



Annenberg Summer Teacher Institute

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible for the Annenberg Summer Teacher Institute

Teachers from all varieties of educational institutions (i.e. private, public, or parochial) may apply. You must be a full-time educator. Please consult the grade level recommendations posted at www.constitutioncenter.org/summer

Are teachers from the same school or institution allowed to apply to the Institutes?

Yes.

Are you allowed to apply to both the Annenberg Summer Teacher Institute and the NEH Landmarks of American History Program at the National Constitution Center?

Yes, but please note that applications are considered by separate selection committees, acceptance to one does not guarantee acceptance to the other.

What is the stipend and what does it pay for?

A \$1,000 stipend is provided to cover the cost of housing and other you may incur at the Institute. The National Constitution Center and the Reagan Library will provide the following: breakfast, lunch, and a snack each day of the Institute as well as a final farewell dinner on Thursday evening.

How will applicants be selected?

All applications will be read by a selection committee, comprised of National Constitution Center Education staff and members of the Institute's faculty. The committee will be looking for applications that demonstrate a genuine passion for the teaching of the United States Constitution and the applicability of the content presented in the Institute to your classroom.

When will I be notified whether or not I have been selected?

You will be notified of selection prior to the last week in April.

May I bring my family or friends?

Yes, BUT we do ask that they not attend sessions designated for Institute participants. They are welcome to attend evening sessions and extra activities that may be planned.

What are my responsibilities as a participant?

The National Constitution Center and Reagan Library expect each attendee to be an active participant in all sessions Monday through Friday. Participants will also be required to submit a lesson plan or activity developed with content gathered at the Institute. The final product will be submitted to the National Constitution Center within 3 months of completion of the Institute attended.

Where will I be staying? Are rooms shared or private?

Private hotel rooms have been reserved at a local hotel. Many participants choose to share hotel rooms. Information on contacting other participants will be provided in your acceptance package.

Do I get graduate, in-service, or new teacher credit for participation?

Pennsylvania educators are eligible for Act 48 credits. Educators from other states will receive a formal letter stating the total number of professional development hours. The National Constitution Center's education staff is happy to assist you with your state's professional development system to gain recognition of work completed. For California teachers participating in *Changing the Constitution*, please contact Mira Cohen (Mira.Cohen@nara.gov) for information on receiving credit for your work.

When is the \$1,000 stipend given out? What will the institute cover?

The stipend will be given out in two separate installments. The first part of the stipend consists of \$750 plus travel allowance and will be given out at the completion of the last session of the Institute. The balance will be mailed to you upon completion of your lesson plan or activity.

What about travel costs?

Each participant will receive an extra allowance to help offset the cost of travel to and from Philadelphia or Simi Valley. Participants traveling greater than 150 miles will receive an extra \$300 and those travelling less than 150 miles will receive \$150.

Where do the Institutes take place? If I choose to drive, will parking be available?

Teaching the Presidential Election will take place at the National Constitution Center located on Independence Mall in Historic Philadelphia. Sessions of *Changing the Constitution* will simultaneously be held at in Philadelphia and at the Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, California. For those participants who live locally and are traveling to the Center, it is recommended that you take mass transit. Daily parking is available at the National Constitution Center and Reagan Presidential Library for a fee. Further information on directions and parking can be found here for the [National Constitution Center](#) and [Reagan Presidential Library](#).

What time should I arrive/depart? May I leave early?

You should plan on arriving on the Sunday prior to the start of your session. You should note book departure travel until after 4pm on the Friday of the Institute. To receive the full stipend you must stay until the completion of the Institute.

What should I wear?

Summers in Philadelphia and Simi Valley are very warm and you are encouraged to dress accordingly, please keep in mind that both museums are air conditioned and at times can be quite cool. It is also important to note that many days of the Institute involve moving and walking to historic sites, so please wear comfortable shoes.

Will I have access to the Internet?

The National Constitution Center does have a number of public access computers for your use during the Institute, and free wireless access will be available to you throughout the building and classroom. Internet access is also available at the Reagan Presidential Library and in the designated hotels.

Will I get to see Philadelphia or Los Angeles and Southern California?

During the Institute you will have the opportunity to visit a number of sites in the area. You will have time in the evening and Sunday before the Institute to explore.

Can I pick what session I would like to attend?

Yes, for the Changing the Constitution Institute you must indicate your preference between the Reagan Presidential Library and National Constitution Center on the designated area of your application.