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)
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

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)
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
• Acholi
• Amharic
• Azerbaijani
• Balochi
• Bengali
• Burmese
• Chinese Mandarin
• Dari
• Farsi
• French
• Hausa
• Hindi
• Indonesian
• Japanese
• Kirghiz
• Korean
• Kurdish
• Malay
• Portuguese
• Punjabi
• Pashtu-Afghan
• Romanian
• Russian
• Somali
• Swahili
• Tagalog
• Tadzhik
• Thai
• Turkish
• Ukrainian
• Urdu
• Uzbek
• 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
- Armenian
- Chinese
- Dari
- Farsi
- French
- Hebrew
- Korean
- Pashto (Pakistani)
- Portuguese
- Russian
- Somali
- Spanish
- Turkish
- Ukrainian
- 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

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

• Europe, Mediterranean and Asia:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Language</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albania</td>
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<td>Armenia</td>
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<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>Khmer</td>
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<td><strong>Country</strong></td>
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<td>--------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>Chinese/Mandarin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Georgian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Indonesian, Javanese, Sundanese, Madurese, Javanese (Cirebon)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kosovo</td>
<td>Albanian, Serbian</td>
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<td>Kyrgyz Republic</td>
<td>Kyrgyz, Russian</td>
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<td>Macedonia</td>
<td>Albanian, Macedonian</td>
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<td>Moldova</td>
<td>Romanian, Russian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>Mongolian, Kazakh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>Arabic (Morocco)</td>
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<td>Nepal</td>
<td>Nepali</td>
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<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Bikol-Naga, Cebuano, Hiligaynon, Ilokano, Kinaray-a, Sorsoganon, Tagalog, Waray</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Thai, Thai (Northern Dialect), Thai (Southern Dialect), Thai (North Eastern Dialect)</td>
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**Inter-America, Pacific:**

<table>
<thead>
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<th><strong>Country</strong></th>
<th><strong>Language</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Belize</td>
<td>Kriol (Belize) Q’eqchi (Maya), Spanish</td>
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<td>Colombia</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
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<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
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<td>Eastern Caribbean</td>
<td>Kweyol (E. Caribbean), Vincentian/Grenadian Creole</td>
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<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
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<td>El Salvador</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
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<td>Fiji</td>
<td>Fijian, Hindi</td>
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<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>Ixil, Kaqchikel, K’iche, Mam, Spanish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guyana</td>
<td>Creolese (Guyana)</td>
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<td>Jamaica</td>
<td>Patois (Jamaica)</td>
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<td>Mexico</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
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<td>Micronesia and Palau</td>
<td>Chuukese, Kosraean, Mortlockese, Pohnpeian, Yapese</td>
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<td>Nicaragua</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
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<td>Vanuatu</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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