

## **QFI Teacher Fellows**

As part of its overall mission to expand and improve the teaching of K-12 Arabic in the United States, Qatar Foundation International (QFI) is pleased to offer fellowships for current or prospective K-12 teachers. The program is intended to support:

- 1) Teacher candidates who are pursuing certification in Foreign Language Education in World or Foreign Languages to teach Arabic;
- 2) Teachers who already are certified in another discipline and are seeking an endorsement to teach Arabic;
- 3) Teachers seeking U.S. certification to teach Arabic through any other recognized means.

The goal of QFI's Teacher Fellows program is to develop a strong cohort of highly trained teachers who will be future leaders in the field of K-12 Arabic education. QFI strongly believes that the skill, talent, and commitment of the teacher are key components for the success of any language program and supporting teachers is at the heart of this effort. This program will provide participating teachers with opportunities to learn best practices in language education, develop a thorough understanding of Arabic and how to teach it, and augment their passion for the study of Arabic language and cultures and their commitment to educating young people about the peoples and cultures of this important area of the world.

### **Teacher Fellowships will offset:**

- Tuition and fees for advanced courses in Arabic language and culture needed for certification. Some fellows may receive funding for summer study in the Middle East for intensive language study
- Housing fees *for summer programs* that require staying outside the student's normal residence

### **The "Ideal Candidate" for the QFI Teacher Fellowship program is someone who has:**

- A demonstrated interest in, and passion for, the Arabic language and culture;
- A demonstrated aptitude in communicating with young people and the ability to inspire them;
- An interest in and aptitude for learning and implementing best practices of language education;
- An interest in and aptitude for developing and implementing innovative curricula that are sensitive to needs and interests of different groups of young learners;
- The potential to work with others to promote global understanding in their schools and communities and encourage global approaches to education in their schools.

**There are three types of Fellowships one can apply for:**

- Fellowships for a ***Masters in Teaching Program***
- Fellowships for ***Endorsement in Teaching Arabic***
- Fellowship for an ***Undergraduate/Alternate Certification***

**Please be sure to read the descriptions below of each fellowship type carefully so that you will know which type is most appropriate for you:**

**To apply for the Fellowship for a *Masters in Teaching Program*, applicants must:**

- Have already been accepted to a program that will lead to a Masters that includes the courses required by that state to become certified in Teaching Arabic as a Foreign Language (TAFL) or to receive World Languages Certification.
- Be able to provide evidence of at least Intermediate–High proficiency (ACTFL scale) in speaking, listening, reading, and writing in Arabic when starting the program. Preference will be given to applicants with Advanced proficiency. All fellows will be expected to reach a minimum of Advanced-Mid rating in all skills in Arabic by the end of their program. Each fellow’s Arabic study program will be monitored, and failing to work on advancing Arabic will be grounds for discontinuing the grant.) QFI will test finalists to determine their level of proficiency in Arabic prior to admission to the program.
- Demonstrate excellent potential in the areas outlined above under “The Ideal Candidate.”

**To apply for a Fellowship for an *Endorsement in Teaching Arabic*, applicants must:**

- Be able to provide evidence of at least Intermediate–High proficiency (ACTFL scale) in Arabic; Advanced is preferred, in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. (Candidates with Intermediate-High will be expected to study to attain a minimum of Advanced-Mid rating in Arabic in all skills by the end of their program. Their program of study of Arabic will be monitored, and failing to work on advancing Arabic will be grounds for discontinuing the grant.) QFI will test finalists to determine their level of proficiency in Arabic prior to admission to the program.
- Be currently certified in the United States in another subject area
- Be already accepted into a program that leads to an endorsement and demonstrate evidence of this acceptance
- Demonstrate excellent potential in the areas outlined above under “The Ideal Candidate”

**To apply for a Fellowship for an *Undergraduate/Alternate Certification*, applicants must:**

- Be able to provide evidence of at least Intermediate–High proficiency (ACTFL scale) in Arabic; Advanced is preferred, in speaking, listening, reading, and writing.

(Candidates with Intermediate-High will be expected to study to attain a minimum of Advanced-Mid rating in all skills in Arabic by the end of their program. Their program of study of Arabic will be monitored, and failing to work on advancing Arabic will be grounds for discontinuing the grant.) QFI will test finalists to determine their level of proficiency in Arabic prior to admission to the program.

- (For Undergraduate Certification) Be seniors or in their fifth year in an undergraduate program that leads to certification in teaching foreign/world languages
- (For Alternate Certification) Be accepted into an alternate certification program that leads to certification in teaching Arabic or World Languages
- Demonstrate excellent potential in the areas outlined above under “The Ideal Candidate”

**All QFI Teacher Fellows must:**

- Commit, before accepting funding, to vigorously pursue positions to teach K-12 Arabic in public or public charter schools in the U.S. for at least three years after graduation;
- Maintain a B+ average each semester for continued funding;
- Commit to taking courses to maintain a proficiency of Advanced-Mid or higher, or to taking courses towards attaining this level by the time of graduation;
- Commit to taking a credit-bearing course specifically on the methodology of teaching Arabic if your program does not offer this course, even if this means taking this course at another institution. QFI will consider requests for additional support to cover these costs;
- Attend a QFI institute with your cohort of Teacher Fellows during each year you receive QFI funding;
- Commit to communicating with your QFI Teacher Fellows cohort and cohort leader on a regular basis, sharing information and experiences with them;
- Develop curriculum materials for Arabic K-12 teaching during your course of study to be shared with your QFI fellow students and for QFI to disseminate to the greater field;
- Commit to documenting and reporting to QFI your work experience during the three years of teaching in a K- 12 public or public charter school, after you graduate from your program. It is hoped that, as an experienced Fellow, you will become a mentor or trainer for new QFI Teacher Fellows in future years.

To apply for a QFI Fellowship, please complete the attached application.