



**CRITICAL  
LANGUAGE  
SCHOLARSHIP**

**Arabic**  
**Azerbaijani**  
**Bangla**  
**Chinese**  
**Hindi**  
**Indonesian**  
**Japanese**  
**Korean**  
**Persian**  
**Punjabi**  
**Russian**  
**Swahili**  
**Turkish**  
**Urdu**



## FUNDED PROGRAM FOR SUMMER LANGUAGE STUDY

The Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Program is an intensive overseas language and cultural immersion program for American undergraduate and graduate students enrolled at U.S. colleges and universities. Students spend eight to ten weeks abroad studying one of 14 critical languages. The program includes intensive language instruction and structured cultural enrichment experiences designed to promote rapid language gains and cultural fluency.

The CLS Program, a program of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, is part of a U.S. government initiative to expand the number of Americans studying and mastering foreign languages that are critical to **national security** and **economic prosperity**. CLS plays an important role in preparing American students for the 21st century's **globalized workforce** and increasing **national competitiveness**.

**The CLS Program offers instruction in the following languages and levels:**

Open to students at all language levels, including beginners	Azerbaijani, Bangla, Hindi, Indonesian, Korean, Punjabi, Swahili, Turkish and Urdu
One year prior study required	Arabic and Persian
Two years prior study required	Chinese, Japanese and Russian

## BENEFITS OF THE CLS PROGRAM

- **Full scholarship** covers all travel, tuition, housing, and a living stipend.
- Participants may **receive undergraduate academic credit** for the equivalent of one year of language classes.
- CLS participants have their **language gains certified** with the widely recognized ACTFL OPI test.
- **Non-competitive eligibility** for U.S. government jobs for up to three years after program completion.

## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Applicants must be U.S. citizens enrolled in a U.S. degree-granting program at the undergraduate or graduate level. Students pursuing associates or professional degrees at community colleges and technical schools are also eligible and encouraged to apply.

Students in all disciplines, including business, engineering, sciences, social sciences and humanities are encouraged to apply. All applicants should have a plan to continue studying the language, and explain how the language will be used in their future careers.

The CLS Program welcomes all eligible applications and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, geographic location, socio-economic status, disability, sexual orientation or gender identity. **Applications are accepted each fall for programs beginning the following summer.**

[www.clscholarship.org](http://www.clscholarship.org)

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The CLS Program is a program of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. It is supported in its implementation by American Councils for International Education.