

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, Sec. 601(c) (20 U.S.C. 1121 (c)). Listed below are the areas of national need most recently identified by the Secretary, consisting of seventy-eight priority languages that are less commonly taught, followed by 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 2016.

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
- 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, Mexico, Caribbean, Central/South America)

Summary of Responses from Federal Agencies for FY 2016

I. U.S. Agency for International Development

In addition to our ongoing demand for French, Spanish and Portuguese (European), U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) has identified the following languages as having a critical need for our operations in the following geographic regions:

Africa:

- Amharic
- Berber
- Hausa
- Igbo
- Swahili
- Tuareg
- Yoruba

Asia:

- Bahasa/Indonesian
- Bengali
- Burmese
- Hindi
- Tagalog
- Tamil
- Thai
- Urdu
- Vietnamese

Eastern Europe/Central Asia:

- Albanian
- Armenian
- Azeri
- Dari
- Georgian
- Macedonian
- Russian
- Serbo-Croatian
- Turkish
- Ukrainian

Latin America and Caribbean:

- Haitian Creole

Middle East:

- Arabic (all dialects)
- Farsi (Persian)
- Kurdish (Kurmanji and Sorani)

II. U.S. Department of Agriculture*

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) designates the following languages as most vital to our country's future in order of importance:

- 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, in order of importance:

- Western Hemisphere (Canada, Caribbean, Central/South America)
- East Asia
- Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands
- Middle East

The Department also notes that “though Spanish is commonly taught, broad understanding of Spanish and Western Hemispheric cultures are critical to the success of U.S. agriculture. Spanish-speaking countries are key agricultural trading partners as well as a vital segment of the U.S. agricultural labor force. Therefore, the need to support the study of foreign languages and cultures of other countries to further expand trade beyond U.S. borders is strongly encouraged by the Department.”

III. U.S. Department of Defense

The 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 lists the following languages as those for which the Department wishes to develop more capability:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| • Arabic | • Kurdish |
| • Acholi | • Malay |
| • Amharic | • Portuguese |
| • Azerbaijani | • Punjabi |
| • Balochi | • Pushtu-Afghan |
| • Bengali | • Romanian |
| • Burmese | • Russian |
| • Chinese Mandarin | • Somali |
| • Dari | • Swahili |
| • Farsi | • Tagalog |
| • French | • Tadjik |
| • Hausa | • Thai |
| • Hindi | • Turkish |
| • Indonesian | • Ukrainian |
| • Japanese | • Urdu |
| • Kirghiz | • Uzbek |
| • Korean | • Vietnamese |

Additionally, the Department of Defense recommends the development of more language and regional study programs for Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Central Asia, South Asia, Eastern Europe, and the Middle East.

IV. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is pleased to suggest the following languages for priority consideration:

Languages

- Chinese, Mandarin
- Hindi
- Brazilian Portuguese
- Indonesian
- Arabic (all-dialects)
- Japanese
- Korean
- Farsi
- Russian
- Turkish
- French
- Spanish
- Yupik (Alaskan Native)
- Klingit (Alaskan Native)
- Navajo
- Marshallese
- Tongan
- Bhutanese
- Hmong

V. U.S. Department of Justice*

In consultation with the Directorate of Intelligence, Language Services Section, Translation and Deployment Units, the Language Quality and Standards Unit, and the Language Acquisition and Professional Development Unit, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) recommends a national need for expertise in the foreign languages and world regions as follows:

- | | |
|------------|----------------------|
| • Arabic | • Pashto (Pakistani) |
| • Armenian | • Portuguese |
| • Chinese | • Russian |
| • Dari | • Somali |
| • Farsi | • Spanish |
| • French | • Turkish |
| • Hebrew | • Ukrainian |
| • Korean | • Uzbek |

World Regions:

- Africa, East
- Africa, North (Maghreb)
- Africa, West
- Arabian Peninsula
- Caucasus Region
- Levant Region

VI. U.S. Department of Labor*

In addition to English, the Department of Labor expects to have a continuing need for language proficiency in these areas:

- Spanish
- Chinese
- Korean
- Vietnamese
- Thai
- American Sign Language

VII. U.S. Department of State*

The Department of State identifies the following languages as having critical need:

- Arabic (all forms)
- Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese)
- Dari
- Farsi
- Hindi
- Urdu
- Pashto
- Azerbaijani
- Bengali
- Kazakh
- Korean
- Kyrgyz
- Nepali
- Punjabi
- Kurdish
- Russian
- Tajik
- Turkish
- Turkmen
- Uzbek

VIII. U.S. Department of Transportation*

The following are the regions/countries/language that we believe will further the U.S. international transportation interest:

- South America/Brazil/Portuguese
- Asia/China/Chinese Mandarin

- Middle East/Iraq/Afghanistan/United Arab Emirates/Kuwait/Arabic/Kurdish/Oman/Pashto/Dari

IX. Peace Corps

- **Africa**

Country	Language
Benín	Bariba, Ditamari, Dendi, Fon, French, Mahi, Nagot
Botswana	Setswana, Ikalanga, Kgalagadi
Burkina Faso	Bissa, Dagara, French, Jula, Lyele, Lobiri, Moore
Cameroon	French, Fulfuldé, Pidgin (Cameroon)
Comoros	French, Shikomori
Ethiopia	Afan Oromo/Oromo, Amharic, Tigrigna
The Gambia	Jola, Mandinka, Pulaar, Sarahule, Wolof
Ghana	Dagaare, Dagbani, Dangbe, Ewe, Ghanaian Sign Language, Kasem, Mampruli, Sisali, Twi
Lesotho	Sesotho/Suthu
Madagascar	Malagasy (standard), Malagasy (Betsileo), Malagasy (Northern and Southern Betsimisaraka), Malagasy (Antakarana), Malagasy (South-east dialect), Malagasy (Tsimihety)
Malawi	Chichewa, Chitonga, Chitumbuka, Chiyao
Mali	Bambara
Mozambique	Portuguese, Cichangana, Citswa, Citewe, Nhungue, Emakwa, Chichewa, Echuabo, Yaho
Namibia	Afrikaans, Khoekhoegowab, Otjiherero, Oshindonga, Oshikwanyama, Rukwangali, Silozi
Rwanda	Kinyarwanda
Senegal	Bambara, Fulakunda, Jaxanke, Mandinka, Pulaar du Nord, Pulafuta, Seereer, Wolof,
South Africa	IsiZulu, Sepedi, Siswati/IsiSwati, TshiVenda, XiTsonga
Swaziland	Siswati/IsiSwati
Tanzania	Swahili/Kiswahili
Togo	Bassar, Ewe, French, Gourma, Ikposso, Kabiye, Konkomba, Moba, Nawdum Tem
Uganda	Acholi, Ateso, Dhophadola, Lango, Luganda, Lugbara, Lusoga, Runyankore/Rukiga, Runyoro/Rutooro
Zambia	Bemba, Chitonga, Kaonde, Lunda, Mambwe-Lungu, Nyanja

- **Europe, Mediterranean and Asia:**

Country	Language
Albania	Albanian
Armenia	Armenian
Cambodia	Khmer

Country	Language
China	Chinese/Mandarin
Georgia	Georgian
Indonesia	Indonesian, Javanese, Sundanese, Madurese, Javanese (Cirebon)
Kosovo	Albanian, Serbian
Kyrgyz Republic	Kyrgyz, Russian
Macedonia	Albanian, Macedonian
Moldova	Romanian, Russian
Mongolia	Mongolian, Kazakh
Morocco	Arabic (Morocco)
Nepal	Nepali
Philippines	Bikol-Naga, Cebuano, Hiligaynon, Ilokano, Kinaray-a, Sorsoganon, Tagalog, Waray
Thailand	Thai, Thai (Northern Dialect), Thai (Southern Dialect), Thai (North Eastern Dialect)

- **Inter-America, Pacific:**

Country	Language
Belize	Kriol (Belize) Q'eqchi (Maya), Spanish
Colombia	Spanish
Costa Rica	Spanish
Dominican Republic	Spanish
Eastern Caribbean	Kweyol (E. Caribbean), Vincentian/Grenadian Creole
Ecuador	Spanish
El Salvador	Spanish
Fiji	Fijian, Hindi
Guatemala	Ixil, Kaqchikel, K'iche, Mam, Spanish
Guyana	Creolese (Guyana)
Jamaica	Patois (Jamaica)
Mexico	Spanish
Micronesia and Palau	Chuukese, Kosraean, Mortlockese, Pohnpeian, Yapese
Nicaragua	Spanish
Panama	Ngabere, Spanish
Paraguay	Guaraní, Spanish
Peru	Quechua, Spanish
Samoa	Samoan
Tonga	Tongan
Vanuatu	Bislama

* Per the agency, there were no 2016 updates from their 2014 list of regions and languages.