



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Who should apply?

Educators and curriculum specialists with at least one year of teaching experience are encouraged to apply. The Institute is designed for educators working with secondary U.S. history curriculum (grades 6–12), and preference will be given to those who are currently teaching or will be teaching U.S. history or social studies during the 2027–2028 school year.

Educators outside of these subject areas are also welcome to apply and should demonstrate how they would apply the knowledge, perspectives, and resources gained through the Institute to their own classrooms and students.

How many teachers will participate in the program?

20 teachers will be selected.

When are applications due?

Applications will be accepted from December 1, 2026 – January 31, 2027.

Is there a cost?

No. There is no cost to participate in the Institute. Each participant will receive a travel and meal stipend of up to a specified amount, and SPY will cover the cost of the participant's hotel stay at the Hilton Washington, DC National Mall.

When will participants be notified if accepted?

All applicants will be notified by April 1, 2027, of their status.

How many credits are included?

27 professional development hours will be earned upon completion of this program.

What is the selection process?

SPY's Education Department will review all applications and score them using a pre-determined rubric. To create a diverse group of educators for this institute, the following criteria will be taken into consideration: types of school, years of teaching, location, student body, and grade level taught.

Where will teachers stay during the Institute?

Housing will be provided by SPY at the Hilton Washington, DC National Mall from Sunday, June 27, 2027 – Thursday, July 1, 2027. Each teacher will be provided with a single King Room for the duration of the Institute.

Do the selected teachers need to attend the entire Institute?

Participants are expected to attend and actively participate in all five days of the institute. Daily sessions will include expert presentations, primary source analysis, collaborative discussions, hands-on learning experiences, as well as time for reflection. Because each day builds upon the previous one, full participation and attendance throughout the Institute is essential to the success of the program.

Who should I contact if I have additional questions?

Feel free to email educators@spymuseum.org.