

# Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships



**Boston University** Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies  
African Studies Center

[bu.edu/africa](http://bu.edu/africa)

# Overview

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- ❖ Foreign Language & Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships support students pursuing studies of Less Commonly Taught Languages and area studies coursework
- ❖ Academic year and summer fellowships available to undergrad + grad students



# Overview

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- ❖ The African Studies Center administers fellowships for African languages including:

Akan Twi

Swahili

Amharic

Wolof

Arabic\*

Xhosa

Igbo

Zulu

Mandinka



# Eligibility

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- ❖ Only US citizens or permanent residents who are enrolled students (or who will be enrolled during the award period) are eligible
- ❖ Intermediate or higher level of study in FLAS language during the proposed award period
  - ❖ *Graduate students may take beginner level courses in a Less Commonly Taught Language if they have advanced skills in another language of that region*
- ❖ For AY awards, financial need as reflected in FAFSA is considered
  - ❖ *You must submit a FAFSA if applying for an AY award*



# Summer FLAS

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- ❖ Available to undergraduate and graduate students
- ❖ For study in a domestic or overseas intensive language program
  - ❖ *Beginning or intermediate level programs must last at least 6 weeks and offer a minimum of 140 contact hours*
  - ❖ *Advanced level programs must last at least 6 weeks and offer a minimum of 120 contact hours*
- ❖ Covers up to \$5,000 in tuition and provides \$2,500 living stipend
  - ❖ *Travel awards of \$1,000 for overseas programs may be available, but are not guaranteed*

# Summer FLAS

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- ❖ Some recommended summer intensive programs include:
  - ❖ **African Flagship Language Initiative (AFLI)**, University of Florida
  - ❖ **African Language Summer Institute (ALSI)**, Howard University
  - ❖ **Dakar Language Center (DLC)**, Senegal
  - ❖ More programs will be announced.
- ❖ Contact [ascflas@bu.edu](mailto:ascflas@bu.edu) or your language instructor if you would like further recommendations specific to your language and interests.

# Academic Year FLAS

	Stipend	Tuition
Undergraduate	\$5,000	\$10,000
Graduate	\$15,000	\$20,000*

- ❖ Enroll in one African language course + one African area studies course each semester of award period
  - ❖ *Courses with 25%+ content focused on Africa meet the area studies requirement*
- ❖ Students must reapply for FLAS annually, even if they have been previous awardee
- ❖ If you are enrolled in a BU study abroad program (e.g., the Cape Town, South Africa program), you can still receive FLAS so long as you meet the other requirements

# Academic Year FLAS

	Stipend	Tuition
Undergraduate	\$5,000	\$10,000
Graduate	\$15,000	\$20,000*

- ❖ GRS and Pardee graduate students receive full tuition supplement.
- ❖ GRS PhD students receive additional living stipend and an extension of eligibility for funding after admission from 5 years to 6 years
- ❖ These benefits do not automatically extend to grad students in other schools at BU, but have been matched in some cases. Check with [REDACTED] your program for more details.



# Application Process

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- ❖ Apply & FAQs, including for SPH students:  
**[www.bu.edu/africa/forstudents/alp/flas/](http://www.bu.edu/africa/forstudents/alp/flas/)**
- ❖ Current unofficial transcript
- ❖ Personal statement (500 words max)
- ❖ Two letters of recommendation, sent via email to [ascflas@bu.edu](mailto:ascflas@bu.edu)
- ❖ *One letter should speak to your language skills*

Deadline: February 13, 2024



# Personal Statement

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- ❖ Your statement should answer the following questions in about 500 words:
  1. What are your motivations for studying your target language? What is your experience with the target language and what plans do you have for engaging the language after the fellowship?
  2. How does language study serve your academic and career aspirations?

# Personal Statement (continued)

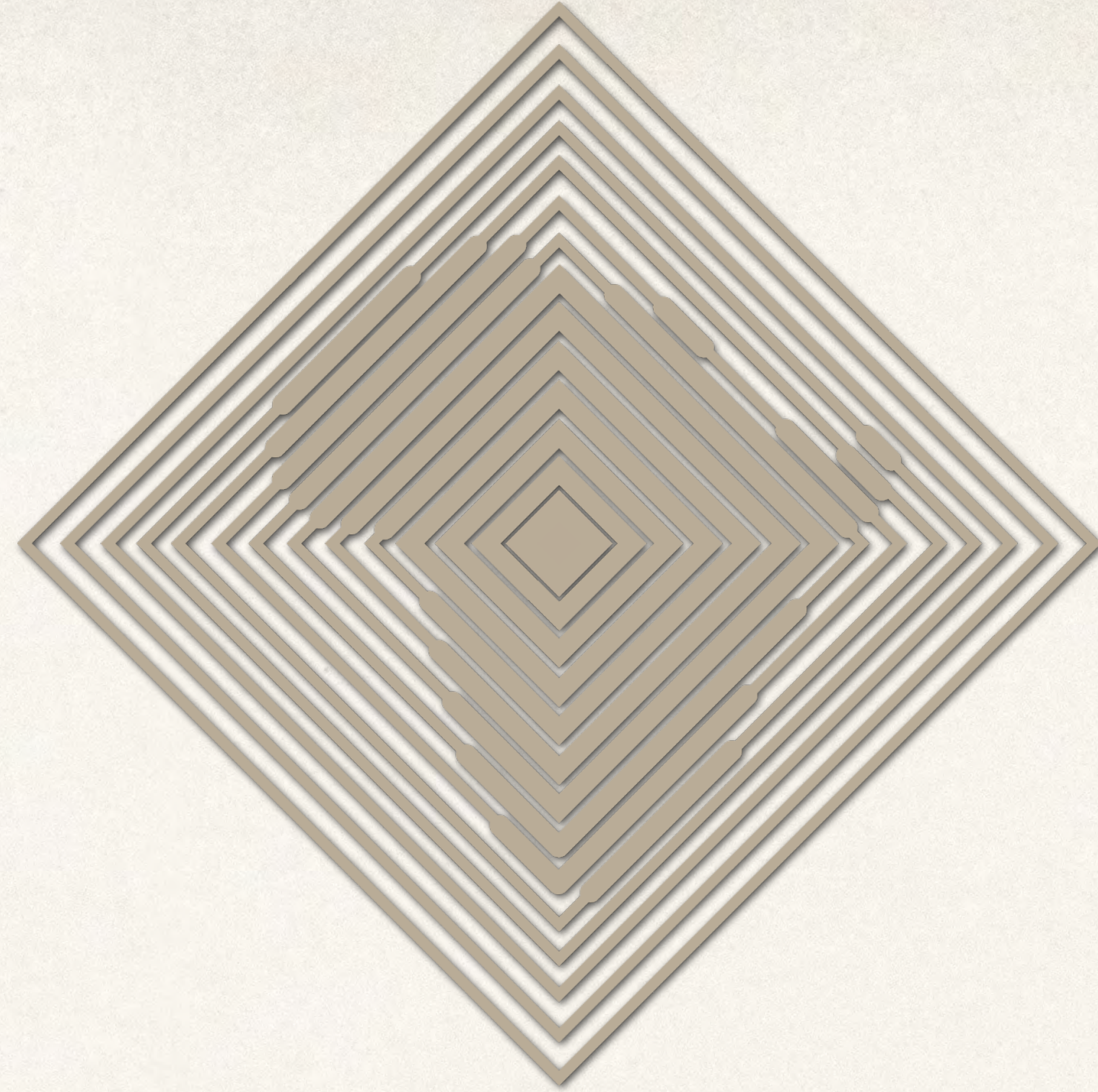
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- ❖ **Summer FLAS applicants:**

- ❖ If you have a specific summer intensive program(s) in mind, please mention it and your rationale for selecting this program.

- ❖ **Dissertation research abroad applicants:**

- ❖ Your proposed dissertation project, including your destination abroad, a clear plan for how you will engage the target language in your research, and tentative dates for travel;
- ❖ Your progress toward your degree, including an anticipated date of graduation and steps remaining for completion; and
- ❖ Any additional dissertation funding sources you may have or have applied for



# Questions?

**FLAS Coordinator:**

[ascflas@bu.edu](mailto:ascflas@bu.edu)