About the Charles Mark Scholarships

Generously endowed by Dr. Charles Mark, the Charles Mark Scholarships support Five College Center for World Languages (FCCWL) students in enhancing their language skills by participating in linguistic and cultural immersion activities in communities where the target language is spoken.

***Eligibility.*** All FCCWL students are eligible and encouraged to apply for the scholarships. A student submits a single application, and the Selection Committee will determine all funds for which the student may be eligible. Preference will be given to certain applicants according to the terms of the individual scholarships as described on the [scholarship webpage](https://www.fivecolleges.edu/academics/languages/languages-scholarships).

To be eligible to receive a scholarship, at the time of application, applicants must:

* Be studying or have previously studied the target language (language of the application) through the Five College Center for World Languages.
  + Note that study of a language at a Five College campus, such as taking Spanish or Korean at UMass, does not meet this requirement. To qualify, a student must have taken at least one SILP or MLP course through FCCWL. To check your eligibility, email fclang@fivecolleges.edu.
* Be enrolled in a degree program (undergraduate or graduate) at one of the Five Colleges
* Be on campus when the scholarship is awarded. Scholarships are not awarded to students who are already abroad.
* Have a Social Security Number

***Application.***A competitive application will clearly demonstrate:

* The applicant’s commitment to language study
* Specific and well-developed plans for the applicant’s time in the target language community
* How these plans create an immersive environment for language learning

Special consideration may be given to applicants who plan to find accommodation with a family or homestay, work with the target language community, and/or pursue informal learning opportunities instead of or in addition to formal language coursework. Special consideration may also be given to applicants who are planning longer stays.

***Use of award funds*.** Awards range from $500–$1,500. Award funds may be used for travel to or living expenses in a community where the language is spoken. Most commonly this will be a destination outside the U.S., but funds may be used for domestic travel if the applicant demonstrates how their destination and plans constitute a linguistically immersive environment. All travel must be completed and all financial documentation submitted by May 31, 2026, or the scholarship will be forfeited.

***Questions?*** Inquiries about the scholarships, the application process, and eligibility should be directed to the Five College Center for World Languages at fclang@fivecolleges.edu.

***Deadline:*** Sunday, March 30, 2025, at 11:59PM Eastern for travel in June 2025–May 2026

Application for the Charles Mark Scholarships

Return completed application to [fclang@fivecolleges.edu](mailto:fclang@fivecolleges.edu) by Sunday, March 30, 11:59PM.

# Section 1: Applicant Information

**Name:** Enter your name.

**Email Address:** Enter your campus email address. If you are a graduating senior, also include your permanent (non-school) email address.

**School:** Choose your campus.

**Graduation Year:** Enter your expected graduation year.

**Language of Study:** Enter your language of study.

# Section II: Application Questions

**1. Describe your experience with and interest in the target language.**

**(A) List all the courses you have taken in the target language with FCCWL and the grades you received.** If applicable, briefly list other experiences you have with the language (e.g., exposure to the language in a home environment, study with a private tutor/at another institution, related area studies coursework, etc.).

Enter your response to question 1A.

**(B) Why are you learning this particular language?** How does this language fit into your overall academic, professional, and/or personal goals?

Enter your response to question 1B.

**2. Describe your plans for your time in the target language community**. Include the dates, duration, destination(s), and activities planned for your travel, as well as any other relevant details.

Enter your response to question 2.

**3. Explain how these plans create an immersive environment for language learning.** How will you ensure you have ample opportunities to use and enhance your language skills as a major focus of your travel?

Enter your response to question 3.

**4. Provide a budget for your time in the target language community.** List all major expenses (e.g., tuition, airfare, lodging, equipment, etc.), as well as expected sources of funding (e.g., personal savings, scholarships, etc.). If you do not know the exact figures, provide educated estimates.

Enter your response to question 4.

**5. What potential complications to your plans might arise, and what are your contingency plans?**

Enter your response to question 5.