

# 2024-25 CLACS FLAS Application

MSU Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies 2024 Summer & 2024-25 Academic Year Foreign Language & Area Studies (FLAS) Application.

The U.S. Department of Education's FLAS Fellowship program seeks to meet the national need for area specialists in education, government and other public and professional sectors. They are designed for students who plan to utilize a modern foreign language and Latin American/Caribbean studies in their future careers, which may include teaching in primary or higher education in the U.S., serving the U.S. government, or working for an organization which contributes to international understanding.

Please direct questions to FLAS Coordinator Emily Holley at holleyem@msu.edu

**Deadline: February 10, 2024 11:59 pm**

\* Indicates required question

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## Applicant Information

1. Applicant First Name \*

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2. Applicant Last Name \*

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3. MSU Email address \*

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4. Other email address

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5. Are you an MSU student \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Yes
- No - current application pending

6. If you are a current MSU student, what is your APID#?

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7. Select Eligible Language of Study \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Portuguese
- Haitian Creole
- Latin American/Caribbean Indigenous Language

8. If you selected a Latin American/Caribbean Indigenous Language, please list it here.

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9. Intended Level of Language Study during Fellowship \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- First Year - ONLY graduate students who have achieved an advanced level of proficiency in another Latin American language, including Spanish
- Second Year
- Third Year
- Fourth Year or more

10. Home Institution \*

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11. How many years have you studied the language you are applying for? When did you study it? \*

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12. Please list all of the courses you have taken in the target language and the grades you received. \*

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13. Have you studied any other languages previously? Please specify which languages, what levels, and for how long. \*

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14. Degree program enrolled in during FLAS award period: \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- B.A.
- M.A./M.S./MFA
- Ph.D.
- Professional Degree (JD, MD, DO, etc)

15. List the program(s)/discipline(s) you are enrolled in during the FLAS award period \* (e.g., majors, minors, honors college, scholar programs, etc.).

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16. When is your anticipated graduation date? \*

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17. FLAS fellows must be a citizen, non-citizen national, or legal permanent resident of the United States. Are you: \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Citizen of the United States
- Non-citizen National
- Legal Permanent Resident of the United States

18. Do you qualify for in-state tuition? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Yes
- No

19. If you qualify for in-state tuition, on what basis? (residency, graduate assistantship, etc.)

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20. Do you qualify for MSU course fee courtesy benefits? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Yes
- No

21. Local Address - include city, state and zip code. \*

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22. Permanent Address - include city, state and zip code.

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23. Please list any recent academic honors, scholarships, fellowships, or membership \* in honor societies and respective dates.

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### Statement of Purpose

For the essay, refer to the [checklist on the website](#) for guidance on the areas to address.

Please address:

- Intended language of study and experience in the language.
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#### Relevance

of the chosen language to the applicant’s academic training and career goals, including specific information on current interests/studies pertaining to Latin America/Caribbean.

- Explanation of applicant’s Latin American training and expertise.
- Expected role that the chosen language and program of area studies are aligned with current academic programs of study and research and career interests.
- Extent to which the chosen language and Latin American studies coursework will play in advancing academic and professional plans.

24. Which FLAS fellowship are you applying to (students may apply for both summer and academic year FLAS fellowships in one application by selecting "both" below). Please also note that students must also apply to respective institutions to be admitted to participate in formal, summer intensive language programs. \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Summer 2024 - students must apply separately for the language program. This application is only for the FLAS fellowship
- Academic Year 2024-25
- Both - students must apply separately for the summer language program. This application is for FLAS funding only.

25. FLAS Fellowships are intended to facilitate language and area studies training from the undergraduate level through the Master's stage and into the early Ph.D. stage. \*

However, Ph.D. at the research and dissertation stage can also apply for this fellowship but will require further approval from CLACS and the US Department of Education. Only Ph.D. students at the advanced level of the language are eligible to receive an academic year fellowship to conduct dissertation research.

I will use the fellowship for:

*Mark only one oval.*

- Summer Intensive Language Program
- Language and Latin American studies coursework at MSU
- Dissertation research overseas

26. **Undergraduate Students (5000 character maximum):**  
Outline your selected language and related experience in the language; your current academic program(s); and how the proposed language and/or Latin American studies advances your current academic studies and future professional plans.

Please see the [checklist on the FLAS website](#) for more information about this essay.

Files submitted:

27. **Master's and Ph.D. Students (5000 character maximum):**  
Outline your selected language and related experience in the language; your current academic program(s) and research interests; and how the proposed language and/or Latin American studies advances your current academic studies, research interests, and future career plans.

Please see the [checklist on the FLAS webpage](#) for more information about this essay.

**Ph.D. Students:** Describe your dissertation (or future dissertation) research, including a description of topic, methods, host country affiliation, dates, levels of competence in the language, and an explanation of how language will be used.

Files submitted:



## 28. Indicate your long-term career goals (mark all that apply): \*

*Check all that apply.*

- Elementary Education
- Secondary Education
- Post-secondary Education
- Post-secondary Education Administration
- State/Local Government
- Federal Government
- Foreign Government
- U.S. Military
- International Organization in the U.S.
- International Organization outside the U.S.
- Private Sector, Non-profit
- Private Sector, for profit
- Unknown/Undecided
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## Academic Year Fellowship Applicants

This section applies to those applying for academic year fellowships.

Provide the requested information for the fall and spring semesters. Indicate your proposed course of study for the fellowship year, including language courses and Latin American Studies courses.

Prospective MSU students should indicate a preliminary plan of study subject to approval by MSU advisor or graduate committee.

For a list of Latin-American related minor courses, visit [https://reg.msu.edu/academicprograms/ProgramDetail.aspx?Program=LTNCA\\_MNUN](https://reg.msu.edu/academicprograms/ProgramDetail.aspx?Program=LTNCA_MNUN)

For course descriptions visit <https://reg.msu.edu/Courses/Search.aspx>

Students should receive grades and credits for all Latin American/Caribbean courses and language courses supported by a FLAS fellowship.

All language and Latin American Studies courses must be pre-approved by the FLAS Coordinator.

Fellowships awarded are for the academic year stated in the award letter. Renewals are not automatic. Fellows are eligible to apply for subsequent fellowship competitions.

29. First Course - include Number, Title & Credits

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30. Second Course - include Number, Title & Credits

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31. Third Course - include Number, Title & Credits

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## 32. Fourth Course - include Number, Title & Credits

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### Supporting Documentation

Two letters of recommendation are required to be submitted.

One letter of recommendation is required from faculty familiar with your academic work, preferably from your faculty advisor. Send this [link](#) to your faculty referee to complete.

Your application must be supported by a faculty recommendation letter. The faculty referee should be different from the FLAS language instructor referee.

You are responsible for contacting the faculty member and requesting that they complete the reference. **This system DOES NOT automate a request for the recommendation. Be sure the faculty member you ask has the [link](#) to the form. The CLACS FLAS Faculty Recommendation Form is available on the CLACS FLAS webpage.**

Second, a language letter of recommendation is required from your language instructor if you have taken a formal Latin American less commonly taught language course within the last two academic years; otherwise, an evaluation of your language training is not necessary. Use this [link](#). **Again, this system DOES NOT automate a request for the language letter of recommendation.** Make sure your language referee has the [link](#) to the form.

If you are an incoming MSU student or beginning-level graduate student and do not have an MSU language instructor, your second letter of recommendation should be from an additional faculty member or advisor.

Plan accordingly to allow the referees enough time to write and return their documents. They must be received by **February 10, 2024**.

33. Your application must be supported by a faculty recommendation letter.

The faculty must not be the FLAS language instructor of the less commonly taught language (LCTL), as they will need to submit the language letter of recommendation.

**You are responsible for contacting the faculty members and requesting that they complete the reference. This system DOES NOT automate a request for the recommendation. Be sure the faculty member you ask has the [link to the form](#).**

The CLACS FLAS Faculty Recommendation Form is available on the CLACS FLAS webpage.

What is the name of the faculty member who will write your letter?

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34. I will contact the above-named faculty member to ask them to write a letter of recommendation using the [form](#) and let them know to submit by February 10, 2024. \*

*Mark only one oval.*

Yes

No

35. Your application must be supported with a letter from your FLAS language instructor. This person is different from the the faculty referee. \*

**Again, this system DOES NOT automate a request for the evaluation. Applicants must request it themselves. Make sure your language evaluator has the [link to the form](#).**

If you are an incoming MSU student or beginning-level graduate student and do not have an MSU language instructor, you may provide a second letter of recommendation from an additional faculty member or advisor.

What is the name of the less commonly taught language instructor you will ask for a letter of recommendation?

Or, if you do not have a language instructor for a less commonly taught language, what is the name of the second faculty member for the second letter of recommendation?

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36. I will contact the above-named language instructor (or second faculty member if applicable for graduate students) to ask them to write a letter of recommendation using the [form](#) and let them know to submit by February 10, 2024. \*

*Mark only one oval.*

Yes

No

37. Use this [link](#) to request your unofficial transcript from the MSU Registrar. \*

I will request my transcript using the above link to be sent to [clacs@msu.edu](mailto:clacs@msu.edu) to arrive by February 10, 2024.

*Mark only one oval.*

Yes

No

38. If applicable, request transcripts from other higher education institutions using their online system to send email to [clacs@msu.edu](mailto:clacs@msu.edu) to arrive by February 10, 2024.

*Check all that apply.*

I understand I need to request non-MSU transcripts be emailed to [clacs@msu.edu](mailto:clacs@msu.edu) to arrive by February 2024.

39. Do you waive your right to view your letter of recommendation and language proficiency evaluation? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

Yes

No

40. Upload a pdf file of your current resume or CV

Files submitted:

## For Summer Fellowship Applicants

This section is for applicants of the FLAS Summer Fellowship.

Summer fellowships are for intensive language study only. Programs must be approved by the CLACS FLAS Coordinator and may occur overseas or in the U.S. Summer language programs must:

1. Be equivalent to one full year of language study as provided during a regular academic year.
2. Be offered by an accredited or recognized educational institution.
3. Take place over a minimum of 6 weeks and provide a minimum of:
  - 140 contact hours at the intermediate level, or
  - 120 contact hours at the advanced level.
  - Field trips do not count toward contact hours.

Enrolling in a non-language course, such as a Latin American/Caribbean studies course, is not required for summer FLAS fellowships.

Students must apply separately to the desired language summer program at the institution offering the program.

This application is for FLAS funding only.

41. What is the website address of the language program you intend to participate in?

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42. If available, upload the program pdf or detailed description of the proposed program of summer language study.

Files submitted:

43. Where is the summer language program?

*Mark only one oval.*

U.S.

Overseas

Both

44. Country of destination

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45. Study Site

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### Demonstrated Need

Students with or without financial need are encouraged to apply; when conditions are equal among qualified candidates, preference will be given to those who can demonstrate financial need.

1. CLACS will work with the MSU Office of Financial Aid and other units to verify eligibility and demonstrated need and determine award packages for FLAS fellows.
2. The FLAS Fellowship may impact your current financial aid package. If so, the MSU Office of Financial Aid will work with CLACS to determine the best possible financial aid package for FLAS awardees.

46. Did you file a FAFSA? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

Yes

No



47. If you filed a FAFSA, what is the dollar amount of the expected family contribution?

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48. If you did not file a FAFSA, what is the dollar amount of your expected costs (e.g., tuition, books, fees and living expenses)?

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49. What is the total dollar amount of the fellowships, scholarships and assistantships you will have to cover expected costs?

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50. Have you applied for any other scholarships, fellowships or assistantships during the FLAS award period? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

Yes

No

51. If you have applied for or have been granted other scholarships or fellowship, please indicate the award, amount, applicable dates. Please also indicate if you will have a graduate assistantship during the award period. \*

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## 52. Do you receive the MSU Course Fee Courtesy? \*

*Check all that apply.*

- Yes  
 No

## 53. To ensure federal compliance, CLACS will work with the MSU Office of Financial Aid and other units to verify eligibility and demonstrated need and determine award packages for FLAS fellows. \*

The FLAS Fellowship may impact your current financial aid package. If so, the MSU Office of Financial Aid will work with CLACS to determine the best possible financial aid package for FLAS awardees.

*Check all that apply.*

- I understand that CLACS will need to verify financial information with MSU to ensure compliance with federal regulations.

### Signature and Certification

## 54. By checking the box, I certify that this information is true, complete and given in good faith. I understand that if I receive the FLAS Award, I will be accountable for the information disclosed in this application. I also understand that I must comply with the terms of the award which include - but is not limited to - submitting a performance report to the U.S. Department of Education as directed by the FLAS Coordinator and completing language assessments at the beginning and end of the FLAS period. \*

*Check all that apply.*

- I agree

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