Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships support graduate students who will study Bengali, Hindi, Persian, Punjabi, Tamil, or Urdu and other modern South Asian languages as an integral part of an academic program focusing on South Asia. Current students and applicants to full-time Columbia graduate degree programs at GSAS, SIPA, and Teacher’s College, and the Schools of Business, Journalism, Law, and Public Health are eligible to apply for Academic Year fellowships. Students currently enrolled in a Columbia graduate degree program may apply for Summer fellowships.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens or have permanent resident status. Competitive priorities for the 2012-13 FLAS competition include 1) applicants who will achieve an advanced level proficiency by the time of graduation; 2) and applicants enrolled in a professional degree program.

The Academic Year FLAS graduate fellowship will consist of $18,000 in tuition and a stipend of $15,000. Summer FLAS fellowships cover $5,000 in tuition with a stipend of $2,500. Summer language awards must be used to attend programs that meet language proficiency standards set by the U.S. Department of Education. See guidelines following for additional details.

Applicants apply on-line at the following URLs:
http://gsas.columbia.edu/content/flas-fellowship-summer
http://gsas.columbia.edu/content/flas-fellowship-academic-year

Summer 2013 & Academic Year 2013-14 application deadline:
Monday, February 18, 2013

For further information, please contact Bill Carrick at <wac2112@columbia.edu>.
General Guidelines for Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Graduate Fellowships

1. All awards are subject to U.S. Department of Education (USED) guidelines.

2. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or have permanent resident status.

3. Eligible languages of study at Columbia during the Academic Year are Bengali, Hindi, Persian, Punjabi, Tamil, or Urdu. Applicants may apply to study other modern South Asia languages during the academic year at overseas programs, or for Summer FLAS.

4. Students in all graduate degree-granting programs at Columbia in GSAS, SIPA and Teacher’s College and the Schools of Business, Journalism, Law, and Public Health are eligible to apply for Academic Year. Graduate students in all schools are eligible to apply for Summer awards. Competitive priority will be given to applicants who are earning degrees in professional fields.

5. Students at all levels of language proficiency, except those with native fluency, are encouraged to apply. Competitive priority will be given to students who plan to achieve an advanced proficiency before graduation.

6. All applications must include a statement of purpose, a current transcript, and two letters of recommendation. Applicants studying at the Intermediate or Advanced level must submit an evaluation from a Language Instructor.

7. Fellows must submit pre- and post-award performance reports, and take pre- and post-award proficiency exams. Fellows must agree to submit bi-annual reports, for a ten-year period following graduation, on career activities or subsequent education, and use of the target language (all reports submitted on-line to the USED).

Academic Year 2013-14 Graduate Awards

1. Fellows must have full-time status or full-time equivalency status in 2013-14. Both current students and incoming applicants to Columbia may apply for Academic Year FLAS. Incoming FLAS applicants should have a completed application to a Columbia school on file with the respective admissions office by the time of the FLAS deadline.

2. Fellows must enroll in at least one language course and one South Asia area studies course each semester.

3. Students applying to study at an overseas program should contact the Institute in advance of submitting a FLAS application. All overseas programs require language and area studies components and USED approval.

Summer 2013 Awards

1. Applicants enrolled in degree programs at Columbia are eligible to apply for Summer FLAS. Students who will graduate in May are not eligible to apply for FLAS in the following Summer term.

2. Summer awards are for language study. Applications for research or non-language programs will be rejected.

3. Each individual program of language study must be approved by the Department of Education in advance of any payment for tuition or stipend. Approvals must be submitted at least one month before the start of the program.

4. Eligible programs must be the equivalent of one year of language study with a minimum of 140 classroom hours.

5. Students at the Elementary level are limited to studying at programs within the United States (unless there are no such programs in the U.S.). Students at Intermediate and Advanced levels are eligible to study outside the U.S.

6. Each award will include full tuition up to $5,000 and will provide a stipend of $2,500.

7. Summer tuition is limited to $5,000. FLAS may be combined with non-FLAS fellowships, either from the language program or funding agencies, to cover tuition above $5,000. Applicants must advise the Institute if other funding is awarded for the summer program.