



University Capacity Building Program (UCBP) 2025 – Program Briefer

About the Program

The University Capacity Building Program (UCBP) is a strategic initiative designed to strengthen the research administration and development capacities of Georgian higher education institutions (HEIs). Funded by the U.S. Embassy in Tbilisi and administered by American Councils, UCBP supports Georgia's innovation and economic growth by expanding research competencies and fostering U.S.-Georgian academic collaboration.

Program Objectives

- Assess current research administration capacity within Georgian HEIs.
- Train and resource Georgian research administrators on grants management and U.S. funding systems.
- Strengthen U.S.-Georgian university partnerships through workshops, mentoring, and study visits.
- Develop a sustainable community of Georgian research administrators equipped to collaborate globally.

Focus Areas

- Research management and capacity development
- Legal research, LegalTech, and compliance
- Artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and technology in academic research
- Strengthening U.S.-Georgia academic collaboration

Program Phases

Phase I: Needs Assessment & Webinars (May – October 2025)

- Baseline survey to assess institutional capacities in research and grants management.
- Webinar series covering the award lifecycle, U.S. grant systems, compliance, and funding frameworks.

Phase II: U.S. Study Visit (November 8–23, 2025)

- Ten selected participants will visit U.S. universities

- Tentative host institutions: George Washington University, American University, George Mason University, Georgia State University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Emory University (subject to change).

Phase III: Reciprocal Projects (December 2025 – March 2026)

- Georgian HEIs will collaborate with U.S. experts on tailored capacity-building initiatives.

Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must:

- Hold a leadership or representative role at a Georgian HEI.
- Demonstrate commitment to advancing institutional research capacity.
- Possess strong English communication skills.
- Commit to full participation in all program phases (June 2025 – March 2026).

Application Requirements

- Only one application per institution will be accepted.
- Applications must include:
- Completed and signed application form
 - Endorsement letter from the institution's Rector
 - Resume of the nominated participant

Applications must be submitted electronically by June 15, 2025: ais.americancouncils.org/ucbp

Questions?

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