

## **Blakemore Freeman Fellowships 2016 Grant Guidelines**

Blakemore Freeman Fellowships are awarded for one academic year of full-time, intensive language study at the advanced level in East or Southeast Asia in approved language programs. For grants to be awarded in 2016, study must start between June 2016 and May 2017.

Grants are *highly* competitive. In recent years we have been able to fund less than 10% of applicants.

### **Selection Criteria**

- A focused, well-defined career objective involving Asia in which regular use of the language is an important aspect
- The potential to make a significant contribution to a field of study or area of professional or business activity in an Asian country
- Prior experience in the Asian country or involvement or participation in activities related to the country
- Good academic, professional or business background, appropriate to the career program

### **Eligibility Requirements**

To be eligible for a grant, an applicant must:

- Be pursuing a professional, business, technical or academic career that involves the regular use of a modern East or Southeast Asian language.
- Have a college undergraduate degree.
- Be at or near an advanced level in the language as defined below in “Definition of Advanced Level”.
- Be able to devote oneself exclusively to full-time intensive language study during the term of the grant; grants are not made for part-time study or research.
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident of the United States.

Superior candidates pursuing careers in fields such as STEM (science, technology, engineering, math), international business, accounting, law, medicine, journalism, architecture, teaching, social or NGO work, government service, and academia are encouraged to apply.

### **Definition of Advanced Level**

An applicant for a Blakemore Freeman Fellowship must have completed:

- At minimum, completed the equivalent of the 300 level of language classes at the college level (i.e., 3rd year) by the start of the grant, through classes taken at university or in combination with study abroad programs; or
- Completed a minimum of one academic year of intensive language study at the college-level in a full-time language program; or
- Speak, read and write the language with equivalent fluency

If an applicant does not have the required minimum years of academic study of the language, the applicant may provide proof of equivalent competency. Contact the Foundation for further information.

## Eligible Languages

Chinese	Japanese	Korean	Thai
Vietnamese	Indonesian	Khmer	Burmese

## Eligible Language Programs

The Blakemore Foundation awards grants for study only at specific language programs as noted below.

Applicants for Blakemore language grants must apply simultaneously to both the language program involved and to the Blakemore Foundation. Each language program has its own separate due dates and forms, which may be found on its website. Application materials for the Blakemore Foundation's grants are found on the Foundation's website at [www.blakemorefoundation.org](http://www.blakemorefoundation.org).

For **Japanese**, we fund language study at the Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies in Yokohama, Japan (<http://www.stanford.edu/dept/IUC/>). We do not fund Japanese language study at any other institution.

For **Chinese**, we fund language study at the Inter-University Program for Chinese Language Studies, located on the Tsinghua University campus in Beijing, China (<http://ieas.berkeley.edu/iup/>) and at the International Chinese Language Program at National Taiwan University in Taipei, Taiwan (<http://iclp.ntu.edu.tw/>). We do not fund Chinese language study at any other institution.

For **Korean**, we recommend language study at Seoul National University (<http://lei.snu.ac.kr/site/en/klec/main/main.jsp>), Sogang University (<http://klec.sogang.ac.kr/>), or the Inter-University Center for Korean Language Studies at Sungkyunkwan University (<http://www.international.ucla.edu/cks/programs/iuc>). We will consider study at other language programs in Korea on a case-by-case basis during the application review process.

Approval of language programs for study of Thai, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Khmer and Burmese will be considered on an individual basis during the application review process.

## Application and Acceptance by Language

**Program**<http://www.international.ucla.edu/cks/programs/iuc>

It is the applicant's individual responsibility to apply to the language program which he or she lists on the Blakemore Freeman Fellowship application. The Foundation does not apply for the applicant. Applicants may list only one language program on the application.

Blakemore Freeman Fellowships are awarded contingent upon the applicant's unconditional acceptance by the language program for which the fellowship is awarded.

Example: an applicant applying to the IUP-Tsinghua program must successfully pass the IUP's oral exam and not be required by the IUP to complete a summer program as a prerequisite to academic year admission.

No grants are available for study in the United States.

## Private Tutorial Programs

If there is no approved advanced-level language program available in a country, an applicant may propose a program combining study in an ordinary language program supplemented by private tutorials. If no language program exists at all in the country, an applicant may propose a program of full-time tutorials.

## Length of Program

Blakemore Freeman Fellowships are made for one academic year of full-time intensive language study. If funds are available, this may include study in the language program's summer term immediately preceding or following the academic year program. The Foundation encourages applicants who are applying for an academic year program to include a summer term in their application, but cannot guarantee that funding will be available. The inclusion of a summer term in an application does not affect the selection process.

Academic Year	Academic Year plus Summer Program	Summer Study Alone	Program Less than One Academic Year
Yes	Yes	No	No

## Dates of Study and Deferral Policy

Study must start between June 2016 and May 2017, or as limited by the start dates of school terms at the language program involved. No deferrals of start dates will be permitted beyond May 2017.

## Residency Requirement

Blakemore Freeman Fellows are expected to remain in the study country during the entire period of their grant, except in the event of an emergency or absences approved in advance by the Foundation.

Therefore, a Blakemore Freeman Fellow should not plan to return to the United States for Christmas or other holiday periods.

We encourage Blakemore Freeman Fellows to use holidays and school breaks for modest travel within their study country and to participate in other activities to expand their language usage outside the classroom.

## Conflicting Activities

Blakemore Freeman Fellows must devote full-time to language study and not engage in any conflicting activities during the period covered by their grant.

Part-time employment, teaching English, extensive research on a dissertation or involvement in other projects which could hamper full-time study are not permitted.

Recreational, educational or cultural activities which do not interfere with full-time study are encouraged, particularly during school and holiday breaks.

## U.S. Income Tax Liability

All grant funds from the Blakemore Foundation are taxable for U.S. income tax purposes unless the recipient qualifies for some type of exclusion or deduction.

The treatment of Blakemore language grants for tax purposes is the recipient's individual responsibility. No income tax is withheld from the stipend and grant recipients are responsible for making any required estimated tax payments. Please see IRS Publication 970 *Tax Benefits for Education* and Form 1040-ES for more information. Because of the variety of individual situations, we recommend applicants discuss their own individual case with a qualified tax advisor.

## **Amount of Grant & Grant Disbursement**

Blakemore Freeman Fellowships are intended to cover basic expenses at a graduate student level necessary to pursue an academic year of full-time intensive language study in Asia, including tuition or tutoring fees, plus a stipend for travel, living and study expenses.

Tuition for the language program, and tutoring fees (if applicable) are covered in full.

The stipend for Blakemore Freeman Fellowships may be used for the following types of expenses:

- Round-trip airfare, economy class (any carrier)
- Books and study materials related to language program
- Housing/utilities/cell phone/internet access
- Food and ordinary daily living expenses
- Local commuting
- Travel within country during holidays and school breaks
- Recreational, educational or cultural activities
- Health insurance/medical evacuation insurance
- Immunizations appropriate for country
- Visa application fees
- Income taxes due on taxable portion of grant
- Other fees or expenses required by language program or approved by the Trustee

It is up to each Blakemore Freeman Fellow to budget the stipend funds to cover necessary costs.

Stipend funds may not be used to cover expenses of an accompanying dependent.

The stipend for travel, living and study expenses is disbursed to the Blakemore Freeman Fellow at intervals over the course of the grant. Adjustments to stipend may be considered if exchange rates or living expenses alter significantly during the period covered by the grant.

In the case of grants for the study of Japanese and Chinese, tuition is paid directly to the IUC, IUP, or the ICLP by the Blakemore Foundation. Tuition for study of Korean and languages of SE Asia will be advanced to the grantee, who will provide the Foundation with receipts from the institution. Tutoring fees, if applicable, are reimbursed based on expense reports and receipts.

## **Required Reports**

Blakemore Freeman Fellows must submit a monthly letter reporting on their activities during the preceding month. They must also submit two longer progress reports to the Foundation during their fellowship, the first report being due at mid-year, and a second report at the end of their grant. Financial reports regarding the use of stipend funds on forms provided by the Foundation must also be submitted at intervals during the grant and at the end of a Blakemore Freeman Fellowship. At the end of the grant, the Foundation must be provided with an official transcript from the language program at which the student was enrolled for each academic period covered by the fellowship. The transcript should list courses taken and grades received or progress made.