

National Constitution Center Summer Teacher Institutes

Frequently Asked Questions

General

1. **Is there a cost to attend the institute?**

There is no cost to attend the institute, but a successful application must be submitted.

2. **What are the expectations for attendees?**

Attendees are expected to attend all of the sessions planned for the duration of the Summer Teacher Institute. This includes the lectures by scholars, classroom application lessons, and tours, and any other programs scheduled throughout the week.

3. **Can I have a schedule of events prior to the Institute to submit to my school administration?**

In order to keep the content of the institute relevant to ever changing constitutional issues, the schedule will not be finalized until late spring. After that time, the Center will be happy to share the schedule with attendees. Even at that time, however, the schedule is subject to change.

4. **What technology will be required to participate?**

The Center will use Zoom for the Institutes. Participants will receive all of the necessary session links in late June. Sessions will run as Zoom meetings, to allow for a higher level of engagement. It is expected that attendees will join all sessions with both Zoom audio and video enabled to support the community-building at the core of the Center's institutes. But, if attending scholar lecture sessions using only Zoom audio is preferred, the Center is happy to accommodate.

5. **Will portions of the institute be recorded?**

All elements of the institute will take place live. Tours, scholar lectures, and classroom application sessions will be recorded on Zoom and made available exclusively to attendees after the conclusion of the institute.

6. **Can I defer my acceptance to next year?**

Your acceptance cannot be deferred. While you are encouraged to apply for the Summer Teacher Institute again in the future, your acceptance cannot be guaranteed based on previous acceptance.

Application and Deadlines

1. **When is the application due?**

The application is due on Friday, February 26, 2021.

2. **Who is eligible to apply for the institute?**

The Institute is open to all educators currently teaching in grades 5-12 in any public, independent, parochial, or charter school in the United States. Social Studies, English, and other Humanities teachers are welcome to apply.

3. **Are attendees of previous institutes allowed to apply for the 2021 Summer Teacher Institute?**

Yes. There are four spots held each week for alumni of previous institutes.

4. **How long will it take to complete the application?**

The application will take approximately 15 minutes to complete.

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5. **Are there any other materials necessary to complete the application (i.e. letter of recommendation, resume, etc.)?**

You will not have to submit any additional materials to complete your application. Due to the large volume of applications the National Constitution Center receives for the Summer Teacher Institute, any additional materials will not be reviewed during the application process. As part of the application, there is a brief, 300-word essay about your goals for attending the Summer Teacher Institute. The time required to answer this question has been factored into the estimated 15 minutes it will take to complete the application.

6. **When will I be notified of the status of my application?**

You will be notified by Friday, March 26, 2021.

During the Institute

1. **What type of work will be necessary to prepare for the institute?**

You will be notified of any preparatory materials—including readings, activities, and recordings—in the month leading up to the start of the institute.

2. **What is the schedule for the week?**

The week will begin with an introductory session where participants will learn more about the week ahead and their fellow participants. This will be followed by the first scholar talk of the week. Programs on Monday through Friday will begin in the late morning, include a time for a lunch break, and end in the late afternoon.

3. **What is included in each day?**

Each day will begin with pertinent announcements and information. Programs for the day include scholarly lectures, presentations about resources from the National Constitution Center, tours of the museum, and pedagogy sessions.

4. **Can I earn Professional Development hours for attending the institute?**

The NCC will process Act 48 Credit for Pennsylvania-certified teachers. For educators certified in all other states, the NCC will provide documentation for submission for professional development credit.

