Funding Opportunities for International Studies Research

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS)

Summer 2020 and 2020-2021 Academic Year Awards

TITLE VI FUNDING THROUGH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

FLAS fellowships assist students in pursuing advanced training to acquire a high level of competence in one or more languages that are critical to national needs of the United States, and to a fuller understanding of the areas, regions, or countries in which the languages are commonly used.

FOR DETAILS CONTACT:
SOUTH ASIA PROGRAM (sap@cornell.edu) OR
SOUTHEAST ASIA PROGRAM (seap@cornell.edu)

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Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships

1. Application Website
URL: http://einaudi.cornell.edu/foreign-language-and-area-studies-flas-fellowships. This webpage provides information and updates about the fellowship and links to the online FLAS application.

2. Deadline
The deadline for all materials is **4:30 pm, Wednesday March 4, 2020**. For students admitted to graduate programs with rolling deadlines, there may be a limited second-round competition with a deadline of May 1.

3. Description
FLAS fellowships assist students in pursuing advanced training to acquire a high level of competence in one or more languages that are critical to national needs of the United States, and to a fuller understanding of the areas, regions, or countries in which the languages are commonly used. The United States today faces unprecedented demand for globally competent citizens and professionals. Congress recognized this in the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act that included funding for Title VI Programs.

Two of Cornell's long-established language and area studies programs, the South Asia Program (SAP) and the Southeast Asia Program (SEAP), have long received highly competitive four-year grants from the U.S. Department of Education that include designation as National Resource Centers (NRC), Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships. This is in recognition for their excellence in areas critical to the national interest.

SAP and SEAP have already received federal grant funds to support summer 2020 FLAS fellowships. However, these programs’ ability to offer 2020-2021 academic year FLAS fellowships is contingent upon receipt of FLAS grant funding from the U.S. Department of Education for 2020-2021.

FLAS fellowships are offered to fund the study of the following U.S. Department of Education Priority Languages:

| South Asia Program (SAP): http://sap.einaudi.cornell.edu/ | Bengali, Hindi, Nepali, Persian, Punjabi, Sinhala, Tamil, Modern Tibetan, Urdu (Others available during the summer) |
| Southeast Asia Program (SEAP): http://seap.einaudi.cornell.edu/ | Burmese, Khmer (Cambodian), Indonesian/Malay, Filipino (Tagalog), Thai, Vietnamese (Lao and Hmong are available during the summer) |

4. Eligibility
Based on current program regulations, the applicant must:
- Be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States
- Show potential for high academic achievement based on indicators such as gradepoint average, class ranking, or similar measure
- Agree to pursue full-time study in accordance with the university’s requirements, and agree to language study during the tenure of the award
• Demonstrate the extent to which the necessary language training requirements have been met. Note: Lowest priority will be given to a candidate who is a native speaker of the language for which an award is sought.

• The fellowship may be used overseas only if the candidate has received prior approval from the U.S. Department of Education Program Officer to enroll in an advanced program overseas established by a U.S. institution.

• Have not received a dissertation research fellowship from a federal source, such as Fulbright-Hayes

• **Graduate Students** must:
  o Have earned a baccalaureate or comparable degree before the fellowship begins
  o Be accepted for (or enrolled in) graduate level training in an approved program that combines modern foreign language training and either
    • Area or international studies
    OR
    • Research and training in the international aspects of professional and other fields of study
  o Be at the intermediate to advanced level of language study for one of the designated languages OR be starting a second regional language. Students wanting to take language courses at the introductory level may be eligible in certain circumstances, which will be examined on a case-by-case basis.
  o Funding for summer FLAS is only for approved intensive language acquisition programs, such as SEASSI, SASLI, or AIIS.

• **Undergraduate Students** must:
  o Be in the process of earning a baccalaureate
  o Be at the intermediate to advanced level of language study for one of the designated languages
  o Plan to attend an approved summer intensive language acquisition program or enroll in South Asian language classes at Cornell in the 2020-2021 academic year.

5. Application requirements
• Complete a [FAFSA Application](https://fafsa.ed.gov/). Both graduate students and undergraduate students for either Academic Year or Summer FLAS Fellowship must submit a FAFSA. The FAFSA must be submitted by the FLAS application deadline. **Cornell code: 002711**

• Continuing Cornell graduate students must submit:
  o Two letters of recommendation: one from the student’s Chair/Advisor, and one from another faculty member
  o An official transcript covering one full academic year of coursework.
  o Optional: a third letter of recommendation from a language instructor

• Continuing Cornell undergraduate students must submit:
  o Two letters of recommendation from faculty members
  o An official transcript covering one full academic year of coursework
  o Optional: a third letter of recommendation from a language instructor
• Official transcripts may be sent by one of the following methods (and you only need to submit one transcript for all of your applications):
  o Electronically to flas@einaudi.cornell.edu
  o Paper to FLAS Transcripts, 180 Uris Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca NY 14853

• The online system will automatically generate emails to your letter writers, providing them with a link for submission of their letters, which are due by the application deadline. In order for your letter writers to have sufficient time to prepare and upload letters of recommendation for you, **we strongly suggest that you start a draft of your application several weeks in advance of the deadline.** Once you have a preliminary draft saved, you will be able to click on the button to send an email notification to your recommenders. You can continue to work on your application until you are ready to submit, while allowing recommenders ample opportunity to upload letters.

6. **Selection Criteria**
The priority of the FLAS funding agency, the U.S. Department of Education, is to give preference to students who demonstrate financial need as indicated by the students’ expected family contribution, as determined under part F of title IV of HEA (which is why we require the FAFSA).

7. **Funding Period**
The fellowship period is either **Summer 2020** or **Academic Year 2020-2021**. You may apply for both fellowship periods by submitting two applications. In your application please indicate the language level you intend to study during the fellowship award period.

8. **Funding Amount**
• The funding level for the **graduate academic year award** is a nine-month stipend of $15,000 plus an education allowance (towards tuition) for the 2020-2021 academic year of $18,000. Some colleges at Cornell will provide additional funding to cover full tuition costs, and, for PhD and Master’s research degrees only, the Graduate School will provide SHIP (Student Health Insurance) and an additional stipend.
• The funding level for the **SAP Undergraduate academic year award** is a nine-month stipend of $5,000 plus an education allowance (towards tuition) for the 2020-2021 academic year of $10,000.
• **Summer 2020 FLAS** stipend is $2,500 with an educational allowance (program fee/tuition payments) of up to $5,000, for both Undergraduate and Graduate Fellows. For further clarification, contact the area studies program Fellowship Coordinators.

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<th>Summer</th>
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<tr>
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9. **Contact Details**
If you have questions please contact the Area Studies Program which corresponds with the language you plan to study.
• South Asia Program: Daniel Bass, dmb46@cornell.edu
• Southeast Asia Program: Thamora Fishel, tfishel@cornell.edu.