Eligibility

This is an intensive immersion-type language program open to graduate and highly motivated undergraduate students at U.S. colleges and universities as well as those who are not currently enrolled students who can demonstrate the need to pursue intensive language study to further their professional goals. Students applying for summer Hindi should have the equivalent of one year of prior Hindi study. The equivalent of one year of either Hindi or Urdu is required for summer Urdu students, Applicants for summer Mughal Persian should have had the equivalent of one year of Urdu or Persian. Applicants for other languages may apply at all levels, including the beginning.

Language Program

Participants are expected to devote their energies to activities that will increase their proficiency in all skills—speaking, listening, reading, and writing. For two months at each AIIS language center, there will be at least four hours a day of classroom instruction and individual tutorials with regular out-of-class assignments requiring interaction with community members. Attendance is mandatory in class as well as at other activities such as cultural visits, films, and plays. There is special emphasis on connecting with the local speech community and self-management of learning. Participants are encouraged to identify and prioritize their language learning needs and keep track of their language development. Students are encouraged to stay with host families. Participants are expected to devote all their energies to learning the target language. Dependents or friends not enrolled in the program may not accompany students. Masters level students can apply for funding for a capstone project to take place upon completion of the program.

Fees and financial Aid

Applicants should apply to their home institutions for Foreign Language Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships, which are sufficient for travel, maintenance and the $3,000 program fee, or for other support. Funding for Bengali, Hindi, Punjabi and Urdu is also available through the U.S. State Department’s Critical Languages Scholarship program. Information about that program can be found at www.clscholarship.org The AIIS will be able to support a limited number of admitted students who cannot obtain other funding.

Applications

All applications must include a $25 processing fee. Applications may be found on the Web at www.indiastudies.org.