Here's what administrators and participants have to say about the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships Program:

"Two generations of talented graduate students have trained in South Asian studies and languages with support from the FLAS fellowship. These students have gone on to assume key positions in American universities, governmental and non-governmental agencies, and business. They have created new knowledge about the South Asia sub-continent and have developed imaginative programs that enhance mutual understanding of peoples in that world region and our own. Such accomplishments are directly attributed to the competence these students developed and refined through training provided through the FLAS fellowship program."

—James Nye, Director, South Asia Languages and Area Center, University of Chicago

"Receiving the FLAS fellowship has enabled me to intensely develop my knowledge in a field that I would not have had the means to pursue otherwise. The funding has allowed me to study, both at my university as well as universities overseas, the field of Indonesian languages and area studies. I have nothing but wonderful things to say about this program and the once-in-a-lifetime opportunities that it has afforded me."

—Jessica M. Binehart, Northern Illinois University

"FLAS has been a very important source of funding for both my M.A. and Ph.D programs...a mainstay in shaping my graduate school experience."

—Gabriel Sylvain, University of California, Berkeley

"The FLAS fellowship has been the most important source of funding for me because it is the only fellowship I have come across that has adequately allowed me the time and opportunity to learn and practice the language skills I need for research in my field. Living in the Midwest, there is no way I could have studied modern and classical Chinese as thoroughly without such financial support."

—David Herrmann, University of Wisconsin, Madison
Access to the World and Its Languages

The mission of the International Education Programs Service (IEPS) is to meet the national needs for expertise and competence in foreign languages and area or international studies. IEPS administers 14 international education programs. These programs are complementary in nature and designed to benefit a variety of audiences through training programs, research, start-up or enhancement projects, and fellowships.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE AND AREA STUDIES FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM

This program provides fellowship allocations to institutions of higher education to assist graduate students in foreign language and area or international studies. Fellowships may be awarded for either the academic year or summer.

The goals of the fellowship program are:
- To assist the development of knowledge, resources, and trained personnel for modern foreign language and area or international studies.
- To foster foreign language acquisition and fluency.
- To develop a domestic pool of international experts to meet national needs.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Institutions of higher education that offer performance-based language instruction.

USE OF FELLOWSHIPS

Academic Year
- Domestic full-time language and area or international studies.
- Overseas full-time language and area or international studies.

Summer
- Domestic beginning, intermediate and advanced intensive language programs.
- Overseas intermediate and advanced intensive language programs.

DURATION OF THE GRANT

Institutions compete for fellowship allocations every four years.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Institutions should e-mail questions to ope_nrc-flas@ed.gov or visit the IEPS Web site at www.ed.gov/programs/iegpsflas for more information, including: application deadline, application package, technical assistance, workshop and meeting schedules, and program statute and regulations.

Students should visit the IEPS Web site at www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/iegps for a list of currently funded FLAS institutions and contact the schools directly regarding selection procedures and competition schedules.

ABOUT THE FOREIGN LANGUAGE AND AREA STUDIES FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM

The Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships (FLAS) Program provides grants to a select number of public and private institutions of higher education to enable them to offer competitive academic year and summer fellowships to graduate students annually. Meritorious students use the fellowships to pursue advanced training in modern foreign languages and either area or international studies. The disciplinary structure of a FLAS program may be interdisciplinary or multi-disciplinary, including the humanities, social sciences, or other professional studies, and must include the study of the languages of the geographical area of specialization.

Since its inception as part of the Title VI, National Defense Education Act of 1958 and presently as part of the Title VI, Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, the Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships Program has produced and continues to produce a uniquely qualified cadre of modern foreign language experts whose knowledge significantly influences the business, government, and higher education communities.