

What You'll Need to Apply

A complete application will include each of the following items:

1. A **Personal Statement** approximately 500 words in length discussing your interest in the program and how your participation will help you reach your academic and professional goals.
2. (For intensive language program applicants only) a 500-word **Language Essay** in which you discuss a topic of your choice. The essay should be written in the program's target language or, if you have not yet begun to study the target language, a related one (for example, if you wish to study Kazakh but know only Russian at this point, you may write your essay in Russian).
3. A current **resume**—be sure to highlight any activities, accomplishments, or jobs related to your target language and/or culture.
4. Official **transcripts** from all institutions from which you have received academic credit. Electronic transcripts may be uploaded to your online application directly or emailed to us at outbound@americancouncils.org.
5. **Recommendations** from two individuals who know you in an academic or professional capacity. For applicants to intensive language programs, at least one of these recommendations must be written by someone familiar with your current proficiency in your program target language. Recommendations may not be written by friends or family members. Please reach out to your recommenders as early as possible to allow them ample time to complete their recommendations for you. To help allow your recommender to more easily comment on your preparedness for the program you are applying to, make sure to share details about the program with them when you reach out.
6. (For applicants applying for AC Study Abroad financial aid), a brief (300-500 word), a **Scholarship Essay** for each scholarship opportunity for which you would like to be considered. Full descriptions and eligibility guidelines for all American Councils scholarship opportunities are available in the Financial Aid section of the online program application.
7. (For applicants applying for AC Study Abroad financial aid), a complete **CSS Profile**, which American Councils uses to objectively evaluate applicants' financial need. The CSS Profile can be accessed at <https://cssprofile.collegeboard.org/>. When prompted, please enter the code for American Councils - 2707. We recommend starting your CSS Profile as early as possible to allow you to identify and gather the records and information you may need to complete it before the application deadline. You may wish to visit [this website](#) for more information.
8. A high-quality scan or clear photograph of the signature and photo pages of your **passport**.
9. A **\$45 Application Fee**, which you can pay by credit card over the phone by calling us at 202-833-7522 Monday - Friday during business hours (9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Eastern Time). If you would prefer to submit your application fee payment by check or money order, please contact us for more information on how to do so.

Questions?

Contact us by email at outbound@americancouncils.org or by phone at 202-833-7522.