

**GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS & DEPARTMENTS/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS  
2025-2026 ACADEMIC YEAR FOREIGN LANGUAGE  
AND AREA STUDIES (FLAS) FELLOWSHIPS**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2025, 5:00 P.M.**

**FLAS VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSION: Friday, January 24, 2025, 12:00 pm**

**Zoom meeting link: <https://duke.zoom.us/j/92032738855>**

With funding provided by the U.S. Department of Education, the Duke area studies centers listed below will offer FLAS Fellowships for the 2025-2026 academic year. The fellowships are available to graduate and professional school students.

The purpose of the fellowships is to encourage the study or use of less commonly taught foreign languages in combination with Latin American and Caribbean or Middle East area studies. Recipients must enroll in a foreign language course (preferably at the intermediate level or above) and at least one area studies course during each semester during the 2025-26 academic year while completing other full-time course work. Fellowships may also be awarded to support dissertation research abroad using the advanced foreign language or for dissertation writing in the U.S. using the advanced foreign language.

The languages for which fellowships are offered are indicated below. In most cases, native speakers of these languages, even if U.S. citizens or permanent residents, are not eligible for a fellowship in their native language. Competitive preference will be given to applicants who have demonstrated financial need, as reflected in their most recent Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Student Aid Report.

The terms of the fellowship program, as specified by the U.S. Department of Education, are as follows:

The FLAS award for graduate and professional school students consists of a cost of education allowance of \$18,000 to cover tuition and required fees plus a stipend of \$20,000 for the academic year. The remainder of the tuition and required fees must be covered by University funds.

**Please note that student applicants are required to obtain the signature of their Department or School representative signifying the Department or School's agreement to accept the institutional payment in lieu of full tuition and fees for the FLAS Fellow.** According to the fellowship program guidelines, the FLAS Fellow cannot be required to contribute to the cost of their tuition and fees from their own personal resources.

Eligibility requirements for Academic Year FLAS Fellowships:

- (1) recipients must enroll as full-time students in a Duke graduate or professional degree program during the fellowship period;
- (2) recipients must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents;
- (3) recipients must enroll in the formal study of one of the languages indicated below while pursuing a formal academic program of study that includes area studies courses;
- (4) fellowships may also be awarded to support dissertation research abroad using the advanced foreign language or for dissertation writing in the U.S. using the advanced foreign language;
- (4) only candidates of very high professional promise should be nominated.

Application Instructions: We are pleased to invite applications from graduate students in academic departments or professional schools for these FLAS fellowships. Please send one copy of the following application materials to the relevant center **no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, February 14, 2024.**

**NOTE: All materials must be sent via e-mail as PDF attachments.**

- (1) a completed application form (attached -- please note that Directors of Graduate Studies or their professional school equivalents must certify that applicants are in good academic standing by signing where indicated on the attached application form; applicants must also obtain any additional approvals required by their Department or School prior to submitting the application; this signature also indicates the School's agreement to accept the cost of education allowance in lieu of full payment of tuition and required fees); **be sure to indicate which center you are applying to.**
- (2) two letters of recommendation (these should be sent via e-mail by the recommenders to the FLAS coordinator of the center to which you are applying – please ask them to mark the e-mail subject line as LOR for you):
  - a. one which evaluates the candidate's graduate and/or undergraduate performance, from the candidate's academic advisor, sponsoring faculty member, or other, and
  - b. one from a language instructor who is able to assess the student's current skills in the language to be studied; for beginning language candidates, the second letter should be from another faculty member or other who is familiar with your work;
- (3) an official transcript of the candidate's graduate record at Duke (please request an official transcript via the Registrar's Office to be sent to the FLAS coordinator of the center to which you are applying;
- (4) a two-page (double-spaced) proposal by the candidate describing prior language and area studies training, related experiences, and future study plans, including explicit reference to how those plans will lead to professional activity in the relevant world area or areas in which the language will be used. The candidate should also clearly indicate for which language he or she is applying and what courses would be undertaken in the language.
- (5) Student Aid Report from your most recent Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This form and instructions can be found online at <https://studentaid.gov/announcements-events/fafsa-support> Please send a copy of your Student Aid Report to the FLAS coordinator of the center to which you are applying.

## **Fellowship Requirements**

Fellowship recipients will be required to meet the following conditions throughout the entire period of the fellowship:

- Graduate and professional school Academic Year FLAS Fellowship recipients must be registered full time at Duke during the fall and spring semesters.
- Academic Year FLAS Fellowship recipients must be enrolled in an academic program of modern language and related area and/or international studies, or international aspects of professional training for the academic year. Specific instructions will be given by the Area Studies Center with the award letter. Fellowship recipients in a language with level restrictions who fail to meet enrollment requirements for the minimum level (e.g. successful completion of prerequisite courses or minimum score on a placement test) will have their fellowships cancelled.
- Fellowship recipients are responsible for arranging their schedules so as to be available to attend the required language and area studies classes when they meet. Enrollment in one language and one area studies class each semester is an absolute requirement for the fellowship. The student must prioritize enrolling in these classes when planning their schedules for each semester.

- FLAS Fellowship is tenable only for the period for which it is awarded. It cannot be deferred to a future year. All students must reapply each year.
- FLAS Fellowship recipients must complete any language proficiency testing at the beginning and end of their fellowship terms as required by U.S. Department of Education and the area studies center awarding the fellowship.
- FLAS Fellowship recipients must comply with all reporting requirements of U.S. Department of Education and the area studies centers awarding the fellowships. Failure to complete reports will prevent the student from being considered for future funding.
- FLAS Fellowship recipients are required to complete a survey regarding their career paths for a period of time (up to 8 years) following fellowship completion and graduation from their current degree program in accordance with U.S. Department of Education requirements. Please be sure to provide us with an e-mail address that you will be able to use for 8 years beyond your fellowship period.

<b>AREA STUDIES CENTERS ADMINISTERING ACADEMIC YEAR FLAS FELLOWSHIP COMPETITIONS FOR 2025-26</b>	
<b>Center</b>	<b>Languages for which fellowships are offered</b>
Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies 135 Franklin Center, Box 90254 Contact: Natalie Hartman Phone: 919-681-3983 e-mail: <a href="mailto:njh@duke.edu">njh@duke.edu</a>	Haitian Creole, K'iché Maya, Portuguese, Quechua. <i>(Please note: for all of these languages, preference will be given to applicants who can enroll in intermediate-level or above language courses. <b>If you are at the beginner level, you must have advanced language skills in another language of the Americas.</b>)</i> Application deadline for 2025-26 Academic Year FLAS competition: <b>Friday, February 14, 2025.</b>
Duke University Middle East Studies Center Franklin Center, Box 90404 Contact: Griffin Orlando Phone: 919-668-1653 email: <a href="mailto:griffin.orlando@duke.edu">griffin.orlando@duke.edu</a>	Arabic, Hebrew, Persian, Turkish, Urdu. <i>(Please note, for all of these languages, preference will be given to applicants who can enroll in intermediate-level or above language courses. <b>If you are at the beginner level, you must have advanced language skills in another language of the Middle East.</b>)</i> Application deadline for 2025-26 Academic Year FLAS competition: <b>Friday, February 14, 2025.</b>

*Duke University does not discriminate on the basis of color, race, religion, national origin, handicap, veteran status, sexual orientation or preference, sex, or age in the administration of educational policies, admission policies, financial aid, employment or any other University program or activity. It admits qualified students to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities accorded or made available to students.*

**IMPORTANT: The availability of AY FLAS Fellowships for 2025-26 and beyond will be contingent upon confirmation of funding from the U.S. Department of Education.**



# FLAS

FOREIGN LANGUAGE  
AND AREA STUDIES  
FELLOWSHIPS