



THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES



Language Training Grants

Purpose and Scope of the Scheme

The language training grants are primarily intended to fund applicants undertaking formal periods of language study in South Asia. In particular they suit recent recipients of a BA or MA degree from a UK university who seek to spend an extended period in South Asia in order to acquire a new language or to improve existing language skills. Applicants should note that the Association does not support language training directly related to the fulfillment of degree requirements should this work be supported by an independent funding council or the applicant's institution.

Normally, all successful applicants are expected to have made arrangements for enrolment at an internationally recognised teaching institution or programme in South Asia. A list of accredited partners will be made available upon request from the Association. Participation in a more informal learning environment will be considered some circumstances but such applications must be supported by a detailed statement featuring a carefully structured teaching programme, including an account of local language resources as well as an outline of the existing study supervision arrangements. This grant is primarily aimed at students wishing to acquire competency in a South Asian language in preparation for PhD research. In exceptional circumstances, it may also be awarded to candidates preparing for an MA programme that requires knowledge of one or more research languages. Candidates are encouraged to submit also a synopsis of their proposed PhD (or MA) work and explain how the language they seek to acquire would facilitate/enhance their research. **The Association requires evidence that the applicant holds an offer from a UK university to conduct PhD studies upon his/her return to the United Kingdom.** Normally a letter for a department head or equivalent will suffice.

The language training can take place at various levels. In most cases, however, the Association will favour candidates at the beginning or intermediate level of the language(s) in question. This grant scheme is not designed for advanced or research-grade study; for work at this level, applicants are directed to the British Academy's small research grant programme.

Award holders are expected to spend no less than six months at the appointed partner institution. In the course of that period, they will take full advantage of the local learning environment, attending formal lectures, participating in conversation seminars and practise their knowledge in the community where they will reside.

Within two months of their return to the United Kingdom, award holders must submit a report on the prescribed form, supported by language progress documentation in the form of examination results obtained at their Institute in South Asia (if applicable). Recipients should note that once their reports have been accepted, they will be posted on the Association's web-site. This report has to be accompanied by a financial statement outlining grant expenditure.

There is no specific limit to the grants but, as a general rule, they will not exceed £ 3,000. Applicants will be expected to submit a detailed budget and language training-proposal as part of their application.

The deadline for this grant will be provided to potential applicants by the Assistant Secretary.

Terms and Conditions

1. By signing and submitting an application for a Language Training Grant, a recipient confirms that the award will be expended solely for the purposes set out in their application, and in accordance with the breakdown of costs given. No changes in this may be made without prior permission from the Association.
2. The award may only be used to cover items of acceptable expenditure ie, standard class travel costs, visa applications, reasonable subsistence, course registration fees and other expenditure (but no capital costs) needed for the language training programme. The award has to be taken up by the end of the fiscal year (31st March).
3. Each recipient must immediately inform the Association of any other grants, public or private, made in support of their language training. Failure to do so will automatically revoke the award and disqualify the applicant from future grant applications.
4. Upon their return from South Asia all recipients must refund immediately any balance of the grant that was not spent on the project.

5. Within **two months** of their return to the UK all recipients must promptly submit to the Assistant Secretary a Report setting out the training received (max 1000 words) and the progress achieved. If completion of the Language Training is delayed recipients must submit an interim report before 31st March of that year.
6. Within **two months** of their return to the UK, all recipients must also provide a Summary Statement of Accounts. Any supporting receipts (tickets, bills, vouchers, etc) must be retained for twelve months in case of audit query.
7. Recipients who fail to submit the report and statement of accounts within the stipulated time period are automatically barred from applying to the Association for any future research support.
8. Each recipient of a grant is required to deposit for the Association's archives one copy of any article, monograph or book published on work grant aided by the Association with the Assistant Secretary.
10. Recipients funded or part funded by the Association must agree to act solely within the laws of the country in which they are working and obtain all necessary clearances and permissions from the relevant government bodies prior to commencing language training when applicable. They must not enter or seek to enter any sensitive locality or undertake research in any sensitive field that might in any way embarrass the Association, the British Academy or the UK government.
11. All persons in receipt of awards are expected to support the general work of the Association and to apply for membership if not already a member.
12. Grant payments are only made when expenditure is about to be incurred. The Association, through its Treasurer, normally pays all grants directly to the applicant.

All reports and summary accounts should be sent to: the Assistant Secretary, The British Association for South Asian Studies. The postal address and email is provided on the BASAS website.

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