

**FY 2010 Foreign Language and Area Studies Program Application
Technical Assistance Responses**

Contents:

<u>Section title</u>	<u>Page #</u>
1. Undergraduate FLAS Awards	1
2. Number of FLAS Awards to Request	1
3. FLAS Budget	2
4. FLAS Languages	2-3
5. FLAS Competitive Priority	3
6. Running a FLAS Competition	3
7. Official Funding Opportunities and Titles	4

1. UNDERGRADUATE FLAS AWARDS

Are we required to make FLAS awards to undergraduate students?

No, you are not required to make FLAS awards to undergraduate students. Applicants are now eligible to propose FLAS awards to undergraduate students. You must clearly describe the recruitment and selection criteria that will be used to invite and review student applications (see Criterion #10 in the Technical Review form). If you choose to limit the FLAS competition to just one population of students (undergraduate or graduate) then you should provide a rationale for that decision.

How do we determine if an undergraduate student meets the minimum language proficiency-level requirements?

The student needs to be enrolled in the intermediate-level of language study or above for eligible languages during the period of the FLAS award (AY or summer).

Will an application be “penalized” for requesting undergraduate Summer FLAS fellowships only?

There is no penalty for proposing undergraduate FLAS for summer only. It is up to you to make a clear and compelling presentation in your application on why summer undergraduate FLAS only would work best for your students and your institutional goals. The peer reviewers will be instructed to judge each proposal strictly on how the proposals address the selection criteria.

2. NUMBER OF FLAS AWARDS TO REQUEST

How many academic year and summer FLAS awards should I request?

You should use the ‘estimated funding levels’ information that is clearly explained in the ‘Competition Highlights’ section of the application as a guide to how many FLAS awards to request, along with your own assessment of your institution’s pool of qualified student applicants.

3. FLAS BUDGET

Do I include a 'FLAS budget' in the grant application?

Yes. Provide a FLAS budget. Your budget presentation should show the category(ies) of fellowships, i.e., undergraduate fellowships ; graduate fellowships. Under each category, itemize the number of academic year fellowships, broken out by institutional payment and subsistence allowance; and the number of summer fellowships, also broken out by institutional payment and subsistence allowance. Indicate the subtotal undergraduate fellowships request and the subtotal graduate fellowships request.

Note: Do not include institutional contributions in the FLAS budget. Also do not include FLAS travel funds in the application budget.

We are required to provide both a complete budget for both the NRC and FLAS program and an 'ED 524' form. Where in the ED 524 form do I list our FLAS budget information?

The total amount of your FLAS budget goes on Line 11 - entitled 'Training Stipend' – of the ED 524 form (which is a standardized department budget form that must be submitted with your application).

May we use NRC or FLAS funds for language instructors to conduct the required FLAS pre and post fellowship assessment?

No. Funds to cover that expense must come from non NRC/FLAS sources.

4. FLAS LANGUAGES

Which languages should I list on the 'FLAS approved language list' sheet (pg. 27c in the application packet)?

The languages on the list should be those that your institution offers regularly on your campus, are performance-based, and ideally taught to an advanced-level to allow students to achieve that level of proficiency. It is not required for languages on that list to be offered to the advanced-level but a structure should be in place to support students if they decide to continue to that level.

For the FLAS language form where we are required to list the languages, do we just create a list? Or is additional information needed (such as teachers' names, or the numbers for the courses?)?

Page 27c requests a list only. The languages on the list should be those that your institution offers regularly on your campus, are performance-based, and that are ideally taught to an advanced level to allow students to achieve that level of proficiency. It is not a requirement for languages on the list to be offered to the advanced level, but a structure should be in place to

support students if they decide to continue to that level. Do not list language courses that are in development and are not currently offered. FLAS eligible languages may be added to the list during the grant cycle. We will cross-reference your FLAS language list to your language course list.

5. FLAS COMPETITIVE PRIORITY

Hmong is not included in the list of 78 priority languages. May we include Hmong on our FLAS Approval List (page 27c)?

Yes. If a language such as Hmong is not included in the list of 78 priority languages, you may still list that language in your FLAS approval language list (page 27) of the application.

6. RUNNING A FLAS COMPETITION ON YOUR CAMPUS

Should we run a FLAS competition for the 2010-2011 academic year even though we won't know whether or not we will receive an allocation of FLAS fellowships until this summer?

Yes. It is important to run the FLAS competition - in the way you outlined in your application - in late winter or early spring of 2010. IEPS advises that when you advertise your FY 2010 FLAS competition that you inform prospective fellowship recipients that your conducting the competition does not guarantee them a fellowship because FLAS awards are contingent upon receiving a FY 2010 grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

Can a student use an academic year FLAS award to study overseas?

Yes. A student can use an academic year FLAS fellowship to study overseas if he or she is -- (1) enrolled as a 'full-time' student; (2) taking at least one area studies course per academic reporting period; (3) taking at least one language course per academic reporting period.

Do I need to make academic year 2010-2011 FLAS awards on my campus? When should we run the competition for those awards?

The 2010-2011 academic year is the first academic period that FLAS fellowships can be awarded in this new grant period. Applicants are expected to run FLAS competitions at their respective institutions in the same way they describe in the 'FLAS Selection Criterion' of the application's narrative. Traditionally, FLAS competitions for academic year awards are run in the winter/late spring and awards are announced sometime in the spring. Applicants are advised to follow this schedule for the upcoming academic year, and make it very clear to students who score high enough to receive a fellowship that their award is contingent on the Center receiving an allocation of FLAS awards. In addition to running the competition in the same way as described in the grant application, Centers should plan on making the number of awards as requested in the budget submitted with their grant application, but keep in mind that that amount may change.

7. OFFICIAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITY NUMBERS AND TITLES

What are the Funding Opportunity Numbers and Titles that should be inserted in block #11 of the ED 424 form?

NRC Program Funding Opportunity Number: = ED-GRANTS-020210-003

Title = National Resource Centers (NRC) Program

FLAS Program Funding Opportunity Number :

ED-GRANTS-020210-004

Title = Foreign Language and International Studies (FLAS) Program

What is the Competition Identification number that should be inserted into block #13 in the SF-424 page?

NR C Program: 84.015A; FLAS Program: 85.015B

***If you are applying for both the NRC and FLAS programs, you should list both of the programs in the respective blocks in the SF-424 form.*

03/03/2010