reminders



- For any media inquiries or on the record statements, please email [media@uscis.dhs.gov](mailto:media@uscis.dhs.gov).
- For congressional inquiries, please contact [USCISCongressionalInquiries@uscis.dhs.gov](mailto:USCISCongressionalInquiries@uscis.dhs.gov).
- Send additional questions by emailing, [citizenshipgrantprogram@uscis.dhs.gov](mailto:citizenshipgrantprogram@uscis.dhs.gov).



# Agenda



- **Institute of Museum and Library Services Welcoming Remarks**  
Teri DeVoe, Associate Deputy Director for Grants to States
- **USCIS Office of Citizenship Overview**  
Claudia Conlon, Management and Program Analyst, Publications & Outreach Branch
- **Overview of the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program**  
Catherine Lopez, Program Officer, Grants Branch
- **Spotlight on a Current Grant Recipient**  
Homa Naficy and Cristina Burgos, Hartford Public Library

# Welcoming Remarks



U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

Teri DeVoe

***Associate Deputy Director for Grants to States  
Institute of Museum and Library Services***

<https://www.imls.gov/>

# Office of Citizenship Overview



U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

Claudia Conlon

***Management and Program Analyst***

***USCIS Office of Citizenship***

<https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship>



# Office of Citizenship Overview, Cont.



U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

- Provides federal leadership, tools, and resources to foster immigrant integration
- Promotes instruction and training on citizenship rights and responsibilities
- Engages and supports organizations in their integration efforts



# Citizenship and Integration Grant Program Overview



U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

Catherine Lopez

***Program Officer, Grants Branch***

***USCIS Office of Citizenship***

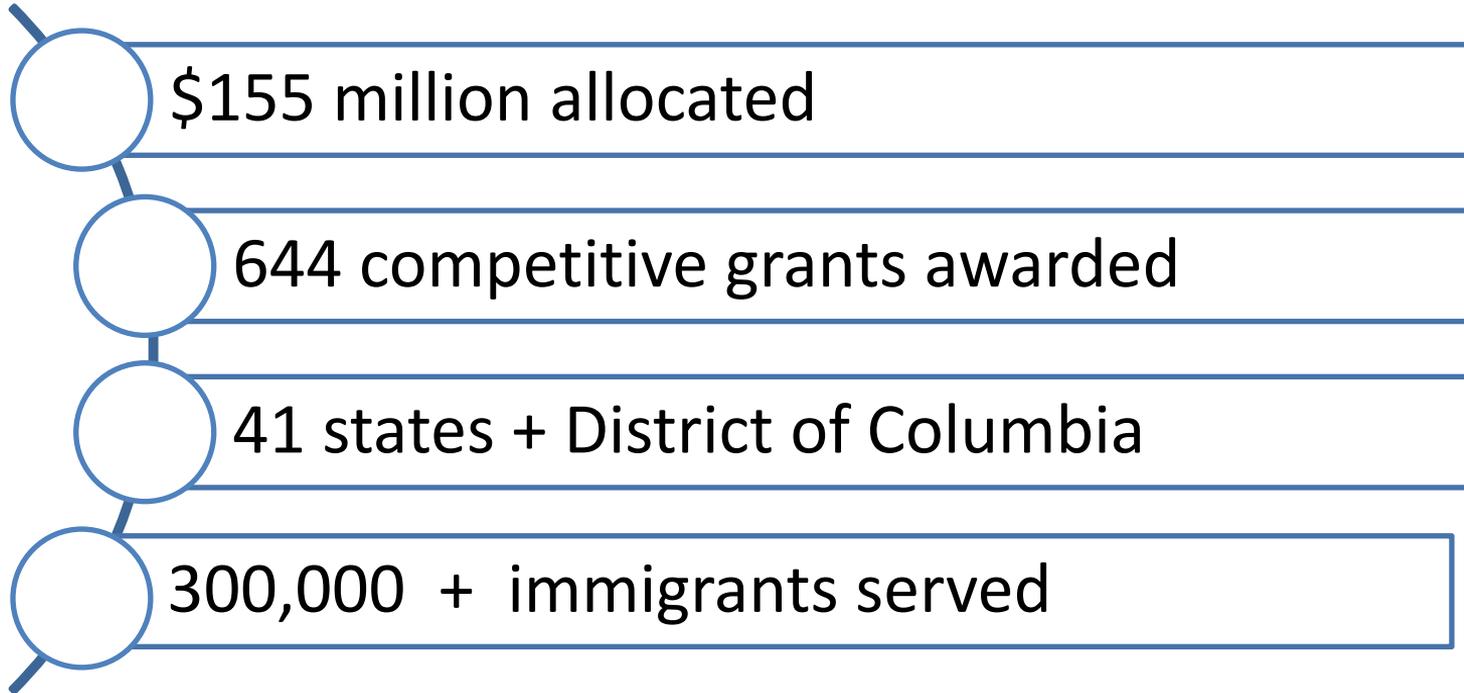
<https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/civic-integration/learn-about-the-citizenship-and-integration-grant-program>



# Citizenship and Integration Grant Program Impact



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# Program Goals



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\* Photo from Baltimore City Community College and IRC Baltimore

The goal of the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program is to:

- Expand the availability of high-quality citizenship preparation services for immigrants across the nation; and
- Provide opportunities for immigrants to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to integrate into the fabric of American society.

# Who Can Apply?



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Historically, a diverse range of organizations have been eligible to apply, including **libraries and museums!**

- City, township and county governments
- Independent school districts
- Indian/Native American Tribally Designated Organization and Governments
- Public/Indian Housing Authority
- Nonprofits with 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(6) IRS status, other than institutions of higher education
- Private, public and state-controlled institutions of higher education
- Special district governments
- State governments

# Libraries, Museums, and Partnerships



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Public and non-profit libraries and museums are among the many types of organizations that are eligible to apply for USCIS grants.

## Consider a partnership!

You can partner with other community-based organizations that offer legal services.



# Upcoming Events



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Stop by the USCIS booth at the Public Library Association Conference!

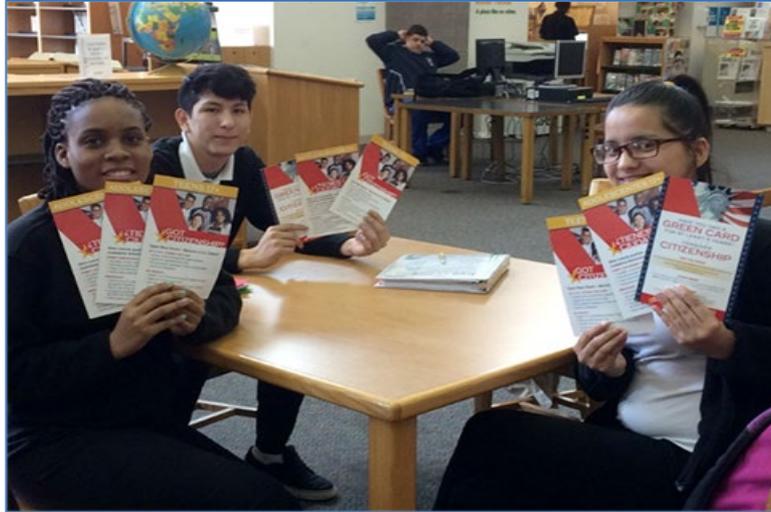


# Guest Presenter



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Joining us today to speak about their library's experience as a USCIS grant recipient is the Hartford Public Library in Hartford, CT!



*\* Photo from Hartford Public Library*

# Spotlight on a Current Grant Recipient

Homa Naficy

***Executive Director of The American Place***

***Hartford Public Library***

Cristina Burgos

*Citizenship Administrative Coordinator*

***Hartford Public Library***

<https://tap.hplct.org/>

# The Power of U.S. Citizenship



# Taking It Local

- Promoting the benefits of Citizenship
- Demystifying the process
- Designing and delivering services

# Making It Real: Citizenship Education

- Citizenship classes
- Volunteer citizenship coaching
- Mock interviews
- Independent study
- Citizenship corner

# Making it Real:

## Application Completion Support

- Recognition & accreditation
- Co-location of legal services
- Workshops
- Referrals

# Why Not Your Library?

## COMMUNITY-NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- USCIS Naturalization-Related Data and Statistics  
<https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship>
- Deloitte, Datawheel <https://datausa.io/profile/geo/hartford-town-puma-ct>
- Migration Policy Institute, State Immigration Data Profiles  
<https://www.migrationpolicy.org/programs/data-hub/state-immigration-data-profiles>
- Interactive Map: Eligible to Naturalize Adults by Probability of Naturalization – by State (2023) <https://dornsife.usc.edu/eri/research/map-eligible-to-naturalize-state-2023/>

# Yes, My Library!

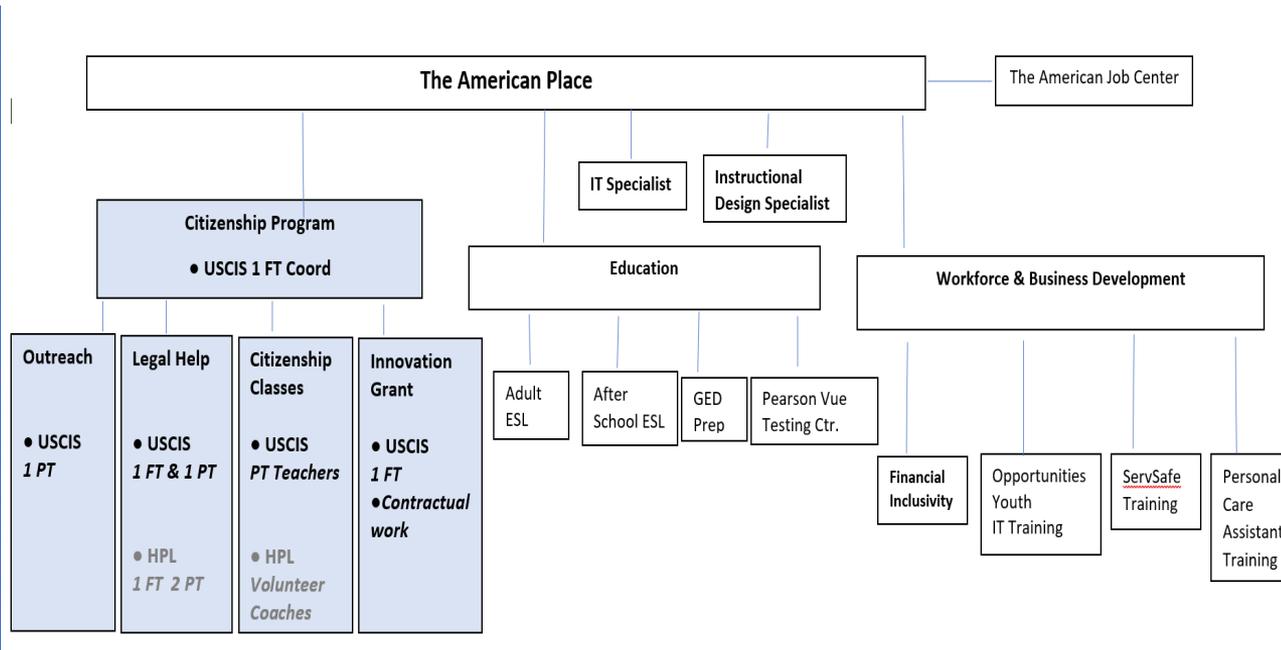
- **Leadership Buy-In**
- **Capacity Considerations**
  - Space
  - Staffing
  - Partnerships
- **Funding**

# Value Added

- Individuals
- Communities
- The Nation
- Libraries

# Years in the Making

## 2000 – 2024



# The American Place

Your Path to U.S. Citizenship Begins Here



THE AMERICAN PLACE



**Website:**  
<https://tap.hplct.org/>



# Questions?

# Learn More



U.S. Citizenship  
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Services

To contact us, please email:  
**[citizenshipgrantprogram@uscis.dhs.gov](mailto:citizenshipgrantprogram@uscis.dhs.gov)**

To learn more about the  
**USCIS grant program**, please visit  
our website at:

**<https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/civic-integration/learn-about-the-citizenship-and-integration-grant-program>**

The screenshot shows the USCIS website page for the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program. The page features a navigation menu with options like Topics, Forms, Newsroom, Citizenship, Green Card, Laws, and Tools. The main content area is titled "Learn About the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program" and includes a breadcrumb trail: Home > Citizenship Resource Center > Learn About the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program. A sidebar on the left lists various resources, with "Learn About the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program" selected. The main content area contains two informational boxes: one stating "Check back soon. Information on 2024 funding and application process is coming." and another stating "Visit the Fiscal Year 2023 Citizenship and Integration Grant program page to view the list of USCIS-funded programs and learn more about the recipients." Below these boxes, there is a "Background" section that explains the program's goal of providing citizenship instruction and application assistance to LPRs, and mentions that the program has awarded grants to members or affiliates of national organizations that provided citizenship preparation services in communities across the country to build capacity throughout the United States.

# Concluding Remarks



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**Thank you for joining today's session.**

To learn more about the USCIS Citizenship and Integration Grant Program, please visit our website at: <https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/civic-integration/learn-about-the-citizenship-and-integration-grant-program>.

For more information on our national engagements, visit: <https://www.uscis.gov/outreach>.

To provide feedback on this engagement, email us at: [Public.Engagement@uscis.dhs.gov](mailto:Public.Engagement@uscis.dhs.gov).

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# About this Presentation



- Author: USCIS Office of Citizenship (OoC).
- Date of last revision: March 21, 2024.
- This presentation contains no sensitive Personally Identifiable Information (PII).
- Any references in documents or text, with the exception of case law, relate to fictitious individuals.



**Thank you for joining today's  
session.**



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