CONSULTATION WITH FEDERAL AGENCIES ON AREAS OF NATIONAL NEED

Section 601(c)(1) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA) requires that the Secretary of Education consult with Federal agency heads in order to receive recommendations regarding areas of national need for expertise in foreign languages and world regions. The Secretary may take those recommendations into account when identifying areas of national need for the International Education Programs authorized by Title VI of the HEA and administered by the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Postsecondary Education (OPE). See HEA, Section 601(c) (20 U.S.C. 1121 (c)). What follows are the areas of national need identified by the Secretary, consisting of the seventy-eight priority languages that are less commonly taught and the world regions. Also included below is a summary of responses from those Federal agencies that responded to the Secretary’s request for recommendations for Title VI competitions in FY 2013. For responses from additional Federal agencies, see Web postings from FY 2012, FY 2011, and FY 2010.

PRIORITY LANGUAGES

- Akhan (Twi-Fante)
- Albanian
- Amharic
- Arabic (all dialects)
- Armenian
- Azeri (Azerbaijani)
- Balochi
- Bamanakan (Bamana, Bambara, Mandikan, Mandingo, Maninka, Dyula)
- Belarusian
- Bengali (Bangla)
- Berber (all languages)
- Bosnian
- Bulgarian
- Burmese
- Cebuano (Visayan)
- Chechen
- Chinese, Cantonese
- Chinese, Gan
- Chinese, Mandarin
- Chinese, Min
- Chinese, Wu
- Croatian
- Dari
- Dinka
- Georgian
- Gujarati
- Hausa
- Hebrew, Modern
- Hindi
- Igbo
- Indonesian
- Japanese
- Javanese
- Kannada
- Kashmiri
- Kazakh
- Khmer (Cambodian)
- Kirghiz
- Korean
- Kurdish – Kurmanji
- Kurdish – Sorani
- Lao
- Malay (Bahasa Melayu or Malaysian)
- Malayalam
- Marathi
- Mongolian
- Mongolian
- Nepali
• Oromo
• Panjabi
• Pashto
• Persian (Farsi)
• Polish
• Portuguese
• Quechua
• Romanian
• Russian
• Serbian
• Sinhala (Sinhalese)
• Somali
• Swahili
• Tagalog
• Tajik
• Tamil

• Telugu
• Thai
• Tibetan
• Tigrigna
• Turkish
• Turkmen
• Ukrainian
• Urdu
• Uyghur/Uigur
• Uzbek
• Vietnamese
• Wolof
• Xhosa
• Yoruba
• Zulu

WORLD REGIONS

• Africa
• Central Asia/Inner Asia
• East Asia
• Middle East
• South Asia
• Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands
• Russia/East Europe
• Western Hemisphere (Canada, Caribbean, Central/South America)

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SUMMARY OF RESPONSES FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES

I. U.S. Department of Agriculture

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) highlights the following languages as most vital to our country’s future:

Chinese, Mandarin
Indonesian
Arabic (all dialects)
Japanese
Korean
Russian

USDA ranks the following world regions as most vital to the future of U.S. agriculture:
Western Hemisphere (Canada, Caribbean, Central/South America)
East Asia
Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands
Middle East

The Department also notes that although Spanish is commonly taught, broad understanding of Spanish and Western Hemispheric cultures are critical to the success of U.S. agriculture.

II. U.S. Department of Commerce

The U.S. Department of Commerce recommends in rank order, the following languages and world regions associated with these languages:

Mandarin
Arabic
Portuguese
Spanish
Russian
Japanese
Korean
Vietnamese

The Department of Commerce also notes that, “in addition to urgent needs…proficiency in the following languages is desirable”: French, Indonesian, Turkish, German Commerce ranks the following world regions or countries as areas of importance:

Asia, with specific focus on China, Korea, and Vietnam
Middle East
Latin America, with specific focus on Brazil
Europe, with specific focus on Eastern Europe and Russia
South East Asia, with specific focus on India

III. U.S. Department of Defense

The U.S. Department of Defense “strongly supports the national effort to create a cadre of U.S. citizens with advanced, professional-level skills in languages and cultures that are critical to our national security” and provides the following languages:

Arabic
Azerbaijani
Amharic
Baluchi
Chinese Mandarin
Dari
Farsi
French

Hausa
Hindi
Indonesian
Japanese
Korean
Malay
Portuguese
Russian
Additionally, the Department of Defense recommends the development of more language and regional study programs for Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Central Asia, and the Middle East.

### IV. U.S. Department of Energy

The U.S. Department of Energy recommends the following languages and world regions as areas of national need:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Languages</th>
<th>World Regions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Russian</td>
<td>Russia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkish</td>
<td>FSU (non-Europe and others)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French, Arabic, Spanish, Portuguese</td>
<td>Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arabic, French</td>
<td>Middle East</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German, French, Italian, Spanish</td>
<td>Western Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polish, Bulgarian</td>
<td>Eastern Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese, Japanese, Korean</td>
<td>East Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hindi, Urdu</td>
<td>South Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesian (Bahasa), Malay,</td>
<td>Southeast Asia and the Pacific</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thai, Tagalog (Filipino),</td>
<td>Islands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnamese</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French, Spanish</td>
<td>North America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>Central America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish, Portuguese</td>
<td>South America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>Caribbean</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### V. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services provides the following recommendations for expertise in foreign languages:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arabic</th>
<th>Portuguese</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bahasa</td>
<td>Russian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farsi</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>Swahili</td>
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<tr>
<td>German</td>
<td>Thai</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Urdu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Japanese</td>
<td>Vietnamese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korean</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VI. **U.S. Department of Homeland Security**

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security “supports the national effort to create a cadre of globally aware and globally responsible Americans with advanced skills in languages and cultures that can facilitate international relations and advance U.S. interest abroad” and recommends the following languages and world regions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Languages</th>
<th></th>
<th>Languages</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Korean</td>
<td>Bengali</td>
<td>Italian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengali</td>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>Chamorro</td>
<td>Malay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chamorro</td>
<td>Malay</td>
<td>Chinese (Mandarin)</td>
<td>Norwegian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese (Mandarin)</td>
<td>Norwegian</td>
<td>Creole</td>
<td>Portuguese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creole</td>
<td>Portuguese</td>
<td>Dutch</td>
<td>Punjabi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dutch</td>
<td>Punjabi</td>
<td>Farsi</td>
<td>Russian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Farsi</td>
<td>Russian</td>
<td>French</td>
<td>Sinhala</td>
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<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>Sinhala</td>
<td>Gaelic</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gaelic</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>Georgian</td>
<td>Swahili</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgian</td>
<td>Swahili</td>
<td>German</td>
<td>Swedish</td>
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<tr>
<td>German</td>
<td>Swedish</td>
<td>Hebrew</td>
<td>Tagalog</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hebrew</td>
<td>Tagalog</td>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Tamil</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Tamil</td>
<td>Japanese</td>
<td>Thai</td>
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<tr>
<td>Japanese</td>
<td>Thai</td>
<td>Khmer</td>
<td>Urdu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Khmer</td>
<td>Urdu</td>
<td>Vietnamese</td>
<td>Vietnamese</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>World Regions and Countries</th>
<th></th>
<th>World Regions and Countries</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td></td>
<td>Asia</td>
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<td>Asia</td>
<td></td>
<td>Bering Sea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bering Sea</td>
<td></td>
<td>Caribbean</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caribbean</td>
<td></td>
<td>Central America</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central America</td>
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<td>China</td>
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<td>China</td>
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<td>India</td>
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<td>India</td>
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<td>Iran</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
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<td>Israel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
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<td>Malaysia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mexico</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td></td>
<td>Middle East</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle East</td>
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<td>Netherlands</td>
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<td>Netherlands</td>
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<td>Pakistan</td>
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<td>Pakistan</td>
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<td>Singapore</td>
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<td>Singapore</td>
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<td>South America</td>
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<td>South America</td>
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<td>South Korea</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
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<td>Sweden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VII. **U.S. Department of Justice**

The Federal Bureau of Investigation recommends a national need for expertise in foreign languages and world regions as follows:

Africa, East
Africa, North
Africa, West
Arabian Peninsula
Armenian
Chinese, with linguists able to meet counterintelligence and cyber threats and with expertise in engineering, science and technology, finance, and law
Dari
Farsi, with linguists having expertise in science and technology
Hebrew
Middle East
Pashto (Pakistani)
Polish
Russian
Somali
Spanish
Turkish
Ukrainian
Uzbek

VIII. U.S. Department of State

The U.S. Department of State has identified the following languages as “critical needs languages” (not noted in rank order):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arabic (all forms)</th>
<th>Korean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese)</td>
<td>Kyrgyz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dari</td>
<td>Nepali</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farsi</td>
<td>Punjabi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hindi</td>
<td>Turkish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Urdu</td>
<td>Turkmen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pashto</td>
<td>Tajik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Azerbaijani</td>
<td>Uzbeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bengali</td>
<td>Uzbek</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IX. U.S. Department of Transportation

The U.S. Department of Transportation recommends the following regions/countries/languages as important to furthering the U.S. international transportation interests:

South America: Brazil
Portuguese

Asia: China
Chinese Mandarin
Middle East: Iraq/Afghanistan/UAE/Kuwait
Arabic/Kurdish/Oman/Pashto/Dari

X. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recommends the need for expertise in the following languages:

  Spanish
  Korean
  Japanese
  Russian
  Chinese
  German
  Native American Languages
  Arabic

VA recommends cultural awareness training of various groups including:

  Native American tribes
  Mexicans
  Puerto Ricans
  Cubans
  Japanese
  Koreans
  Asians

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