Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships support undergraduate 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. FLAS applicants must plan to enroll full-time in any undergraduate degree program at Columbia University (including Barnard and Columbia Colleges, Engineering, General Studies, etc.) and must be a U.S. citizen or have permanent resident status.

FLAS fellows must be able to study at the Intermediate or Advanced level of proficiency, and must enroll in one language course and one South Asia studies course per term. Competitive priority will be given to applicants who will achieve an advanced level proficiency by the time of graduation. Students may use FLAS for Study Abroad at approved programs, providing that all language and area studies courses are taught in the target language (i.e., no English language instruction).

The Academic Year FLAS undergraduate fellowship will consist of $10,000 tuition and a stipend of $5,000. Summer FLAS fellowships cover $5,000 in tuition expenses plus 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 following guidelines for additional details)

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

For further information, please contact Bill Carrick at <wac2112@columbia.edu>.
General Guidelines for Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Undergraduate 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 for Summer FLAS at programs in the US or abroad that meet USED academic standards.

4. Students in all majors and in all undergraduate degree-granting programs at Columbia University are eligible to apply for Academic Year and Summer awards (Barnard College, Columbia College, General Studies, etc.).

5. Undergraduate students must study at the Intermediate or Advanced levels of language proficiency. Elementary level applicants will be rejected. Those with native fluency are discouraged from applying. Competitive priority will be given to students who plan to achieve Advanced level proficiency by the time of graduation.

6. All applications must include a statement of purpose, a current transcript, and two letters of recommendation. Applicants must submit an evaluation from a Language Instructor of their target language.

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 are submitted on-line to Dept. of Education).

Academic Year 2013-14 Undergraduate Awards

1. Fellows must have full-time status or full-time equivalency status in 2013-14.

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

3. Undergraduate fellows must study at the Intermediate or Advanced level.

4. Students may apply to attend study abroad programs for one or two semesters. All courses in the study abroad program must be taught in the target language (i.e. no English language instruction) and require advance USED approval. Students planning to apply for study abroad FLAS should contact the Institute before applying.

Summer 2013 Awards

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

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

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

4. Students at Intermediate and Advanced levels are eligible to study outside the U.S.

5. Each award will include full tuition (see #6 below) and will provide a stipend of $2,500.

6. FLAS summer tuition is limited to $5,000. FLAS may be combined with non-FLAS fellowships, either from the language program or other funding agencies, to cover tuition above $5,000.

7. Applicants must advise the Institute if other funding is awarded.