

**Duke University**  
**GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS & DEPARTMENTS/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS**  
**2017-18 ACADEMIC YEAR FOREIGN LANGUAGE**  
**AND AREA STUDIES (FLAS) FELLOWSHIPS**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2017, 5:00 P.M.**

**FLAS INFORMATION SESSION: Thursday, December 1, 2016, 5:00 pm, in Room 130 Franklin Center, 2204 Erwin Road, Durham. Note: Free parking is available beginning at 5:00 pm in the Pickens Health Clinic Lot across the street.**

With funding provided by the U.S. Department of Education, the two area studies centers listed on the attached page expect to award non-service fellowships for the 2017-18 academic year. As in previous years the fellowships are available to graduate and professional school students.

The purpose of the fellowships is to encourage the study or use of foreign languages in combination with international or area studies. Priority will be given to students enrolling in a foreign language course and at least one area studies course each semester while completing full-time course work. In some cases, fellowships will be awarded to graduate students for the use of the advanced foreign language while carrying out overseas research during the academic year. The languages for which fellowships are offered by each center are indicated below. The FLAS competitions are open to graduate and professional school students currently enrolled at Duke. 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) report.

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

For graduate and professional school students the FLAS award consists of a cost of education allowance of \$18,000 to cover tuition and required fees plus a stipend of \$15,000. 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 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, or be actively engaged in the use of such a language via overseas field research;
- (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. Each center listed on the attached page will administer its own competition to award fellowships for the study of the languages listed. Please send one copy of the following application materials to each center to which you are applying **no later than 5:00 p.m., February 24, 2017.**

*It is possible to apply to more than one center and to centers not affiliated with Duke University – please make it clear on your application if you are doing so and be sure to submit a complete application with all supporting documentation to each center to which you are applying.*

**NOTE: All materials must be sent via e-mail to the Center's FLAS Coordinator 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);
- (2) two letters of recommendation (these should be sent via e-mail to the Center's FLAS Coordinator by the recommenders):
  - 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, or 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;
- (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 or research would be undertaken in the language.
- (5) Candidates applying for a FLAS fellowship to conduct dissertation research abroad during the award period must **also submit a separate** description of their research project, including dissertation research topic, dissertation advisor's name and e-mail address, and a statement of purpose, methods, and expected use of the language to be studied. The length of this additional statement should not exceed 300 words (per the funding agency's online reporting system).
- (6) Student Aid Report from your most recent Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This form and instructions can be found online at <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>. Please be sure to indicate that your report should be sent to Duke University.

## **Fellowship Requirements**

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

- Graduate Academic Year FLAS Fellowship recipients must be registered full time during the fall and spring semesters. Students in other graduate/professional programs should check with the registrar of their school/college for minimum credits required for full time registration for their program.
- Graduate 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 fall and winter terms. 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.
- 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.
- FLAS Fellowship recipients must comply with all reporting requirements of U.S. Department of Education and the Area Studies Center.
- FLAS Fellowship recipients are required to complete a survey regarding their career paths for a period of time following fellowship completion and graduation from their current degree program in accordance with U.S. Department of Education requirements.

<b>AREA STUDIES CENTERS ADMINISTERING ACADEMIC YEAR FLAS FELLOWSHIP COMPETITIONS FOR 2017-18</b>	
<b>Center</b>	<b>Languages for which fellowships may be offered</b>
Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies 135 Franklin Center, Box 90254 contact: Natalie Hartman phone: 681-3983 e-mail: njh@duke.edu	Haitian Creole, K'iché Maya, Portuguese, Spanish (for Spanish, language study must be at the advanced level). Application deadline for Academic Year FLAS competition: February 17, 2017.
Middle Eastern Studies Center 110 Franklin Center, Box 90402 Contact: Tom DeGeorges Phone: 919-684-1745 e-mail: td112@duke.edu	Modern Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Modern Hebrew, Urdu. Application deadline for Academic Year FLAS competition: February 17, 2017.
Please note: According to U.S. Department of Education guidelines, FLAS Fellows using a foreign language to conduct research overseas must be at the advanced level of study of the language in question.	
<b>FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE RELEVANT CENTER</b>	

**IMPORTANT: The availability of Academic Year FLAS Fellowships for 2017-18 and beyond will be contingent upon confirmation of funding received by each center from the U.S. Department of Education. We expect to announce awards by May 2017.**

*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.*