

# BENNINGTON COLLEGE

## MIDDLEBURY LANGUAGE SCHOOLS LIEBOWITZ CENTENNIAL FELLOWSHIP NOMINATION

Bennington's partnership with the Middlebury Language Schools has made it possible for three Bennington students to receive Jessica K. and Ronald D. Liebowitz Centennial Fellowships in support of their enrollment in the summer 2021 Middlebury Language School. Students interested in being considered for this award should complete this application for nomination.

The Middlebury Language Schools offer programs in Abenaki, Arabic, Chinese, 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. (Please see Addendum B for details.) These intensive language learning environments offer the opportunity to significantly advance a student's language learning through complete language immersion. Students who then continue the study of the 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 course will earn transfer credits - 3 credits for the two-week course, 9 credits for seven-week courses, or 12 credits for eight-week courses. Students should be in conversation with Noelle Murphy in Academic Services to understand how transfer credits will be applied to their Bennington transcript. Credit accrual is not the only measure of progress toward graduation; students who complete the Language School should see Noelle if they would like to explore the possibility of using these credits to adjust their graduation dates.

### Criteria for application:

- Currently enrolled Bennington students studying in any discipline are eligible.
- Applicants must be in good academic and disciplinary standing.

### Funding Priorities:

- Priority will be given to students with an approved Plan at the time of application.
- Priority will be given to applicants whose proposed study complements the work of their Plans and/or career goals.

### Scholarship funding and financial responsibilities:

- This scholarship provides funding for 80% of tuition fees (see Addendum B), which includes room and board and excludes travel to and from programs, books, and personal expenses. Applicants should be prepared to demonstrate that they can meet tuition obligations ranging from \$2,121 to \$2,697 (depending on the program) plus travel, personal expenses, and books.
- Middlebury's \$75 application fee will be waived for all applicants.

### Application Process:

**There are two required steps to be considered for nomination to the Leibowitz Centennial Fellowship.**

1. **Complete this nomination application.** All application materials should be emailed to [Noelle Murphy](#) by **December 10, 2020 at 9:00 am**. Selected students will be nominated for the Middlebury Language Schools' Jessica K. and Ronald D. Liebowitz Centennial Fellowship. The Middlebury Language Schools will notify fellowship recipients in early February 2021.
2. **Complete the MLS application** at <http://www.middlebury.edu/ls/apply/fees> for your selected language study before **December 15, 2020**. Bennington students should use the code WAIVERC to have the application fee waived. Students are encouraged to apply as soon as possible, as program openings often fill quickly. Completing the Middlebury application also allows students to be considered (on a first-come, first-serve basis) for other scholarships and financial aid offered by Middlebury. Please review the [schedule of rolling deadlines](#) and this additional information about [Middlebury aid](#).

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**Application Deadline:** Please submit the complete application package as a single PDF via email to Noelle Murphy, [nmurphy@bennington.edu](mailto:nmurphy@bennington.edu), by *December 10, 2020 at 9:00 am*

**Applicant Information:**

Student's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Term at Bennington: \_\_\_\_\_ Faculty Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_

To which Middlebury Language School will you be applying? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please submit your application with the following components in this order:**

- Completed Cover Sheet**
  
- Nomination Essays:** Please attach to your application typed answers written in English to the following three questions. Each response should be at least 200 words. The first two essays will be 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 program's coursework enrich the goals of your Plan at Bennington? How will it complement 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 of the particular language prepared you for the program?
  
- Declaration of Agreement:** Please read carefully, indicate School selection and associated costs, and sign.
  
- Letter of Recommendation:** Submit a letter of recommendation from a faculty member who knows your work well and with whom you have studied within the past two years. Please request a letter from a faculty member with whom you have studied the target language or another faculty member with whom you have studied other languages or disciplines. Please see the Faculty Recommendation page for more information. Letters of Recommendation can be submitted to Noelle Murphy directly from the faculty member, if that is their preference.

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### FACULTY RECOMMENDATION

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_

- I waive my right to see this letter of recommendation.
- I do not waive my right to see this letter of recommendation.

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

**To be completed by a member of the faculty  
and returned to Noelle Murphy, Assistant Dean for Academic Services.**

Please check the appropriate boxes below:

- I am familiar with the student's academic standing and believe that their progress at Bennington and the intellectual interests are such that they would profit by 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 find it to be appropriate with respect to their fields of interest and Plan of study here 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 their academic abilities and achievements;
- The characteristics or personal attributes that will enable the student to be a positive representative of Bennington College.

Faculty Member's Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Member's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

- In selecting nominees for the Liebowitz Fellowship, our campus committee will review all submitted application materials as well as each applicant's academic record. Students applying to Middlebury Language Schools should see the committee's rubric (Addendum A included at the end of the application packet) for more information on the criteria by which each application will be evaluated.
- This application is an internal application for nomination for a Fellowship offered by Middlebury Language Schools.. Nominees are responsible for applying and gaining admission to the program itself.
- Studying at Middlebury Language Schools is a privilege that is available to students who have demonstrated the ability to adjust academically and emotionally to college, and who are ready to benefit from the challenges of coursework outside of usual Bennington coursework. In order for students to receive and maintain approval for this opportunity, they must be Good Academic and Disciplinary Standing and have approval from their advisor and the Dean's Office.
- Students who receive this scholarship are ambassadors of Bennington College and should be mindful to represent themselves accordingly in all interactions with the Middlebury Language Schools 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, detailed [here](#)). 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 \_\_\_\_\_ (insert 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, "In signing this Language Pledge<sup>®</sup>, 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." Students can learn more about the Language Pledge<sup>®</sup> at <http://www.middlebury.edu/languages/academics/language-pledge>.
- I understand that the Middlebury Language Schools' plans for operation may change at any time due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

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

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## ADDENDUM A

(Applicants: do not complete this form. It is for informational purposes only.)

### MIDDLEBURY LANGUAGE SCHOOLS LIEBOWITZ CENTENNIAL FELLOWSHIP NOMINATION Review Committee Rubric

Applicant Name:

Reviewer's Name:

Please evaluate the criteria listed below on the following scale:

**Excellent**--criteria are fully met with thoughtful and thoroughly developed ideas. Specific and complete information is provided.

**Good**--criteria is met adequately, but there may be minor inconsistencies and weaknesses.

**Acceptable**--criteria appear to be minimally met, but limited information is provided about approach and strategies. Lacks focus and detail.

**Poor**--does not meet the criteria. Fails to provide information, or provides inaccurate/confusing information.

Please indicate how well the student's proposal addresses the following criteria:

Proposal	Excellent	Good	Acceptable	Poor
Proposed coursework is clearly connected to the student's work at Bennington.				
Applicant demonstrates the ways in which participation in this program will prepare him/her for specific coursework upon return to Bennington.				
Applicant makes a compelling case for their candidacy through a well-written, persuasive essay.				

Please rate the strength of the supporting documentation.

	Excellent	Good	Acceptable	Poor
Faculty Recommendation				
Academic Record				

Final Evaluation

	Excellent	Good	Acceptable	Poor
Overall Strength of Applicant				

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**ADDENDUM B**  
**MIDDLEBURY LANGUAGE SCHOOLS**  
**LIEBOWITZ CENTENNIAL FELLOWSHIP NOMINATION**  
**PROGRAM LOCATION, DURATION, COST, AND CREDITS EARNED**

<b>Language</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Scholarship Award</b>	<b>Cost to Student</b>	<b>Transfer Credits</b>
<b>Abenaki</b>	Middlebury	2 weeks	\$2,684	\$671	3
<b>Arabic</b>	Bennington	8 weeks	\$10,788	\$2,697	12
<b>Chinese</b>	Middlebury	8 weeks	\$10,732	\$2,683	12
<b>French</b>	Middlebury	7 weeks	\$8,484	\$2,121	9
<b>German</b>	Middlebury	7 weeks	\$8,484	\$2,121	9
<b>Hebrew</b>	Middlebury	7 weeks	\$8,484	\$2,121	9
<b>Italian</b>	Bennington	7 weeks	\$8,484	\$2,121	9
<b>Japanese</b>	Middlebury	8 weeks	\$10,732	\$2,683	12
<b>Korean</b>	Middlebury	8 weeks	\$10,732	\$2,683	12
<b>Portuguese</b>	Bennington	7 weeks	\$8,484	\$2,121	9
<b>Russian</b>	Middlebury	8 weeks	\$10,732	\$2,683	12
<b>Spanish</b>	Middlebury	7 weeks	\$8,484	\$2,121	9