

## Fellowships Program Information Sheet – Critical Language Scholarship

Updated:11-15-2022

Section	Brief description	More information
<b>1. Award</b>	Fully funded summer overseas language and cultural immersion program of the US Dept. of State. Intensive group-based language courses. Full cultural program. Host community language partners. Often placement with host family.	<a href="http://www.clscholarship.org/">http://www.clscholarship.org/</a> 14 languages offered: Arabic, Azerbaijani, Bangla, Chinese, Hindi, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Swahili, Turkish, Urdu. <a href="#">Program Overview</a>
<b>2. Eligibility</b>	US citizens and nationals. Age 18 or older by May 15 following application. Undergraduates and graduate students. All disciplines. Every level of language learning represented in the program, but every level will not be offered for every language: <a href="#">language eligibility</a> .	<a href="#">Eligibility</a> Must be enrolled in a degree-seeking program at time of application. Note the <a href="#">detailed terms and conditions document</a> .
<b>3. Timing</b>	Online application opens in early September with a due date in mid-November.	<a href="#">Information for Applicants</a>
<b>4. Selection Criteria</b>	Academic record and potential to succeed in a rigorous academic setting. Flexibility, adaptability, cultural sensitivity. Long-term commitment to language learning. Interest in host culture. Connection between target language and career goals. Unique perspective and contributions to the CLS Program There is no minimum required GPA for CLS applicants. Note, however, the first selection criterion. In practice you need to show a strong GPA overall and especially in the most relevant courses that you have taken.	<a href="#">Selection Criteria</a> You may apply for only one language. You may not request a particular country or location. ~550 awards made each year from an applicant pool of ~5,500. “All other factors being equal, applicants are selected with the goal of representing geographic diversity and a diversity of institutions and fields of study.” “Preference may be given to candidates with limited or no previous study abroad experience.” <a href="#">Frequently asked questions</a>
<b>5. Smith Role</b>	Applications are made directly by the student. Smith has no formal role with respect to this award competition. One letter of recommendation and an unofficial transcript are required.	“Recommendations may be provided by an academic advisor, a current or past professor or someone who knows the applicant in a professional or volunteer capacity.” <a href="#">Frequently Asked Questions</a>
<b>6. Fun fact(s)</b>	Two Smithies completed the program in 2018 and two more in summer 2021. While there is no service requirement, alumni are eligible for 12 months of non-competitive eligibility (NCE) hiring status within the federal government. <a href="#">Alumni Search</a>	
<b>7. How to get started</b>	<a href="#">Application resources</a> , including videos and virtual information sessions.	Reach out to <a href="mailto:fellowships@smith.edu">fellowships@smith.edu</a> and talk with your language instructors.