



Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) - Summer and Academic Year Fellowships

Each year, the Columbia University East Asia National Resource Center for the expansion of the study of languages and culture of East Asia makes a number of **Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships (FLAS)** available to **eligible undergraduate and graduate students at Columbia and its affiliated institutions**. These federally funded fellowships are designed to provide financial support to students who are pursuing training in modern foreign languages and related area studies and are available for both academic year and summer study.

FLAS awards are contingent upon funding from the US Department of Education. Awardees should demonstrate both merit and financial need; all awardees will be requested at a later date to submit a FAFSA form.

Eligibility:

- US citizens, nationals, or permanent residents only
- Must be at the intermediate or advanced level of one of the following FLAS-eligible East Asian languages:
 - Chinese (at 3rd-year level or above)
 - Japanese (at 3rd-year level or above)
 - Korean (at 3rd-year level or above)
 - Tibetan (at 2nd-year level or above)

Selection Criteria:

- Academic excellence
- Commitment to the language, and using it as a part of your long-term academic or professional career goals

FLAS Fellowship (Summer)

The summer language course studied under the Summer FLAS fellowship must be the equivalent of an academic-year course: at least 140 credit or contact hours (120 at the advanced level), and a minimum of six (6) weeks in length. All overseas programs of study must be at the intermediate or advanced level of language proficiency. Additionally, all overseas programs of study **must be approved** by the United States Department of Education at least thirty (30) days prior to the start of the program (for more information about what constitutes an eligible program, please visit the [Graduate School of Arts and Sciences website](#)).

The summer FLAS Fellowship provides:

- A tuition grant up to \$5,000
- A \$2,500 stipend

The summer FLAS tuition grant will not exceed \$5,000. FLAS fellows are responsible for the timely payment of any remaining balance.



FLAS Fellowship (Academic Year)

The Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship competition is open to undergraduate and graduate students who are US citizens, nationals, or permanent residents who are enrolled or accepted for enrollment in a full-time program (either at Columbia University or overseas) that combines modern foreign-language training with international or area studies.

The FLAS Academic Year grants:

- Graduate students: a tuition grant up to \$18,000 and a stipend of \$15,000
- Undergraduate students: a tuition grant up to \$10,000 and a stipend of \$5,000

FLAS fellows are responsible for the timely payment of the remaining tuition balance and fees.

Applications for Summer and Academic Year FLAS grants must include the following items:

- Completed [online application form](#) through Columbia's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences' (GSAS) website
- A one to two page statement of purpose, describing your academic purpose, the role of the proposed language, and how you intend to use the language. The statement should describe how the language and area study will relate to your educational and career goals, and should indicate previous language experience, both formal and informal.
- Two letters of recommendation, preferably from instructors who can comment on your work in the target language and appropriate world area. GSAS prefers that recommenders submit their letters of recommendation electronically to expedite processing. When the applicant enters the name and email of the recommenders, the recommenders will automatically receive a letter with a link with the uploaded information.
- Academic transcripts
- If seeking approval for an overseas program that has not yet been approved: Please provide any relevant program brochures, websites and/or other documentation with your application.

For further information, visit the GSAS [summer](#) and [academic year](#) FLAS and [FAQs](#) pages or contact Elizabeth Peiffer (ep3021@columbia.edu), Student Affairs Officer at the Weatherhead East Asian Institute.