

# BENNINGTON COLLEGE

## MIDDLEBURY LANGUAGE SCHOOLS LIEBOWITZ CENTENNIAL FELLOWSHIP NOMINATION

Bennington's partnership with the [Middlebury Language Schools](#) (MLS) has made it possible for three Bennington students to receive Jessica K. and Ronald D. Liebowitz Centennial Fellowships to support enrollment in the summer Language Immersion Programs.

The MLS offer programs in Abenaki, Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish. Courses run for two, seven, or eight weeks at either the Middlebury or Bennington campus. Arabic, Italian, and Portuguese will operate at Bennington, while the remaining languages will be at Middlebury.

These intensive learning environments offer the opportunity to significantly advance a student's learning through complete language immersion. Students who continue to study their chosen language at Bennington, if available, will be placed at the appropriate level of language study with the permission of the instructors.

Students who successfully complete the summer program will earn transfer credits: 3 credits for the two week program, 9 credits for seven week programs, or 12 credits for eight week programs. Students should be in conversation with [Academic Services](#) to understand how transfer credits will be applied to their Bennington transcript.

Currently enrolled Bennington students studying in any discipline and in good academic and disciplinary standing are eligible. Funding priority will be given to students with an approved Plan and whose proposed language study complements the work of their Plan and/or career goals.

### Scholarship funding and financial responsibilities

- This scholarship provides funding for **80%** of tuition fees, which *includes* room and board but *excludes* travel to and from programs, books, and personal expenses. **Applicants must demonstrate that they can meet tuition obligations** of \$753 for a two week program, \$2,382 for a seven week program, or \$3,012 for an eight week program, *in addition to* the cost of travel, personal expenses, and books.

### Application Process

1. **Complete this nomination application.**  
All nomination application materials must be emailed to [Jennifer Burg](#) by **December 10 at 9:00am**. A Bennington College campus committee will select students as nominees for the fellowship. The Middlebury Language Schools will select fellowship recipients from these nominees in early February.
2. **Complete the online [Application for Middlebury Language Schools Immersion Programs](#).**  
Use code WAIVERC to have the full application fee waived. Apply as soon as possible, as programs often fill quickly. Completing this application also places students into consideration for other scholarships and financial aid offered by Middlebury. Please review the [schedule of rolling deadlines](#) and this additional information about [Middlebury aid](#).

# BENNINGTON COLLEGE

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Email or share your complete application package as a single .pdf to Jennifer Burg at [jenniferburg@bennington.edu](mailto:jenniferburg@bennington.edu) on or before **December 10 at 9:00am.**

Student's Full Name:

Current Term at Bennington:

Faculty Advisor:

Plan Title and Area(s) of Concentration:

Which Middlebury Language School are you applying for?

### **Application Checklist:**

☐ **Completed Cover Sheet (this page)**

☐ **Nomination Essays**

Answer each of the following questions in written English. Each response should be at least 200 words, typed and double-spaced. The first two responses are part of your application to Middlebury.

- ☐ What is your formal and informal experience with the language, including study, work, travel or residence abroad?
- ☐ What are your reasons for wanting to study the language you have chosen?
- ☐ How will the coursework of the Language Immersion Program enrich the goals of your Plan at Bennington? How will it complement your prior coursework? How will it prepare you for specific courses or projects you plan to pursue in your remaining terms at Bennington? How has your study or experience of this language prepared you for the Language Immersion Program?

☐ **Declaration of Agreement**

Please read carefully, indicate school selection and associated costs, and sign.

☐ **Faculty Recommendation Form and Letter of Recommendation from a faculty member**

The following recommenders are listed in order of preference:

- Language faculty with whom you have studied the language during the past two years
- Recent instructor with whom you have studied other languages or disciplines

Please see the Faculty Recommendation page for more information.

*Faculty may email letters directly to Jennifer Burg if that is their preference.*

# BENNINGTON COLLEGE

## MIDDLEBURY LANGUAGE SCHOOLS LIEBOWITZ CENTENNIAL FELLOWSHIP NOMINATION FACULTY RECOMMENDATION

### To be completed by the student

Student's Full Name:

- ☐ I waive my right to see this letter of recommendation – *faculty email letter to Jennifer Burg*
- ☐ I do not waive my right to see this letter of recommendation – *student include letter in application*

Student's Signature:

### To be completed by the faculty recommender

Please check the appropriate boxes below:

- ☐ I am familiar with the student's academic standing and believe that intellectual interests and progress at Bennington would benefit from studying at Middlebury Language Schools.
- ☐ I recommend the applicant with respect to their character and maturity for admission to this program.
- ☐ I have spoken with the applicant and reviewed their proposed program of study, and I find it to be appropriate with respect to their fields of interest and Plan of study at Bennington.

Please attach a letter of recommendation that addresses this student's qualifications to study at Middlebury Language Schools. As appropriate, please address the following in your letter:

- The ways in which the program's coursework will enrich the work of this student's Plan
- Evidence of the student's academic abilities and achievements
- The characteristics or personal attributes that will enable the student to positively represent Bennington College
- Your perspective on how the student will perform in the MLS immersive learning environment

Faculty Member's Name (please print):

Faculty Member's Signature:

Date:

# BENNINGTON COLLEGE

## MIDDLEBURY LANGUAGE SCHOOLS LIEBOWITZ CENTENNIAL FELLOWSHIP NOMINATION DECLARATION OF AGREEMENT

- I understand that a Bennington campus committee will review all submitted application materials, along with my academic record.
- I understand that this is an internal application for nomination to a Fellowship offered by Middlebury Language Schools (MLS), and that I am also responsible for applying and gaining admission to the [Immersion Program](#).
- I understand that studying at MLS is a privilege available to students with demonstrated ability to perform academically and emotionally in college environments, and who will benefit from the challenges of coursework outside of Bennington.
- I understand that I must be in good academic and disciplinary standing and have approval from my faculty advisor and from the Provost's Office to be eligible for this nomination.
- I understand that if I receive this fellowship, I must be enrolled in courses at Bennington College during the term before *and* the term after the MLS program, and that I will immediately notify the Provost's Office if I apply for a Leave of Absence or Withdrawal from Bennington College.
- I understand that if I receive this fellowship, I am an ambassador of Bennington College and must represent myself accordingly in all interactions with the Middlebury community. Maintaining the good-faith relationship upon which this partnership was founded and ensuring the continuance of this opportunity for future students is essential.
- This fellowship will support 80% of the tuition fees associated with Middlebury Language Schools.

I will be applying for the \_\_\_\_\_ (identify language school), the cost of which is \_\_\_\_\_ (identify cost). Included in those fees are program tuition, room and board, and daily cocurricular activities in language. Not included in the tuition fees are travel to and from the program, personal expenses, and books and supplies. I acknowledge that I will be responsible to pay Middlebury Language Schools \_\_\_\_\_ (20% of tuition costs), in addition to being responsible for travel, personal expenses, and books and supplies.

- I acknowledge that the successful transfer of credits to Bennington from study at Middlebury Language Schools will only occur within the parameters of Bennington's [Undergraduate Credit Transfer Policy](#).
- For the duration of the program, I will adhere to the [Language Pledge](#)<sup>®</sup> to speak only the language of the program in which I am enrolled. I acknowledge that I will be required to sign the Pledge that states "I agree to use [language I am studying] as my only language of communication while attending the Middlebury Language Schools. I understand that failure to comply with this Pledge may result in my expulsion."
- I understand that the Middlebury Language Schools' plans for operation may change at any time.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the above statements.

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_