



**Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships
2020-2021 Competition for Undergraduate Students
for Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Turkish, Uzbek and other
East European/Eurasian Languages**

The Center for Slavic and East European Studies (CSEES) at The Ohio State University (OSU) is seeking applications for fellowships for Summer 2020 and Academic Year 2020-2021 under the U.S. Department of Education's Title VI Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship program. All applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Undergraduate FLAS awards are open to students in any department who are pursuing a course of study that requires advanced foreign language and area studies training. Additionally, undergraduate applicants are required to have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.2 and no grade less than a B+ in all target language courses. Applicants studying Russian must be applying to study 3rd year Russian or above. For all other languages, applicants can apply to study 2nd year or above.

LANGUAGE ELIGIBILITY: Awards will be made through CSEES for Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Turkish, and Uzbek. Applications for other East European or Eurasian languages will also be considered. If applying for an award in more than one language, separate applications for each language/area study focus must be submitted. Applicants are responsible for contacting the appropriate language departments and/or summer language programs and establishing that their requested level of language instruction will be offered in 2020-21.

SUMMER (SU) 2020 FELLOWSHIPS:

SU fellowships are expected to carry a stipend of \$2,500 and an award for tuition and partial fees (up to \$5,000). SU fellowships are awarded for intensive language study only. Intensive programs eligible for support must encompass the equivalent of a full year of language study with at least 120 contact/classroom hours in instruction for advanced language levels and 140 hours for intermediate language levels and offer at least 6 weeks of instruction. Individualized instruction and audited classes are ineligible for a Summer FLAS. SU fellowships may be used for intensive language study at OSU or at other institutions including study abroad. In such cases, applicants must provide itemized data on tuition, fees, and room and board expenses in the Language Instruction Budget Estimate section of the online application. Summer award recipients must register for a minimum of six credit hours of language courses during the award period. They are also required to meet with the FLAS Coordinator prior to the start of their program as well as to take a language proficiency entrance and exit exam before and after their program of study. In addition, recipients must submit a post-fellowship online report to the U.S. Department of Education, and participate in brief biennial surveys on their job placement and use of language skills for eight years post-graduation. U.S. government regulations require all recipients of a FLAS travel award (available in some circumstances for summer fellows) to comply with the provisions appearing in the Fly America Act. Specifically, all tickets for overseas flights purchased with U.S. Dept. of Education funds must be on a U.S. carrier, unless the traveler is able to meet specific exception requirements. If a Fellow fails to meet any of these requirements, support may be withheld and/or he/she will be required to return funds given to them, including payments for tuition and fees.



PRIORITIES: In awarding Summer 2020 fellowships, consideration will be given to applicants with academic merit and professional potential who also demonstrate financial need as defined in Part F of Title VI of the Higher Education Act of 1965. Highest priority will be given to candidates proposing to study at the advanced level (Level 3 or higher) who intend to enter government service. Second-highest priority will be given to students planning to study at the intermediate level (Level 2) or who do not intend to enter government service.

AWARD NOTIFICATIONS: Fellowship competition results will be announced in March 2020.

ACADEMIC YEAR (AY) FELLOWSHIPS:

AY fellowships are expected to carry a stipend of \$5,000 and contribute up to \$10,000 towards tuition and fees. Subject to approval, AY FLAS fellowships may also be used for foreign language and area studies at other U.S. or foreign institutions. Because FLAS Fellowships are language and area study-based, all AY award recipients must be enrolled in at least one three-credit, graded, classroom-taught language course and at least one three-credit, graded, classroom-taught area studies course each semester during the tenure of the fellowship. AY award recipients must also be full-time fellows (12 credit hours per semester). In order to gauge each student's language progress during the period of their fellowship, recipients are also required to take a language proficiency entrance examination in the beginning of the academic year and an exit examination at the end of the academic year. FLAS Fellows are also required to meet with the FLAS Coordinator prior to the start of each semester to discuss their course load and program of study. In addition, all recipients are required to submit a post-fellowship online report to the U.S. Department of Education, and to participate in brief biennial surveys on their job placement and use of language skills for eight years post-graduation. If a Fellow fails to meet any of these requirements, money may be withheld and/or he/she will be required to return the money given to them including payments for tuition.

PRIORITIES: In awarding Academic Year 2020-21 fellowships, consideration will be given to applicants with academic merit and professional potential who also demonstrate financial need as defined in Part F of Title VI of the Higher Education Act of 1965. Highest priority will be given to candidates proposing to study at the advanced level (Level 3 or higher) who intend to enter government service. Second-highest priority will be given to students planning to study at the intermediate level (Level 2) or who do not intend to enter government service.

AWARD NOTIFICATIONS: Fellowship competition results will be announced in March 2020.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The APPLICATION DEADLINE is **Monday, February 3, 2020 at 4:30 PM** for both Summer 2020 and Academic Year 2020-2021 fellowship applications. Applicants are eligible to apply for both summer and academic year fellowships. No consideration will be given to applications that are incompletely or improperly filled out.

A complete application includes the following:

1. The completed **Online Application Form** that can be accessed from <https://slaviccenter.osu.edu/funding/flas>;
2. An up-to-date **OSU Advising Report** of all courses taken and grades received, and **Official Transcripts** from any other previous college level study at other institutions (attached in online application);
3. A one-page, single-spaced **Statement of Intent** (attached in online application);
4. A **resume or C.V.** of no more than two pages (attached in online application);



5. A **Budget Estimate** section in the online application, with relevant supporting materials attached;
6. **Three letters of reference** from faculty members familiar with the student's work, including:
 - a. One letter from a language faculty at the college level to speak to the applicant's language ability; and
 - b. One letter from a faculty member in any field that can speak to the applicant's commitment to international studies.

Applicants fill out the Student Section of the FLAS Reference Form and provide it to the referees. Referees complete the reference and submit via email to kunkler.10@osu.edu by Monday, February 3, 2020; and

7. Applicants must also separately submit a **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** to OSU's Office of Student Financial Aid by their priority deadline of Saturday, February 1, 2020 in order to be considered for a FLAS Fellowship. The FAFSA can be accessed at <http://sfa.osu.edu>.

CONTACT

Contact the Center for Slavic and East European Studies (Eileen Kunkler, assistant director, at 614-292-8770 or kunkler.10@osu.edu) with any questions regarding your application for a CSEES FLAS Fellowship.