

# Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships 2024-2025 Competition for Undergraduate Students

for Haitian Creole, Portuguese, Quechua, and other Latin American Languages

The Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS) at The Ohio State University (OSU) is seeking applications for fellowships for Summer 2024 and Academic Year 2024-2025 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. Applicants must also have successfully completed at least one year of Latin American language study at the college level before the start of the fellowship (the same language they will study with the fellowship).

## LANGUAGE ELIGIBILITY

Awards will be made through CLAS for Haitian Creole, Portuguese, or Quechua. Applications for other Latin American languages (e.g. Aymara, K'iche' Maya, Nahuatl) will also be considered on a case-by-case basis. 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 appropriate language departments to establish that their requested level of language instruction will be offered in the 2024-2025 academic year at the time of the application submission.

## SUMMER 2024 FELLOWSHIPS

Summer fellowships are expected to carry a stipend of \$3,500 and an award for tuition and partial fees (up to \$5,000). Summer 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 beginning and intermediate language levels, and offer at least 6 weeks of instruction. Individualized instruction and audited classes are ineligible for a Summer FLAS.

Summer 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 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 bi-annual 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 (up to \$1,000, 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 they will be required to return funds given to them, including payments for tuition and fees.

If studying overseas, fellows must register this travel with OSU's Global Education office and purchase the required supplemental travel insurance, the cost of which (\$1.67/day) is the fellow's personal responsibility.

## **ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-2025 FELLOWSHIPS**

Academic Year (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 language proficiency entrance and exit examinations at the beginning and 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 participate in brief bi-annual 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 they will be required to return the money given to them including payments for tuition.

## **PRIORITIES**

In awarding both Summer 2024 and Academic Year 2024-2025 fellowships, consideration will be given to applicants with academic merit and professional potential. Highest priority will be given to candidates proposing to study at the advanced level (Level 3 or higher) who also demonstrate financial need as defined in Part F of Title VI of the Higher Education Act of 1965. Second-highest priority will be given to students planning to study at the advanced levels (Level 3 or higher) before entering government service.

## **AWARD NOTIFICATIONS**

Fellowship competition results will be announced in March 2024.

## **APPLICATION PROCEDURES**

The application deadline is **Thursday, February 1, 2024, by 11:59 PM** for Academic Year 2024-2025 and Summer 2024 fellowship applications. 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**, found at <https://clas.osu.edu/FLAScompetition>.
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 your online application).
3. A **Resume or CV** (two pages maximum; attached in your online application).
4. A one-page single-spaced **Statement of Intent** (attached in your online application).
5. A **Budget Estimate** section in your online application, with relevant supporting materials attached.
6. Three **Letters of Reference** from faculty members familiar with the student's work, including:
  - a. Two letters from faculty who can speak to the applicant's qualifications, and preferably to how the applicant plans to combine their language skills with an international career;
  - b. One letter from a language faculty at the college level to speak to the applicant's language ability.

For letters of reference, applicants fill out the Student Section of the FLAS Reference Form and provide it to their referees. Referees complete the reference and submit via email to [clas@osu.edu](mailto:clas@osu.edu) by Thursday, February 1, 2024.

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 Thursday, February 1, 2024, in order to be considered for a FLAS Fellowship. The FAFSA can be accessed at <http://sfa.osu.edu>.

## CONTACT

Questions? Contact CLAS Assistant Director Leila Vieira at [vieira.31@osu.edu](mailto:vieira.31@osu.edu).

