

Application Instructions

Application Deadline: November 23, 2015, 8:00 PM U.S. Eastern Time

Full eligibility requirements are listed at www.clscholarship.org/information-for/applicants.

HOW TO APPLY

- Complete and submit the application form online.
- Have two (2) references submit recommendations online supporting your application.
- Submit a copy of your transcript with grades from your current school and any previous universities attended within the last five years. Transcripts should be in text or PDF format and **not** digitally signed (official e-transcripts are discouraged due to technical issues).

Any technical problems with the application form should be reported by email to cls@americancouncils.org. The Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Program strongly encourages that applicants submit their application in advance of the application deadline. The CLS Program and American Councils for International Education bear no responsibility for data transmission problems in submitting the application.

QUESTIONS?

For information about the CLS Program, please visit www.clscholarship.org

Contact CLS Program staff during normal business hours, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. U.S. Eastern Time, Monday-Friday, toll-free at: 1-877-257-9922

Email: cls@americancouncils.org

Program Overview

The Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Program is a fully-funded overseas language and cultural immersion program for American undergraduate and graduate students. With the goal of broadening the base of Americans studying and mastering critical languages and building relationships between the people of the United States and other countries, CLS provides opportunities to a diverse range of students from across the United States at every level of language learning.

Most languages offered by the CLS Program do not require applicants to have any experience studying critical languages. The CLS Program seeks participants with diverse interests, and from a wide range of fields of study and career paths, with the purpose of representing the full diversity of the United States. Participants are selected based on their commitment to language learning and plans to apply their language skills to their future academic or professional pursuits. Please note that CLS is an intensive group-based language program.

The CLS Program is a program of the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

Eligibility

In order to apply for the CLS Program you must, at the time of submitting your application:

- Be a U.S. citizen
 - Non-citizens including Permanent Residents are not eligible, even if they anticipate naturalization by the beginning of the program.
- Be enrolled in an accredited U.S. degree-granting program at the undergraduate (associate's, bachelor's) or graduate (master's, doctoral, professional degree) level.
 - Your program must result in a degree. Applicants who are taking stand-alone or continuing education classes are not eligible.
 - Your institution must be an accredited U.S. institution. Students earning degrees at foreign colleges or universities that are not based in the U.S. or its territories are not eligible.
 - You must be enrolled at your home college or university in the Fall Semester of 2015. Please read the following information carefully:
 - If you are not taking classes at your home institution in the fall semester, please confirm that you are, in fact, enrolled. Institutions have different requirements to maintain enrollment status and you will be required to provide a signed letter from

your **registrar** stating that you were enrolled during the fall semester.

- If you are taking a leave of absence to participate in an organized semester- or year-long study abroad program, or to participate in a substantive internship program, you may still be considered eligible. You will be required to submit documentation of your study abroad or internship program. Decisions will be made on a case by case basis.
- *In either case, you must submit a signed letter from your home college or university in the U.S. explaining your situation and your intention to re-enroll following the completion of your study abroad or internship program.*

In order to participate in the CLS Program you must, by the beginning of your program:

- Be at least 18 years old
- Be in acceptable mental and physical health. Grantees will be required to submit a satisfactory Medical Information Form and Physician's statement and must inform the program of any changes in their health status between submission of these forms and departure in order to participate in the program.
- Undergraduate students must have completed at least one academic year of study (two semesters or three quarters).
- In order to participate in the CLS Program, finalists must receive an appropriate visa from their country of study (deadlines vary by country).
 - **The decision to issue a visa rests solely with the government and consular mission of the country to which a student is travelling. The CLS Program, American Councils for International Education and the U.S. Department of State will assist you with your visa application, but cannot influence a foreign government's decision of whether or not to issue a visa.**
 - CLS Program finalists and, in some cases, alternates may be required to work closely with CLS Program staff on preparing their paperwork well in advance of regular deadlines in order to receive a visa.

Please note that you are applying by language, not for a particular country placement. You are eligible to apply for one language *only*. If you submit more than one application, you will not be considered for a scholarship in any language.

The following persons are **ineligible** for the CLS Program:

- Current employees of the U.S. Department of State who work in offices under the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Academic Program, in the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), or for a period ending one year following the termination of such employment;
- Current employees of private and public agencies under contract or grant with the U.S. Department of State who perform services related to the Critical Language Scholarship Program, or for a period ending one year following the termination of their services; or
- Immediate families (i.e., spouses and dependent children) of the individuals described in the above paragraphs, or for a period ending one year following the termination of such employment. This provision does not disqualify self-supporting members of families who live apart from their parents.

These provisions do not include part-time or temporary employees, or consultants, or interns of the U.S. Department of State (including at U.S. Embassies and Consulates), or contract employees of the U.S. Department of State, unless such persons perform services related to the Critical Language Scholarship Program.

For applicants to the Fulbright U.S. Student Program Applicants to the CLS Program may apply for and receive both a CLS Program award and a Fulbright U.S. Student Program award in the same academic year. However, participants may not accept both a CLS Program award and the Fulbright Critical Language Enhancement Award, which provides supplemental critical language study funding for Fulbright U.S. Student Program grantees, in the same academic year.

If a participant receives a Fulbright grant with a mandatory pre-departure orientation in Washington, D.C. that falls during the CLS Program period, he or she may need to choose between accepting the CLS Program award and the Fulbright grant.

Felony and misdemeanor convictions Applicant situations involving a felony or misdemeanor conviction will be reviewed on a case by case basis. Minor traffic violations do not need to be reported as misdemeanors. Please note that the applicant may also be asked to submit supporting documentation.

University disciplinary action Applicant situations involving university disciplinary action will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Please note that the applicant may also be asked to submit supporting documentation.

Failure of an applicant to fully report felony and misdemeanor convictions or university disciplinary action will result in termination of the application.

Program Benefits

The CLS Program covers many of the costs of participating in its overseas institutes, including:

- International and domestic travel between the student's U.S. home city, Washington, D.C., and the CLS site
- Related costs for a mandatory pre-departure orientation in Washington, D.C.
- Applicable visa fees, language instruction, room, board, program-sponsored travel within the host country
- All entrance fees for program activities
- U.S. academic credit issued through Bryn Mawr College

The following will **not** be covered by the CLS Program:

- U.S. passport fees
- Medical exam fees required for finalists

Selection Timeline

All applicants will be contacted by email in January with a notification of whether their application passed the initial review process.

Applicants who pass the initial review process will be notified of their status as a CLS recipient, alternate or non-recipient in February.

Recipients will have about one month to accept or decline the award.

Eligibility

Please refer to the Eligibility Requirements listed in the Application Instructions.

1) I am a U.S. citizen.

- Yes
- No

2) I will be at least eighteen years old by the start of the 2016 CLS Program.

- Yes
- No

3) I am currently enrolled in a degree-granting program at the undergraduate (associate's, bachelor's) or graduate (master's, doctoral, or professional degree) level.

- Yes
- No

4) I am enrolled in an accredited U.S. institution. Students earning degrees at foreign colleges or universities that are not based in the United States or its territories are not eligible.

- Yes
- No

5) I am taking courses through my college or university during the fall 2015 term.

More information and instructions can be found at www.clscholarship.org/information-for/applicants

- Yes
- No

6) By the program start date (Summer 2016), I will have completed at least one academic year of study at the college level (two semesters or three quarters).

- Yes
- No

7) I understand that applicants must be in acceptable mental and physical health, and that if I receive a CLS Program award, I will be required to submit a satisfactory Medical Information Form and Physician's Statement in order to participate in the program.

- Yes

8) I understand that my ability to participate in the CLS Program is contingent upon my ability to receive a visa to my host country.

Yes

9) I am submitting only one (1) CLS Program application for only one (1) language.

Yes

No

10) I certify that I have reviewed the eligibility requirements regarding employment by the U.S. Department of State or other private and public agencies under contract to the U.S. Department of State, and that I am eligible to apply for the CLS Program.

Yes

No

11) I have submitted or plan to submit an application to the Fulbright U.S. Student Program for the 2016-2017 award year (if yes, please complete the additional information below).

Yes

No

11a) I understand that I may not accept a 2016 Critical Language Enhancement Award, which provides supplemental critical language study funding for Fulbright U.S. Student Program grantees, and a CLS Program award in the same academic year.

Yes

11b) I understand that if I receive a Fulbright grant with a mandatory pre-departure orientation in Washington, D.C. whose dates conflict with the CLS Program, I will need to choose between accepting the CLS Program award and the Fulbright grant.

Yes

Felony/Misdemeanor Conviction

12) Are you under current indictment for or have you ever been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor (excluding minor traffic violations)?

More information and instructions can be found at www.clscholarship.org/information-for/applicants

Yes

No

If yes, please explain below and include details of the date of incident, details of citation/complaint, and state whether or not you completed the terms of your sentence.



Maximum of 100 words allowed.

University Record

13) Have you ever been the subject of academic or non-academic disciplinary action or been suspended or expelled from your university for any disciplinary or honor code infraction?

Yes

No

If yes, please indicate below the date of incident, details of the incident, and the resulting punishment.



Maximum of 100 words allowed.

Personal Information

LANGUAGE CHOICE

According to the "Language Levels and Prerequisites" guidelines provided at www.clscholarship.org/information-for/applicants, what is your self-assessed level for the 2016 CLS Program?

1) Language and Level

How many years of formal target language classroom study (or equivalent) will you have completed by summer 2016?

2) Years in high school

3) Years in college or university

4) Where have you studied your CLS target language?

Check all that apply

- High School
- College
- Study Abroad
- Heritage Speaker (family background in the language, practicing the language at home)
- Independent Study
- Private Tutoring

Biographical Information

5) Applicant Name:

First Name

Middle Name

Last Name

Previous Legal Name Used

If applicable

6) Sex

According to passport or government-issued ID

- Female
 Male

7) Date of Birth

MM/DD/YYYY (e.g., 04/27/1993)

8) Place of Birth:

Country

Please first tell us the country (including the U.S.A.)

City

Province/State/Governorate

9) Do you hold dual citizenship with another country?

- Yes
 No

If yes, please select other citizenship country.

10) Are you a naturalized U.S. citizen?

- Yes
 No

If yes, please provide date of naturalization.

Use date picker, or enter in format MM/DD/YYYY (e.g., 04/27/2010)

11) Permanent Address:

Country

Please first tell us the country (including the U.S.A.)

U.S. possessions, military, and diplomatic addresses must specify U.S.A. as the Mailing Country.

Street Address

Please enter the address at which you are registered to vote.

Street Address Line 2

If NONE, leave blank.

City

Province/State/Governorate

Postal/ZIP Code

12) Congressional Voting District

To find your congressional district, please visit house.gov

State/Territory

District Number

- Enter "At Large" for states with only one Congressional representative (Alaska, Delaware, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, and Wyoming), and for the District of Columbia and U.S. territories (American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands)

13) Is your mailing address different from your permanent address? (if yes, please complete the additional information below)

**Please note, the mailing address listed here will be used to contact you between time of application and August 2016.*

Yes

No

Mailing Address:

Country

Please first tell us the country (including the U.S.A.)

U.S. possessions, military, and diplomatic addresses must specify United States as the Mailing Country.

Street Address

Street Address Line 2

City

Province/State/Governorate

Postal/ZIP Code

14) Primary Telephone Number

Will be used for duration of program, through October 2016.

15) Alternate Telephone Number

16) Personal Email Address (we recommend **not** using your university address, as it may expire)

Will be used for duration of program, through October 2016.

17) Alternate Email Address (address at your university)

Passport Information

18) Do you have a U.S. passport valid with your legal name through December 2016 (or if you are a CLS Russian applicant, through March 2017) with two blank visa pages?

- Yes
 No

- You do **not** need to have a passport to apply for the CLS Program. However, if you do not have a passport, you will need to apply for and receive a passport by March 2016 in order to participate in the 2016 CLS Program.

- If you do not have a passport that is valid through the above dates, please apply for a new passport so that it is available by March 2016 for visa processing.
- If you do not have **two blank visa/stamp pages**, please apply to have new pages added to your passport.
- If you do not take measures to secure a passport by March 2016, you may be responsible for any fees associated with expediting your passport.
- For more information on securing a passport, please visit <http://www.travel.state.gov/>.

Passport Name:

*Please enter your name **exactly** as it appears in your passport*

Given Names

Last Name

Date of Issue

MM/DD/YYYY (e.g., 04/27/2010)

Expiration Date

MM/DD/YYYY (e.g., 04/27/2020)

Current Academic Information

1) Current University Name

Please allow 1 second for answers to reload when using the filter function.

If your institution is not listed here, contact us at cls@americancouncils.org

2) City

State

3) Start Date

Enter in format MM/YYYY (e.g., 08/2011)

4) Anticipated Date of Graduation (if applicable)

Enter in format MM/YYYY (e.g., 05/2016)

5) Type of Degree

- Undergraduate
- Master's
- Doctoral (PhD)
- Professional Degree (DDS, MD, DO, PAC, JD, etc.)

6) Number of Terms Completed at Time of Application

Type of term

- Quarters
- Semesters

7) Academic Disciplines/Fields of Study

#	Field of Study or Anticipated Field of Study	Major or Minor?
1		
2		

8) What is Your GPA on the 4-Point Scale?

If you are a 1st semester student in your degree program, enter "N/A"

If N/A, please explain

9) Will you be enrolled in courses at this college/university during the spring 2016 academic term?

- Yes
 No

When is the anticipated date of your last final exam?

MM/DD/YYYY (e.g., 04/27/2016)

10) Will you be enrolled in courses at this college/university during the fall 2016 academic term?

- Yes
 No

When is the anticipated date of your first day of class for fall 2016?

MM/DD/YYYY (e.g., 09/27/2016)

11) Will you be studying abroad during the Spring 2016 semester?

- Yes
 No

If so, where?

City

Country

12) Anticipated Spring 2016 Courses

Please list all courses you anticipate taking.

#	Course Name
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	

Transcript and Grades

Please attach with this application an unofficial transcript or list of grades from your current college or university.

Please note that anyone who is accepted to the CLS Program will be required to submit an official transcript to verify the information provided below. Any discrepancies between the information provided in your CLS application and your official transcript will result in the revocation of the CLS award unless the institution verifies that a change (grade change, course removed, etc.) was made on your official record. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions regarding the unofficial transcript reporting requirements.

Previous Academic Information

1) Previous College/University Attended within the Last Five Years

Type of Degree Program

University

Country

City

Province/State/Governorate

Start Date

Enter in format MM/YYYY (e.g., 11/2010)

End Date

Enter in format MM/YYYY (e.g., 05/2014)

Academic Discipline(s)/Field(s) of Study

Type of Degree Awarded, if applicable

Date Degree Awarded, if applicable

Enter in format MM/YYYY (e.g., 05/2014)

GPA or N/A

If N/A, please explain

Attach your transcript from this institution to this application

2) Previous College/University Attended within the Last Five Years

Type of Degree Program

University

Country

City

Province/State/Governorate

Start Date

Enter in format MM/YYYY (e.g., 11/2010)

End Date

Enter in format MM/YYYY (e.g., 05/2014)

Academic Discipline(s)/Field(s) of Study

Type of Degree Awarded, if applicable

Date Degree Awarded, if applicable

Enter in format MM/YYYY (e.g., 05/2014)

GPA or N/A

If N/A, please explain

Attach your transcript from this institution to this application

Target Language Information

1) Which statement best describes your CLS target language study?

- I have never studied my CLS target language at all.
- I have studied my CLS target language, but not through formal classroom study.
- I have studied my CLS target language through formal classroom study.

Previous Language Study

2) What have you done, and what will you do prior to participation in the CLS Program, to learn the target language outside of formal language courses at high school, college, or university? Please select all that apply:

- No informal language study
- Interactions with friends or family members who speak the target language
- Personal history with the language or related dialect
- Private or small group study or tutoring in the target language
- Independent study or personal research efforts
- Other efforts or activities to gain linguistic and cultural knowledge in the target language

3) Please describe the activities you have undertaken including the frequency and number of hours, content, books or materials used, chapters or topics covered and level of engagement.



0 words counted. Maximum of 200 words allowed.

4) Target Language Travel

Please provide information on any travel you have done to a country or countries where the target language is spoken.

#	Country or Countries	Year of Visit	Sponsoring Organization (if any)	Duration	Purpose
1					
2					
3					
4					

Note: Students applying at the Beginning Level with no experience learning the language for which they are applying may skip the following questions.

5) How many weeks are in your semesters or quarters (on average)?

6) How many hours a week do you have language class (on average)?

7) How many cumulative hours of formal classroom study in the CLS target language will you have completed by the beginning of the 2016 CLS Summer Program?

For example, a typical academic year is nine months (32 weeks). A typical language course is 3-5 hours per week or 96-160 contact hours. The number of contact hours provided should include previous, current, and anticipated Spring 2016 target language courses.

- 0-50 Hours
- 51-100 Hours
- 101-150 Hours
- 151-200 Hours
- 201-250 Hours
- 251-300 Hours
- 301-350 Hours
- 351-400 Hours
- 400+ Hours

Please provide the approximate hours of CLS target language study you have completed through each of the options below.

8) Tutoring Hours

9) Self-study hours

10) Do you speak your CLS target language at home?

Yes

No

Current Language Course

Provide information on the primary language course in the target language in which you are currently enrolled for the Fall 2015 semester. Please only provide information for literature or other content courses if the class is taught in the target language, including all readings and written assignments.

11) Course Title

12) Institution

If self-study or led by a tutor, please indicate that here.

13) Start Date

Enter in format MM/YYYY (e.g., 11/2010)

14) End Date

MM/YYYY (e.g., 11/2012)

15) Average number of hours per week spent in classroom

Previous Language Courses

16) Please list any previous courses taken in the target language starting with the most recent. Attach additional sheets as necessary.

Course Title

Institution

Course Start Date

Enter in format MM/YYYY (e.g., 11/2010)

Course End Date

Enter in format MM/YYYY (e.g., 11/2010)

Course Grade

Average number of hours per week spent in classroom

PLANNED 2016 LANGUAGE COURSE

Provide information on the language course in the target language that you plan to enroll in for the Winter/Spring 2016 term.

17) Course Title

18) Institution

29) Course Start Date

Enter in format MM/YYYY (e.g., 01/2016)

20) Course End Date

Enter in format MM/YYYY (e.g., 01/2016)

21) Will you be studying abroad?

Yes

No

Where will you be studying:

Other Language Study

1) What was the primary language spoken in your home during your childhood?

What, if any, was the secondary language spoken in your home during your childhood?

2) What is the primary language spoken in your home today?

What, if any, is the secondary language spoken in your home today?

3) Other Language/s Studied

#	Language	Where Studied?	No. of Years
1			
2			
3			
4			

Recommendation Requests

- Your application must include two (2) general recommendations from two different individuals.
- **Recommendations are due November 30, 2015, 5:00 PM U.S. Eastern Time.** It is your responsibility to ensure that the letters of recommendation are received by the deadline. **Note that student applications are due November 23, 2015, one week before the recommendation deadline.**
- For questions about who may write a recommendation, please see our Frequently Asked Questions Page: www.clscholarship.org/faqs
- You must provide a first name, last name, and email address for each recommender.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Applicants will not be permitted to view recommendations submitted for their applications without the permission of the recommender.

PAPER RECOMMENDATION FORMS

Print and provide the linked form to your recommender:

https://ais.americancouncils.org/ais/CLS/2016/2016_Recommendation_Request.pdf

And ask him/her to send it to the below address:

*ATTN: CLS Program
American Councils for International Education
1828 L St NW Ste 1200
Washington DC 20036-5136*

Or he/she may email it to: cls@americancouncils.org

HOW TO GET A SOLID RECOMMENDATION LETTER FOR YOUR APPLICATION

- The first step is to consider who you can approach for a recommendation. A good recommender should know you well, and be able to offer a testimony from their experience working with you. Examples of recommenders may include professors, instructors, administrators, guidance counselors, coaches, employers or community service supervisors.

- Before approaching your 'recommender,' consider how you would like to come across in your essays and in your recommendation letter. What would you like the CLS Program to know about you that your school records will not communicate? What makes you special, and sets you apart as a student? These things should also come across in your recommendation letter. Who can define and describe you most insightfully?
- When you have chosen your recommender, reach out to them and request - don't demand - a recommendation letter, explaining when the deadline is and when you expect to apply. If they agree, propose a time to meet and chat, or have a telephone conversation. Print out a copy of the general recommendation form, which you'll give to them in person at the meeting; or, if you are having a phone call, send them the file as an attachment.
- When you do meet or chat, spend some time talking with your recommender, and explain to them the CLS Program opportunity, your interest in the target language and your interest in the CLS program experience itself. It's important that they understand your motivation, your academic background, and what you see as the benefits of CLS program participation. It's a good idea to bring a draft of how you are answering the essay questions on your application and a copy of your resume to show to them - this will help them in writing your recommendation. In the meeting, you can also explain some of the things that make your candidacy unique, or that set you apart as a student.
- Remember: ask your recommender well in advance of the deadline! It can take a good deal of thought and time to write a good recommendation letter.
- A week before the application deadline, send them a friendly email reminding them of the approaching deadline. This is also an opportunity to thank them again for agreeing to write your recommendation letter.
- Don't forget to thank them after everything has been submitted. There is a chance you might approach them for another recommendation letter, so keep up positive and friendly relations.

Recommendation Letter I

HOW TO REQUEST A RECOMMENDATION

- **Provide the contact information** for your reference below.
- Print and provide the linked form to your recommender:
https://ais.americancouncils.org/ais/CLS/2016/2016_Recommendation_Request.pdf
- Recommendations must be received by **November 30, 2015**.

First Name

Use English characters, only

Last Name

Use English characters, only

School Name

E-Mail Address

Telephone

Recommendation Letter II

HOW TO REQUEST A RECOMMENDATION

- **Provide the contact information** for your reference below.
- Print and provide the linked form to your recommender:
https://ais.americancouncils.org/ais/CLS/2016/2016_Recommendation_Request.pdf
- Recommendations must be received by **November 30, 2015**.

First Name

Use English characters, only

Last Name

Use English characters, only

School Name

E-Mail Address

Telephone

Activities and Employment

1) Please list up to five jobs, internships, and/or volunteer or campus activities that you have engaged in that demonstrate leadership capacity, community involvement or a connection to your professional goals.

#	Activity	Start Date (ex. 01/2014)	End Date (ex. 01/2015)
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

Previous Programs, Honors, and Fellowships

1) Have you **applied** for the CLS Program in the past?

- Yes
- No

2) Have you **received** a CLS Program award in the past?

- Yes
- No

2a) If you were awarded CLS previously, please indicate all CLS Programs attended from 2006-2015

#	Year	Language	Level	Site
1				
2				

3) If you were awarded CLS but did not attend or did not complete the Program, please explain:

Maximum of 100 words allowed.

4) Please check all of the following U.S. Government programs that you have participated in.

- Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship (Gilman)
- Boren Award
- Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS)
- Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program
- Fulbright U.S. Student Program (English Teaching Assistantship)

- Fulbright U.S. Student Program (Study/Research)
- Language Flagship Fellowship
- National Security Languages Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y) Program
- STARTALK
- Title VIII Award (Research and Training on Eastern Europe and Eurasia)

If you checked any boxes above, please indicate the program, year and country for each.

#	Program	Country/Program Site	Year
1			
2			
3			

- 4a) **If** you received a Fulbright U.S. Student Program (Study/Research) Award, were you also the recipient of a Critical Language Enhancement Award (CLEA)?
- Yes
 - No

4b) **If** you checked STARTALK, please indicate the year and language.

#	Year	Language
1		
2		

5) Honors & Fellowships

Please list any other fellowships or academic honors that you have received

#	Honor/Fellowship
1	
2	
3	

Short Essays

When preparing your responses, **please remember to save your progress frequently** as you go. You may also write your responses in a separate document and then copy and paste your finished draft into the text boxes provided.

1) The CLS Program is an intensive, group-based overseas learning environment. While on the program, you may frequently be exhausted from adapting to a new environment, living without familiar amenities, studying intensively, attending mandatory cultural activities that may not always align perfectly with your interests, building new relationships with people from the host country and your CLS peers, and functioning day-to-day in another language.

- What aspects of the CLS Program do you expect will be the most challenging for you?
- How will you meet these challenges?



Maximum of 350 words allowed.

2) Living in a different culture exposes you to new opinions, worldviews, and ways of living day-to-day that may be completely different from what you have experienced previously. Among other things, you might find that there are differences in concepts of personal space, privacy, and time; socially acceptable behaviors; the role of the individual in society; and others.

- What are your strategies for interacting with people who are different from you or situations that are unfamiliar?
- How do you approach new environments?



Maximum of 350 words allowed.

3) The CLS Program is committed to developing relationships between the people of the United States and other countries, and to building a broad and diverse foundation of Americans who speak critical languages at a high level. The CLS Program seeks to reflect the diversity of the U.S. undergraduate and graduate population in the broadest sense. CLS Program participants represent a wide diversity of experience and backgrounds, including race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, geographic region, socio-economic status, disability (physical or mental), sexual orientation and gender identity, among others.

They also represent a wide range of U.S. institutions of higher education, including community colleges, liberal arts institutions, research universities, and Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs), including Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) and Tribal Colleges and Universities (TC&Us).

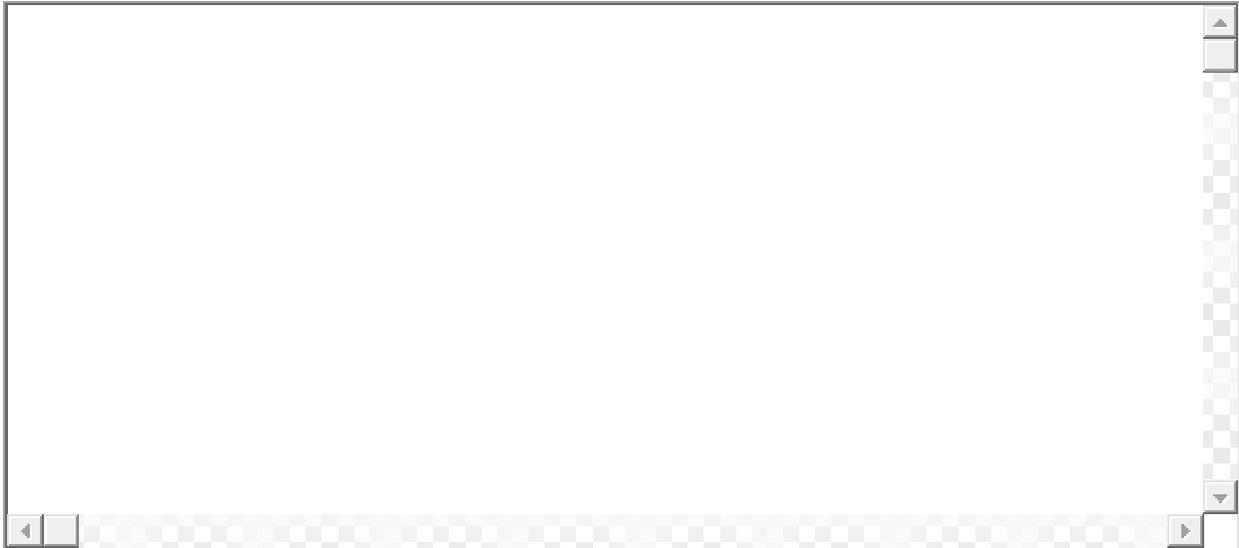
- What unique background and life experience do you bring to the CLS Program?
- How will your unique perspectives contribute to the group you study with?
- How will your participation in the program provide your host community abroad with a broad view of the United States?



Maximum of 350 words allowed.

4) The CLS Program seeks to support students who are committed to acquiring a high level of linguistic and cultural knowledge after participating in the CLS Program.

- What formal and informal efforts do you plan to undertake to build upon your linguistic and cultural knowledge after participating in the CLS Program?



Maximum of 100 words allowed.

Statement of Purpose

Please address the following questions in your statement of purpose essay:

- Why is it important that the CLS Program invest specifically in you with this award?
- What interests you about your chosen target language and the people who speak it?
- How will increased language and cultural knowledge help you achieve your future academic and/or professional goals?

Maximum of 500 words allowed.

Statistical Information

This information will **not** be shared with application reviewers and will have no bearing on your selection for the CLS Program. It may be used in aggregate for the production of external reports or public presentations

The U.S. Department of State and American Councils welcome all eligible applications and do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, or disability.

1) How did you learn about the program?

Check all that apply

- CLS Alumni or Participants
- School Presentation
- Magazine
- Poster
- Email Announcement
- Study Abroad Fair
- Website or Internet Search
- Word of Mouth
- Social Media

Check all that apply

- Facebook
- Twitter
- Instagram

- University Staff

Check all that apply

- Campus Organization
- Study Abroad Advisor
- Academic Advisor
- Diversity/Inclusion Office
- Teacher/Professor
- Fellowship Advisor

If other, please specify:

2) How would you describe yourself?

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Hispanic
- Multi-Racial
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White
- Other
- I decline to state

If other, please explain:



Maximum of 100 words allowed.

3) Are you a 1st generation college student?

Answer "No" if your parents or grandparents attended college

- Yes
- No
- I decline to state

4) Do you have a disability? (*Please note, this information will not affect your eligibility for the award)

- Yes
- No
- I decline to state

If yes, please explain:

A rectangular text input field with a checkered border. On the right side, there is a vertical scrollbar with a small arrow pointing up and another pointing down. On the bottom left, there is a small arrow pointing left, and on the bottom right, there is a small arrow pointing right.

Maximum of 100 words allowed.

Review and Submit

Application Deadline: November 23, 2015, 8:00 P.M., Eastern Time

FINAL REVIEW OF APPLICATION

Before you submit your application, please be sure to review all sections. Make sure you have answered all the questions and required fields, attached all the required documents, and that you are satisfied with your responses.

Once you submit your application, you will no longer be able to make changes to any section of the application. Please note that due to the large volume of applications received, the CLS Program is unable to provide feedback on individual applications.

CERTIFICATION

Please sign below to indicate your agreement with this statement:

I certify that the material I entered into this application is true: