FOREIGN LANGUAGE AND AREA STUDIES (FLAS) FELLOWSHIPS

In Asian Studies

SUMMER 2009                      ACADEMIC YEAR 2009-2010

Consortium for the Study of the Asias
214 SOCIAL SCIENCES BUILDING
267-19TH AVENUE SOUTH
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 5545

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
College of Liberal Arts

The Consortium for the Study of the Asias (CSA) invites all academic departments to nominate up to three
undergraduate students for summer
undergraduate students for Academic Year FLAS Fellowships;
graduate students for a summer and
graduate students for Academic Year FLAS Fellowships.

NEW and RETURNING students are eligible for awards!

• Summer: $2,500 living stipend PLUS tuition and selected fees
• Academic Year: Undergraduates: support levels still to be determined by the US Department of Education; Graduate students: living stipend PLUS tuition and selected fees

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FLAS FELLOWSHIP POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Through grants from the United States Department of Education (US/ED), CSA is offering several Summer FLAS fellowships and eight Academic Year FLAS fellowships.

**Purpose:** To promote the study of modern foreign languages and less-commonly-taught languages in particular supporting Asian studies within undergraduate, graduate, and professional schools.

**Priorities:** CSA is committed to promoting the study of modern less-commonly-taught languages (LCTLs). Students studying other languages are also encouraged to apply.

**Selection Criteria:** Candidates are ranked on the basis of the following established priorities:
1. evidence that language training is needed to further the applicant’s study of Asian issues and problems;
2. the extent to which the applicant’s current or planned academic program is focused on Asian issues and problems;
3. the applicant’s academic performance to date;
4. the persuasiveness of the applicant’s letters of recommendations;
5. proposed language study at the advanced level of a LCTL receives a competitive priority; and
6. applicants who are pursuing master’s degrees and who may be more likely to pursue government service receive a competitive priority.

For graduate students, the lowest consideration will be given to applicants who propose to study the first two semesters of a commonly taught language (defined by the US/ED as French, German, and Spanish.)

**Eligibility:** Academic Year FLAS fellowship applicants must be degree-seeking students in good academic standing enrolled in a undergraduate or graduate program at the University of Minnesota.

Undergraduate students are eligible for FLAS fellowships to study intermediate (2nd-year) or advanced (3rd-year and beyond) levels of a less-commonly-taught language (LCTL). Undergraduate students are NOT eligible for FLAS funding for 1st-year LCTL instruction or for more-commonly-taught language instruction (i.e. French, German and Spanish).

Graduate students in all programs are eligible, although fellowships will not be awarded to graduate students who major in French, German, or Spanish to study the language of their major. They are eligible to study another language.
All graduate students are eligible, although fellowships will not be awarded to graduate students who major in French, German, or Spanish to study the language of their major. They are eligible to study another language.

Each applicant must clearly indicate how a FLAS fellowship is essential to her/his professional development and will contribute to the field of Asian studies.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Foreign students are NOT eligible.

In principle, it is possible to receive another fellowship, scholarship, or award providing any form of stipend, living allowance, subsistence allowance, etc., while receiving a FLAS stipend. HOWEVER, certain “double-dipping” restrictions apply. Check with the FLAS coordinator.

**Tuition and Fee Allowance:**
Note that FLAS fellowship carries a tuition and fee allowance (in the last funding cycle $12,000 for the academic year and $4,000 for the summer). For graduate students this is not likely to change. Levels of support for undergraduates for the academic year still have to be determined by the US Department of Education.

Nominating departments are responsible for payment of tuition and fee charges accrued by the fellow that exceed those allowances. FLAS regulations require that FLAS fellows are held free of any excess tuition and fee charges. The excess charges are the responsibility of the nominating department.

**Procedure:** Departments may nominate up to three undergraduate and three graduate students per competition (summer and AY). Undergraduate FLAS nominees may also be nominated by a LCTL instructor or collegiate advisor. The nomination package must include:

1. a completed and signed nomination form (available for download) and a letter of nomination submitted by the department

2. the nominee’s application form (available for download) including statement of interest linking his/her work and the importance of language training to international studies

3. an additional letter of recommendation from the student’s advisor or a faculty member who has worked closely with the student

4. transcripts (including graduate level if applicable).
Deadline:  Friday, March 12, 2010 at 4:30 PM

Notification: Decisions by the US Department of Education to the university about availability of funds and funding levels for Academic Year 2010-2011 awards aren’t expected until late spring semester 2010. No award information will go out until that time.

Terms: We expect that recipients of AY FLAS Fellowships will receive a stipend and tuition reimbursement for up to 13 credit band for undergraduates and up to the 14 credit band per semester at the graduate rate and most standard fees. HOWEVER, final levels of FLAS fellowships support for AY 2010-2011 and beyond still have to be determined by the US Department of Education. Grade reports must be submitted at the end of each semester.

Submission of a U.S. Department of Education brief and confidential final evaluation of your program of study is required upon completion of the fellowship. This is not an evaluation of your language skills.

FLAS fellows may be asked to participate in an Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) at the end of the fellowship period to measure the growth in language proficiency during the period of the fellowship.

Note: Students currently receiving fellowships can be nominated for future FLAS Fellowships. Likewise, any student can be nominated for both an Academic Year and a Summer fellowship.

To find less commonly taught language programs, visit the Less Commonly Taught Languages Project (LCTL) web site of the Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition (CARLA) at the University of Minnesota: http://carla.acad.umn.edu:591/home.html

Currently CSA has approval to offer FLAS in the following Asian languages: Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew, Hindi, Hmong, Japanese, Korean, Russian, Turkish, Urdu, and Vietnamese.

The US/ED has also announced the following funding priorities:

- Fellowships to students in the least-commonly taught languages who are pursuing advanced level language proficiency
- Fellowships to talented students pursuing master’s degrees who may be more likely to pursue government service

Please be advised that proposals to study beginning Spanish, French, or German are rarely funded.
Students wishing to find funding for dissertation research abroad should apply to the Fulbright-Hayes Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Program.

All application materials must be sent FROM THE NOMINATING DEPARTMENT to:

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