Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships for Undergraduate Students at Tulane University

The U.S. Department of Education’s Title VI Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) grant provides funding to the Stone Center for Latin American Studies to assist meritorious graduate students, and most recently undergraduate students, in the study of Portuguese, Haitian Creole and indigenous Latin American languages. Each fellowship consists of a payment to cover the program cost and stipend for subsistence that goes directly to the student. At Tulane, graduate students are eligible for academic year FLAS fellowships (see http://stonecenter.tulane.edu/ “Grants & Funding”) and summer fellowships. Recently, the reauthorization of the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 (HEOA) allows us to award FLAS fellowships to undergraduate students. In addition, the Stone Center applied for and was awarded FLAS funding by the U.S. Department of Education and as part of that application has been granted permission to award undergraduate students FLAS fellowships to attend pre-approved intensive summer language programs to study at the intermediate and advanced levels of Portuguese, Haitian Creole and approved indigenous Latin American languages such as Kaqchikel Maya. The following FAQ attempts to answer questions regarding what the FLAS fellowships fund and how an undergraduate student can apply.

1. What is a FLAS fellowship for an undergraduate student?

The FLAS fellowship allows an undergraduate student to apply for funding to attend a summer program, pre-approved for FLAS funding only, to study Portuguese, Haitian Creole, or an approved indigenous Latin American language, such as Kaqchikel Maya, at the intermediate or advanced level. The fellowship is only for study in the summer and the program must be pre-approved as a FLAS “fundable” program. Consult the Stone Center website or contact Stone Center staff for more information on programs which are considered approved for FLAS funding.

2. What does an undergraduate FLAS fellowship cover?

The Stone Center will pay the program fee for a summer intensive language program up to $5,000. The program fee MUST NOT include housing or meals. Each student also receives a subsistence stipend of $2,500 from which housing, meals and transportation is paid. The subsistence stipend is a fixed amount pre-determined by the U.S. Department of Education and cannot be changed based on where a student is going to study. Please note that when applying, you must list the program price and housing/meals price for the program separately on the FLAS application. A FLAS grantee is expected to pay for the housing/meals price of a program from the subsistence stipend awarded.

3. Who is eligible to apply for an undergraduate FLAS fellowship?

Any undergraduate student at Tulane University who wants to attend an approved intensive language summer institute to study Portuguese, Haitian Creole or an...
indigenous Latin American language at the intermediate or advanced level may apply for a FLAS fellowship. The program that the student is applying for MUST be pre-approved as being a FLAS “fundable” program. All FLAS recipients must be returning students in the following academic year, so undergrads graduating over the summer are not eligible to apply for a FLAS (unless they will be enrolling in a degree granting graduate program in the subsequent fall program).

4. How does a student apply for a summer FLAS fellowship?

Go to the “Grants & Funding” page of the Stone Center for Latin American Studies website <http://stonecenter.tulane.edu/>, follow the directions and pages to download the “Undergraduate Summer FLAS Fellowship” application. Submit a completed “Undergraduate Summer FLAS Fellowship” application, an “Undergraduate Summer FLAS Fellowship Faculty Sponsor Recommendation Form” and an official transcript of course work from the Registrar’s Office by the due date as posted on the Stone Center for Latin American Studies website and on the application.

5. How many FLAS summer fellowships are granted at the undergraduate and graduate levels?

The number of summer FLAS fellowships awarded depends on the amount of funds available in a given year, the number applicants for summer FLAS fellowships, and the amounts requested to cover program fees. At least one summer FLAS fellowship will be awarded to a qualified undergraduate applicant.

6. Who do I contact if I have any questions?

You can contact Dr. Jimmy Huck, Assistant Director for Graduate Programs, by email at <jhuck@tulane.edu>, by telephone at 865-5164 or by appointment in 100 Jones Hall.