



American Council
of Learned Societies
633 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10017-6795
www.acls.org

East European Language Training Grants for Individuals

Instructions to Applicants

Deadline: January 15, 2010

The American Council of Learned Societies invites applications from individuals wishing to attend intensive summer language courses in East European languages during the summer of 2010. Grants are intended for early career scholars who will use these languages in academic research and teaching, or for work in U.S. government agencies and non-governmental organizations.

Intensive Language Study

Grants will support *elementary* or *intermediate* study in the United States (or, in special cases, in Eastern Europe) or *advanced* study in Eastern Europe. Intensive summer courses are designed to provide the equivalent of a full academic year of language study at either the first-, second-, or third-year level. Eligible languages are Albanian, Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian, Bulgarian, Czech, Estonian, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Macedonian, Polish, Romanian, Slovak, or Slovene. Preference will be given to applicants:

- who cannot study the chosen language at the appropriate level at their home institutions
- who will be continuing study of the language in the following year
- who have begun or are beginning language study early in their academic careers.

Applicants whose circumstances constitute exceptions should explain these circumstances in the application essay. All applicants should provide a rationale for needing the language in current work on a dissertation, or other research or writing.

Advanced-Mastery Language Study

Grants will also support study at *advanced-mastery* language courses sponsored by ACLS at specified U.S. institutions of higher education. Advanced-mastery language courses provide training in professional skills such as those required for fieldwork, interviews and surveys, and archival research, or for work in government agencies and non-governmental organizations. The range of skills includes translation, editing/copyediting, working with non-standard dialects, and writing academic texts in an East European language. Courses are designed for those who have already attained a high level of language proficiency, either as heritage speakers or as a result of instruction. Advanced-mastery courses are intended for graduate students and post-doctoral researchers who have made a career commitment to East European studies, whether they are pursuing degrees, teaching, or working in non-governmental organizations or U.S. governmental agencies.

For a list of summer language courses sponsored by ACLS, including advanced-mastery courses, please review the online program description and related links. For further information, contact Olga Bukhina, Coordinator of International Programs, at obukhina@aclsl.org.

Funding for East European language-training grants at ACLS is appropriated by the U.S. Congress and administered by the U.S. Department of State under the Research and Training for Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union Act of 1983 as amended (Title VIII), whose purpose is the development of expertise in the United States needed for broad knowledge and analysis of developments in this critical world area.

Applicants must have completed a four-year college or university degree.

Applicants should contact the language program/s they wish to attend regarding course offerings and admission procedures as soon as possible in the application process, applying to ACLS only for financial assistance. If

possible, applicants should submit copies of relevant correspondence with their chosen language program/s alongside their applications.

ACLS will release each award stipend contingent upon evidence of the awardee's admission to a reputable summer language program. However, admission into a language program does not guarantee ACLS funding.

Awardees must inform ACLS of any other financial assistance they receive for the proposed language study; the ACLS stipend may be adjusted accordingly. After completion of the language training, awardees will be asked to submit a report to ACLS describing the progress they have made.

Applicants must have earned or must currently be pursuing advanced degrees related to East European studies. They may be studying or working at universities, U.S. government agencies, or non-governmental organizations and must demonstrate the relevance of language study to careers related to East European studies. U.S. citizenship or permanent residency is required.

Completed applications must be received by ACLS no later than January 15, 2010.

The application consists of:

- A. *An application form (3 pages)***, which may be downloaded either in Word or Acrobat. Application forms downloaded in Word may be typed onto using a computer, then saved in a Word or Acrobat file and submitted via email attachment to obukhina@acsls.org. Please maintain the font and spacing formats of the original application form. Application forms downloaded in Acrobat may be printed, then typed on using a typewriter and returned to ACLS via U.S. Postal Service. No handwritten forms will be accepted.
- B. *A statement of purpose*** of not more than two typed, double-spaced pages, describing the applicant's scholarly or professional interest in Eastern Europe, previous training in the language of proposed study, plans for continuing language study, if any, and how the language will be used in future work.
- C. *A letter of reference*** from a mentor or colleague qualified to evaluate general scholarly ability and achievements. Recommenders should send the letter of reference directly to ACLS by January 15, 2010. For doctoral candidates the references should be from the dissertation advisor. Postdoctoral applicants should ask senior colleagues for letters. The letters will not be released to applicants.
- D. *For applicants who do not hold the Ph.D. degree, transcripts are required*** from the school of current enrollment. An applicant in the first year of graduate school should also request a transcript from the undergraduate institution; if no longer in school, from the institution of the most recent degree. Copies of transcripts may be included with the packet of application materials or sent separately to ACLS by the institution.

Postdoctoral applicants are required to submit a two-page curriculum vitae with a list of the most important recent publications. (No transcripts are necessary.)

COMPLETED APPLICATION PACKET SHOULD BE MAILED TO:

American Council of Learned Societies
Committee on East European Language Training
Attn: Olga Bukhina
633 Third Avenue, 8th floor
New York, NY 10017-6795

OR E-MAILED TO:

obukhina@acsls.org



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Last Name _____ First and Middle Name/Initial _____

Salutation (check one) Professor Doctor Mr. Ms.

Language for which you are applying _____

Level: elementary intermediate advanced advanced mastery

Years of study of this language you will have completed by the end of the current academic year: _____

Programs of instruction for summer 2010 to which you have applied or intend to apply:

Present academic status _____

Department _____

Institution _____

Field of specialization _____

Education

B.A./B.S. received from _____

Date B.A./B.S. received ____/____

B.A./B.S. major discipline _____

M.A. received or to be received from _____

Date M.A. received or expected ____/____

M.A. major discipline _____

Title of M.A. thesis _____

Ph.D. received or to be received from _____

Date Ph.D. received or expected ____/____

Department _____



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Name _____

Ph.D. major discipline _____

Title of doctoral dissertation _____

Name of dissertation supervisor _____

List any additional degrees _____

List all foreign languages you can use professionally and rate your reading and speaking competence using *E = Excellent, near native; G = Good, adequate for current needs; P = Poor, no practical competence.*

Letter of Reference

To the Applicant:

Please provide information about the person whom you have asked for a letter of reference, as well as the date on which the recommender received the attached "Letter of Reference" form. It is the applicant's responsibility to check with the recommender that the recommendation has been sent to ACLS by the deadline.

Last Name _____ First Name/Initial _____

Title _____ Department _____

Institution _____ Date _____

Applicant's contact information

Email address (should be valid through August 2010) _____

Preferred postal mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ - _____ - _____ Fax _____ - _____ - _____

Applicant's Signature: _____

DATE of submission of this application _____



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Name _____

Administrative Information

(This information is REQUIRED [except as noted]. It is for administrative purposes only and will not be distributed as part of the selection process.)

Applicant's Social Security Number _____ - _____ - _____

Country of citizenship _____

If not a U.S. citizen, does the applicant hold U.S. Permanent Resident status? _____

The following questions are optional and will be used for statistical purposes only.

Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy) ____/____/____

Gender (female/male) _____

With which group(s) does the applicant most identify?

- _____ White (not of Hispanic origin)
- _____ Black (not of Hispanic origin)
- _____ Hispanic or Latino
- _____ American Indian or Alaskan Native
- _____ Asian
- _____ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- _____ Other _____



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**EAST EUROPEAN LANGUAGE TRAINING
GRANTS FOR INDIVIDUALS
Summer 2010**

Letter of Reference

Applicant's Name _____

Respondent's name _____
Title _____ Department _____
Institution _____
Respondent's Signature _____ Date _____

TO THE RESPONDENT: The above named applicant for an ACLS grant has selected you to provide an evaluation of his/her abilities and accomplishments. Please mail your comments directly to ACLS. The deadline for both applications and reference letters is **January 15, 2010**. The information you provide will not be released to the applicant.

In your comments please indicate how and in what context you have known the applicant, your assessment of her/his academic achievement and promise, his/her commitment to East European studies, and the significance of the designated language for future research and writing.

Thank you for your assistance. We are grateful for your support in this ACLS program, whose purpose is to encourage and enable acquisition of language as an essential research tool.

Mailing address:
American Council of Learned Societies
Committee on East European Language Training
Attn: Olga Bukhina
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