

**MICHIGAN STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

**CASID & GenCen Undergraduate and Graduate FLAS Fellowship Application Instructions**

2018-2019 Academic Year and 2018 Summer Intensive Language Fellowships in  
Foreign Language and International Development Studies at Michigan State University

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 9, 2018**

CENTER FOR ADVANCED STUDY OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CASID)  
Michigan State University, 427 N. Shaw Lane, Room 202, East Lansing, MI 48824-1035  
Tel: 517/353-5925 Fax: 517/353-8765

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CENTER FOR GENDER IN GLOBAL CONTEXT (GenCen)  
Michigan State University, 427 N. Shaw Lane, Room 206, East Lansing, MI 48824-1035  
Tel: 517/353-5040 Fax: 517/432-4845

The Center for Advanced Study of International Development (CASID) and the Center for Gender in Global Context (GenCen) at Michigan State University award undergraduate and graduate fellowships under the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships program of the U.S. Department of Education (US/ED) to students enrolled in a program that combines the study of a modern foreign language with advanced training in international development studies or in the international development aspects of professional or other fields of study. CASID & GenCen FLAS funds are available to support students interested in issues related (but not limited) to the following thematic foci: Global Food, Agriculture, and Environment; Livelihood Strategies, Economics, and Governance; Education and Health Disparities; Violence, Conflict, and Conflict Resolution; and Identities, Representations, and Human Rights.

**Fellowship awards are contingent on CASID & GenCen's continued receipt of federal funding for the FLAS Fellowship Program.**

**GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS: *ACADEMIC YEAR AND SUMMER FELLOWSHIPS***

To be considered for FLAS fellowship support, you must:

1. Be a citizen or national of the United States or a permanent resident of the United States;
2. Have a completed application submitted to or be currently enrolled in a degree program at Michigan State University. Graduate student applicants must have earned a baccalaureate or comparable degree before the fellowship period begins;
3. Intend to complete a program of study (disciplinary, interdisciplinary, or professional) at Michigan State University that includes the study of a modern foreign language with advanced training in international development or in the international development aspects of

professional or other fields of study. Note: Graduate students' program of study must include enrollment in the International Development or a related specialization;

4. Undergraduates can only be awarded a FLAS fellowship for language study at the intermediate or advanced level; Graduate students wishing to take the beginning level of a language are only eligible if they have achieved advanced proficiency in another language of their world area of expertise and research.
5. Show potential for high academic achievement based on such indices as grade point average, class ranking, and/or other measures. (At MSU, applicants are expected to meet the normal criteria for fellowships on this campus, i.e., preferably have an undergraduate GPA and/or graduate GPA of 3.5 or better and strong letters of recommendation).

#### **ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS: *ACADEMIC YEAR***

1. Awardees must undertake an approved program of language and international development studies. You must agree to enroll as a full-time student in an academic year program that includes:
  - a) two semesters of study of an approved language in which you have less than native proficiency, and
  - b) two courses (one each semester) of a preapproved by CASID or GenCen as core courses for the study of international development or an international development course approved by CASID.

For undergraduate applicants: preapproved core courses include any Conceptual Course (section 3) or Regional Course (section 4) that meets the requirements for a undergraduate minor in Global Studies in Social Science. These courses can be found at: <https://reg.msu.edu/AcademicPrograms/ProgramDetail.aspx?Program=7749>.

For graduate applicants: preapproved core courses include any course that meets the requirement for a Graduate Specialization in International Development or The Gender, Justice and Environmental Change Graduate Specialization.

For graduate applicants:

2. FLAS awardees are expected to participate actively in the center activities of CASID & GenCen. This includes regular attendance at center-sponsored speaker series and special events.
3. Graduate students accepting a FLAS award, agree to meet the requirements of one of the following international development specializations, including:
  - a) The Gender, Justice and Environmental Change Graduate Specialization (<http://gencen.isp.msu.edu/graduate-students/qjec-program/>) or
  - b) The Graduate Specialization in International Development

[\(http://casid.isp.msu.edu/academics/graduate-specialization/\)](http://casid.isp.msu.edu/academics/graduate-specialization/)

**ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS: SUMMER**

1. Summer Fellowships may be used ONLY FOR INTENSIVE LANGUAGE STUDY. Programs must be a minimum of six weeks and provide a minimum of 140 contact hours at the beginner and intermediate levels, 120 at the advanced level; i.e., equivalent to one full year of language study as provided during the regular academic year. Note: Undergraduate applicants can only receive summer FLAS awards for language study at the intermediate or advanced level. Graduate students wishing to take the beginning level of a language are only eligible if they have achieved advanced proficiency in another language of their world area of expertise and research.
2. All summer language programs must be offered from an accredited or recognized educational institution and be approved by CASID & GenCen and US/ED.

**LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS: ACADEMIC YEAR AND SUMMER**

The purpose of the language study program is to provide the student of international development with advanced competence in the language for use in professional work and/or field research.

1. CASID & GenCen awards FLAS Fellowships for the study of the following less commonly taught languages:

Arabic	Hindi	Korean	Swahili	Thai
Chinese	Indonesian	Portuguese	Spanish	Zulu
French	Japanese	Russian		

2. Request to study other less commonly taught languages must be submitted to and approved by CASID & GenCen and US/ED. To request more information on this process, contact: Jennifer Brewer, CASID International Program Coordinator, at [brewer13@isp.msu.edu](mailto:brewer13@isp.msu.edu).

**Note:** Higher priority will be given to: (1) students studying less commonly taught languages who are pursuing advanced-level language proficiency; (2) students who have indicated a desire to pursue government service.

**TERMS OF THE AWARD: SUMMER**

1. Award benefits include payment of tuition and fees (up to \$5,000) and a stipend of \$2,500.

Note: Should it become necessary for the fellow to resign or withdraw during the summer, the award will be prorated on a weekly basis.

2. Concurrent fellowships: Fellows may not hold concurrent federally-funded fellowships (Fulbright, NSF, etc.). However, they may receive an MSU Graduate Office Fellowship (GOF).
3. Final reports from fellows are required at the end of the award year. Acceptance of the fellowship implies acceptance of the responsibility and intent to fulfill this requirement.

#### **TERMS OF THE AWARD: *ACADEMIC YEAR UNDERGRADUATES***

1. Award benefits include payment of tuition and fees (up to \$10,000 total for the year) for fall and spring semesters of the fellowship year, and a stipend of \$5,000 for the academic year. If the student has another source of aid that provides some tuition assistance, the fellowship will cover tuition charges beyond what the aid covers up to a total of 12 credits per semester (e.g., if the aid pays for 6 credits, the fellowship will pay for an additional 6 credits). Should it become necessary for the fellow to resign or withdraw during the year, the award will be prorated on a monthly basis.
2. Fellows must have the approval of the CASID International Program Coordinator (or a designated CASID faculty/staff member) for the proposed course of study during the period of the fellowship.
3. Fellows are expected to engage in full-time study and to register for at least 12 credits each term. In fulfilling this requirement, fellows must be sure that each semester they enroll in:
  - a) A course identified by CASID or GenCen as a core course for the study of international development or an international development course approved by the CASID International Program Coordinator (or a designated CASID faculty/staff member)
  - b) An intermediate or advanced course in the approved language.
4. Fellowships are granted only for one academic year and/or one summer program session. **Renewals are not automatic;** a fellow must re-apply each year. Having received a CASID & GenCen FLAS Fellowship will not automatically assure subsequent awards, and students should apply with that in mind.
5. Concurrent fellowships: Fellows may not hold concurrent federally-funded fellowships (Fulbright, NSF, etc.). Arrangements for accepting other concurrent fellowship support must be approved in advance by the CASID International Program Coordinator.
6. Final student surveys are required at the end of the award year. Acceptance of the fellowship implies acceptance of the responsibility and intent to fulfill this requirement.

#### **TERMS OF THE AWARD: *ACADEMIC YEAR GRADUATES***

1. Award benefits include payment of tuition and fees (up to \$18,000 total for the year) for fall and spring semesters of the fellowship year, and a stipend of \$15,000 for the academic year. If the student has a graduate assistantship or other source of aid (see items 5 and 6 below) that provide some tuition assistance, the fellowship will cover tuition charges beyond what the assistantship or aid covers **up to** a total of 12 credits per semester (e.g., if an assistantship pays for 6 credits, the fellowship will pay for an additional 6 credits). Should it become necessary for the fellow to resign or withdraw during the year, the award will be prorated on a monthly basis.
2. Fellows must have the approval of the CASID International Program Coordinator (or a designated CASID faculty/staff member) for the proposed course of study during the period of the fellowship.

3. Fellows are expected to engage in full-time graduate study and to register for at least 9 credits each term. In fulfilling this requirement, fellows must be sure that they enroll in:
  - a) MSU's Graduate Specialization in International Development or another international development related specialization;
  - b) A graduate-level course approved by CASID or GenCen as a core course for the study of international development or an international development course approved by the CASID International Program Coordinator (or a designated CASID faculty/staff member);
  - c) A language course in the approved language each semester.
4. Fellowships are granted only for a one academic year and/or summer session. **Renewals are not automatic**; a fellow must re-apply each year. Having received a CASID & GenCen FLAS Fellowship will not automatically assure subsequent awards, and students should apply with that in mind.
5. Concurrent fellowships: Fellows may not hold concurrent federally-funded fellowships (Fulbright, NSF, etc.). However, they may receive an MSU Graduate Office Fellowship (GOF). Arrangements for accepting other concurrent fellowship support must be approved in advance by the CASID Director.
6. Employment during the fellowship year: A **quarter-time or half-time graduate assistant** appointment or its equivalent (up to twenty hours of work per week) may be held concurrently with the fellowship award if it relates to the program of study. Arrangements for other equivalent, limited employment must be approved in advance by the CASID Director.
7. Final student surveys are required at the end of the award year. Acceptance of the fellowship implies acceptance of the responsibility and intent to fulfill this requirement.

***APPLICATION PROCEDURES: UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE ACADEMIC YEAR AND/OR SUMMER***

1. The following should be sent directly to:

Jennifer Brewer, MA  
CASID - International Center  
427 N. Shaw Lane, Room 202  
Michigan State University  
East Lansing, MI 48824-1035  
OR via email at [casid@msu.edu](mailto:casid@msu.edu)

  - a. One copy of the application;
  - b. Official copies of transcripts of all undergraduate work and any graduate work up to the time of the application;

- c. Graduate applicants: Two faculty recommendations, to be completed based on the guidelines stated in the Faculty Reference Request Form. At least one recommendation must come from a professor in your major department.

Undergraduate applicants: One faculty recommendation, to be completed by either your language professor or a professor in your major department.

(Note: It is the applicant's responsibility to contact their referees and ensure each has a copy of the Faculty Evaluation Request Form; reference letters should be sent directly to the CASID office by the application deadline).

If you are not currently a MSU student, you must apply for admission to a department. In designing your proposed program of study, please refer to the MSU publication *Academic Programs* (at <http://www.reg.msu.edu/ucc/AcademicProgramsUpdated.asp>). A completed application must be on file with an MSU department by the submission date of the FLAS application.

#### **ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES: *SUMMER***

**Official printed information about the language program must accompany the application.** There are no exceptions. This information must include tuition and fee information as well as contact hours and other pertinent course arrangements. Material printed from web sites is acceptable. If information for the current year is not yet available from the program, the previous year's information may be submitted. Once current program information is available, the applicant should send it to the CASID office immediately.

#### **CRITERIA FOR JUDGING APPLICATIONS**

**Undergraduate and Graduate applicants will be judged on the following criteria:**

1. Previous education and practical experience related to international development;
2. Relevance of student's coursework and career goals to their planned contribution to the field of international development or to the international development aspects of professional or other fields;
3. Relevance to international development of student's overall plan of study during the fellowship and career goals;
4. Choice and integration of language program with plan of studies and career goals.

**Graduates applicants will also be judged on the following:**

5. Demonstrated ability to do excellent post-graduate study and research, as evidenced by, for example, undergraduate GPA, graduate GPA, faculty evaluations, past travel or work experience etc.;

## **APPLICATION DEADLINE**

All application materials must be received in the CASID office, 202 International Center, **by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 9, 2018.**

The CASID & GenCen Fellowship Committee will make every effort to announce the awards by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Questions should be directed to Jennifer Brewer, CASID International Program Coordinator, by phone at (517) 353-8570 or via e-mail at [casid@msu.edu](mailto:casid@msu.edu).