

FACT SHEET: ACADEMIC YEAR (AY) FLAS

Please carefully review this fact sheet and retain for future reference.
(Don't include it with application.)

Student: All application materials are turned in to your Graduate Coordinator who nominates you with a Cover Sheet

Academic Year FLAS awards are contingent upon UMaine receiving annual FLAS funding from the Department of Education for each award period.

DETAILS

- Awardees must schedule to take a proficiency test in French and an Oral Proficiency Interview in September of the first year of their award, and in June of the first and subsequent years for which FLAS awards are renewed
- Students awarded an Academic Year FLAS will receive up to 9 credits in tuition and the Canadian-American Center will pay UMaine directly. If the student purchases health insurance from UMaine, the AY FLAS will provide a 50% waiver. (No waiver if purchased from another source.)
- The FLAS fellow will directly receive \$15,000 for living expenses (room, board, books, supplies, travel costs, and processing fees.)
- There are two categories of AY FLAS awards:
 - 1.) Students completing course work for the M.A. or the Ph.D
 - Awardees must be enrolled full-time at 6 credits per semester, for the duration of their award.
 - The course of study for each semester must include 3 credits of French courses and 3 credits of Canadian Studies courses. These courses will be taken for grades, not Pass/Fail.
 - 2.) Students researching their doctoral dissertation
 - M.A. or Ph.D. candidates can apply to conduct thesis or dissertation research in Canada. [The FLAS coordinator will apply to the FLAS grantor (US DOE) for student's permission to conduct research at Canadian institution or university]

Application Dates:

Submit all application materials in English, and on or before the due date.

Application deadline: **February 15th** for funding to commence in September of that same year.

Awards are made by April 1st of each year.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible to apply for a FLAS fellowship, a student must meet the following criteria:

- Be a citizen or eligible permanent resident of the United States, or be in the process of becoming a citizen or permanent resident of the United States (in the latter case, immigration documentation is required)
- Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment in a full-time graduate degree program at UMaine that combines French language training with Canadian studies
- Ph.D. candidates applying for FLAS dissertation writing or dissertation research in Canada must be already at the advanced level of French language proficiency. The use of the foreign language in dissertation research must be extensive enough to be able to consider the language improvement facilitated by the research equal to improvement that would be obtained from a full academic year's worth of formal classroom instruction. (Please note that since the FLAS program is for French language acquisition, use of the FLAS fellowship solely for dissertation writing or dissertation research is not encouraged by the U.S. Department of Education.)
- All overseas programs of study must be at the intermediate or advanced level of language proficiency and must be approved by the U.S. Department of Education at least thirty days prior to the start of the program.

REQUIREMENTS ONCE AWARDED AN ACADEMIC YEAR FLAS

Once a student is awarded an Academic Year FLAS, the student shall understand he or she has accepted a US government grant which requires on-line self reporting.

And, the student shall have to meet the following conditions:

- Be enrolled in one graded FLAS-approved French language course and one graded Canadian studies course per semester for two semesters

OR

- Be engaged in dissertation research in Canada, in the international aspects of professional (or other) fields of study. **For use of the AY FLAS in Canada:** the student must agree to be enrolled

in an advanced French language program approved by the U.S. Department of Education; or pursue *PhD dissertation research*, provided there is affiliation with a Canadian institution of higher education or appropriate organization in Canada.

Students must submit the following information along with the application:

- The name of the institution where the student will be conducting research;
 - The name of a contact at that institution
 - The dates of travel.
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- Students who apply to pursue PhD dissertation research must conduct the research in French and must improve their French language proficiency equivalent to one year's worth of language study.
 - And, they must arrange with the Canadian-American Center FLAS Coordinator for a pre- and post-fellowship language proficiency evaluation.
 - FLAS fellows must complete an electronic Pre Self-Evaluation upon receiving the award, and then a Student Performance Report at the end of the fellowship. (Access details and reminders will be provided) No exceptions. Late submission precludes future participation.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST FOR AY FLAS

STUDENTS: Forward completed application packages to your Graduate Coordinator

GRADUATE COORDINATOR: Forward FOUR (4) copies of all materials to the FLAS Coordinator:
Dr. Frédéric Rondeau, Canadian-American Center, 154 College Ave, Orono, ME 04473.
frederic.rondeau@maine.edu.

- ___ Cover Sheet prepared by your department's Graduate Coordinator who nominates you
- ___ Completed Academic Year FLAS application
- ___ One letter of recommendation:
- ___ Official transcript
- ___ Statement of purpose, one page double-spaced. Please discuss the following: 1) how the study of French language and Canadian studies fits into your overall academic program and career goals; 2) what you have chosen to research; 3) what specific things you plan to do during the fellowship period; and 4) how these activities contribute toward your academic and career goals
- ___ IF you are applying to conduct PhD dissertation research in French, and in Canada, include these: a) Project description signed by your academic advisor; b) Dates of travel to Canada; c) Name of Canadian institution where you will be affiliated, and institution contact person