

# Boren

FELLOWSHIPS



SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS  
FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDY

A National Security Education Program Initiative  
Administered by the Institute of International Education



## National Security Education Act



- Authored by Senator David L. Boren
- Originally Established in 1991
- Now Consists of Multiple Initiatives
  - Boren Scholarship
  - Boren Fellowship
  - The Language Flagship



- Provide funding for graduate students to study in areas critical to national security
  - Africa · Asia · Central & Eastern Europe
  - Eurasia · Latin America · Middle East
- Emphasize learning less commonly taught languages
- Promote long-term linguistic and cultural immersion
- Require 1 year of federal government service





## National Security

The Boren Awards focus on geographic areas, languages, and fields of study that are critical to U.S. national security.

They draw on a broad definition of national security, including:

- Traditional national security concerns of protecting & promoting American well-being
- Challenges of global society, such as
  - sustainable development
  - environmental degradation
  - global disease and hunger
  - population growth and migration
  - economic competitiveness

All applicants must demonstrate how their programs and future goals are connected to this broad understanding of national security.



## Eligibility

- U.S. citizen
- Matriculated in or applying to a graduate program at an accredited U.S. college/university
- Not graduating until after Boren funding period
- Planning to study in an eligible world region
- Planning to study a foreign language





## Maximum Award Amounts



### Overseas

Maximum:

- \$12,000 for 12-24 weeks
- \$20,000 for 25-36 weeks
- \$24,000 for 37-52 weeks

### Domestic

Maximum: \$12,000

**Maximum: \$30,000 over 24 months**



## Develop A Proposal



### Overseas

Language study

Additional Options

- Academic study
- Graduate-level research
- Academic internship
- Combination of the above

### Domestic

Language Study

- Summer before/after overseas study
- STEM: Summer or academic year before/after overseas study



## Preferences

- Countries
- Languages
- Fields of Study
- Length of Study
- Commitment to Government Service





## Preferred Countries

Albania	Congo, Dem.* Rep. of the	Indonesia	Mozambique	South Africa
Algeria	Congo, Rep. of the	Israel	Nicaragua	Sri Lanka
Angola	Cote d'Ivoire*	Japan	Nigeria	Syria*
Argentina	Croatia	Jordan	Oman	Taiwan
Armenia	Cuba	Kazakhstan	Pakistan*	Tajikistan
Azerbaijan	Czech	Kenya	Panama	Tanzania
Bahrain*	Republic	Korea, South	Peru	Thailand
Belarus	Egypt	Kosovo	Philippines	Timor-Leste
Benin	El Salvador	Kuwait	Poland	Tunisia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Eritrea	Kyrgyzstan	Qatar	Turkey
Brazil	Ethiopia	Lebanon	Romania	Uganda
Bulgaria	Georgia	Liberia	Russia	Ukraine
Cambodia	Ghana	Macedonia	Rwanda	United Arab Emirates
Cape Verde	Guatemala	Malaysia	Saudi Arabia	Uzbekistan
Chile	Haiti	Mali	Senegal	Venezuela
China	Honduras	Mexico	Serbia	Vietnam
Colombia	Hungary	Moldova	Sierra Leone	Yemen*
	India	Montenegro	Slovakia	
		Morocco	Slovenia	

\* Given the current security situation, we do not anticipate making awards to these countries in 2012.



## Preferred Languages

Albanian	Bosnian	Javanese	Pashto	Tajik
African Languages	Bulgarian	Kanarese	Persian	Tamil
Akan/Twi*	Cambodian	Kazakh	Polish	Telegu
Amharic	Cantonese	Khmer	Portuguese*	Thai
Arabic (and dialects)	Croatian	Korean	Punjabi	Turkmen
Armenian	Czech	Kurdish	Romanian	Turkish
Azerbaijani	Gan	Kyrgyz	Russian	Uighur
Bahasa Indonesian	Georgian	Lingala	Serbian	Ukrainian
Bambara	Hausa	Macedonian	Sinhala	Urdu
Belarusian	Hebrew	Malay	Slovak	Uzbek
Bengali	Hindi	Malayalam	Slovenian	Vietnamese
	Hungarian	Mandarin	Swahili*	Wolof*
	Japanese	Moldovan	Tagalog	Yoruba*
				Zulu*

\* These languages are part of the African Languages Initiative.



## Preferred Fields of Study

- Agricultural and food sciences
- Engineering and sciences:
  - Biology, chemistry, physics, environmental science, mathematics
- Business and economics
- Computer and information sciences
- Foreign languages
- Health and biomedical science
- History
- International affairs
- Law, political science, & public policy
- Social sciences:
  - Anthropology, psychology, sociology





## Exceptions to Preferences

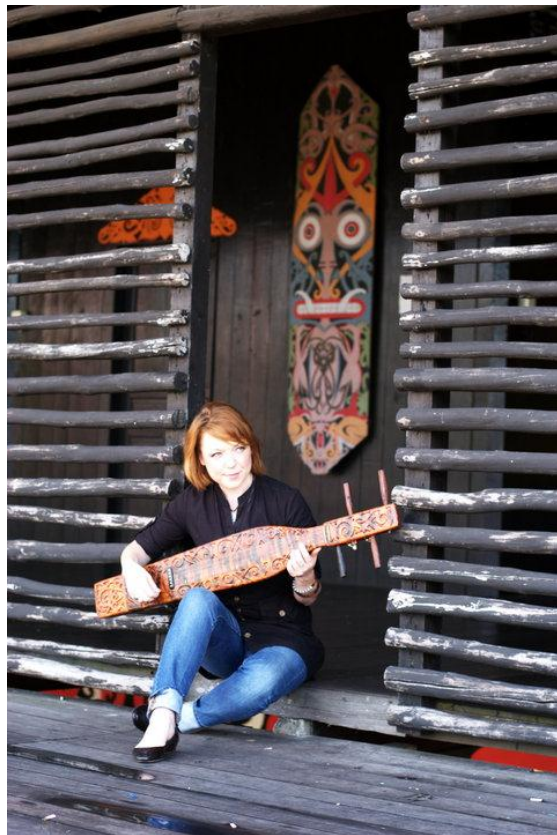
**We cannot list all countries, languages, and fields of study that are critical to U.S. national security.**



**We will accept applications for non-preferred areas where the candidate can make a compelling case that such study can contribute significantly to U.S. national security and the goals of the program.**



## Preferred Length of Study



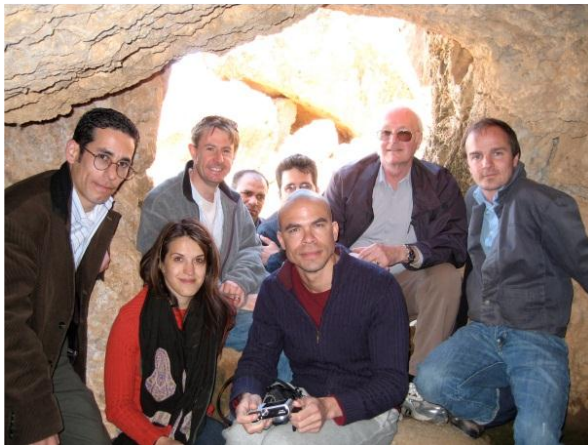
Preference is given to applicants planning to spend an academic year or **6-12 months** overseas

Note: Applicants proposing overseas programs of 3-6 months, especially those in the STEM fields are encouraged to apply.



## Commitment to Government Service

**Preference will be given to applicants who demonstrate a desire to work in the federal government.**





## Fulfilling the Service Requirement

**Term: 1 year or length of funding**

**Deadline: Begin within 2 years of graduation**

### **Resources:**

- **NSEP Staff**
- **NSEPnet.org**
- **Boren Forum**
- **Several hiring authorities**





## Government Service: Priority Areas

In exchange for funding, Scholars and Fellows agree to seek employment in one of these priority areas:



**Department of  
Defense**



**Department of  
State**



**Department of  
Homeland  
Security**

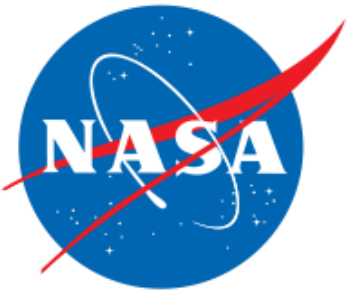


**The  
Intelligence  
Community**



If a Scholar or Fellow does not find a suitable position in one of the priority areas, they can pursue any position within the federal government that contributes to national security.

Examples of previously accepted alternatives:



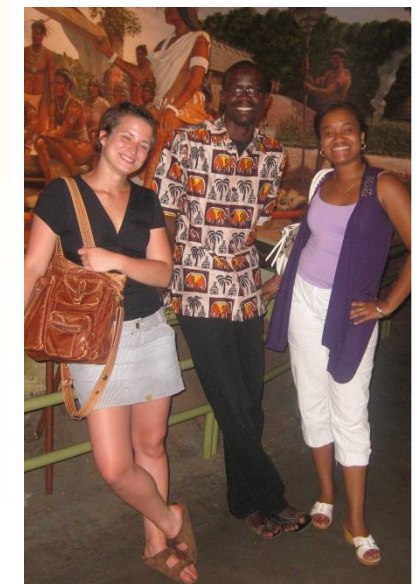
And many more!

After making a documented good-faith effort to find a position in the federal government, awardees may pursue positions in education directly related to the NSEP-funded language study or geographical experience.



## African Languages Initiative

Languages	Official Summer Domestic Program	Official Fall Overseas Program
Swahili	✓	✓ Tanzania
Yoruba	✓	✓ Nigeria
Zulu	✓	✓ South Africa
Akan/Twi	✓	
Wolof	✓	
Portuguese		✓ Mozambique





## BOREN FELLOWSHIPS

### Supplementary Materials

- Transcripts



### Online Application Includes

- 3 Recommendations
- Language Proficiency Form (optional)
- Budget
- 3 Essays
- Letter of Overseas Affiliation  
(not required at time of application)



## BOREN FELLOWSHIPS

### Essay #1: Significance

- Explain the significance of your proposed study plan and selected region, language, and culture to U.S. national security, broadly defined.
- Describe how your proposed study plan relates to your academic and career goals, including your plans to fulfill the service requirement.

### Essay #2: Proposed Study Plan

- Describe your proposed study plan in detail.

### Essay #3: Language Study Goals

- Describe your specific goals for language study.
- Describe your past experience in studying/speaking the language and your plans for continuing to study/speak the language following your Boren Fellowship.





## Application Deadlines

**Boren Fellowships: January 31, 2012**

Deadline is for study that will  
begin after June 1, 2012.





**Boren Scholarships & Fellowships**  
**A National Security Education Program Initiative**  
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