

Language Pathways Podcast Series: Connecting Heritage Learners to Federal Careers
Episode 6: Language Learning, Volunteer, and Work Opportunities
to Prepare for a Government Career

Resources from the Episode

English for Heritage Language Speakers

<https://www.ehlsprogram.org/>

The English for Heritage Language Speakers (EHLS) program trains native speakers of critical languages to effectively communicate in English and become strong candidates for federal jobs. EHLS participants receive a full scholarship from the National Security Education Program to support them in their studies.

Customs and Border Protection

<https://www.cbp.gov/>

Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is a law enforcement agency of the Department of Homeland Security that is responsible for customs, immigration, border security, and agricultural protection to protect the people and economy of the United States and facilitate lawful travel and trade.

Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence

<https://home.treasury.gov/about/offices/terrorism-and-financial-intelligence>

The Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence (TFI) is an agency of the Department of the Treasury that uses policy, enforcement, regulatory, and intelligence functions to protect the financial system against national security threats.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

<https://www.uscis.gov/>

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is an agency of the Department of Homeland Security that administers the country's naturalization and immigration system.

National Security Education Program Alumni Association

<https://www.nsepalum.org/>

The National Security Education Program (NSEP) Alumni Association is a community of recipients of national security education awards that helps promote the careers and interests of NSEP alumni.

USAJOBS

<https://www.usajobs.gov/>

USAJOBS is the federal government's official employment site.

National Language Service Corps

<https://nlscorps.org/>

The National Language Service Corps (NLSC) is a group of volunteer professionals, not currently employed by the federal government, who serve as language specialists to provide language and cultural support to government agencies responding quickly to national security events and disasters in the U.S. and abroad.

Foreign Service Officer Test

<https://careers.state.gov/career-paths/worldwide-foreign-service/officer/fso-test-information-and-selection-process/>

The Foreign Service Officer Test (FSOT) measures the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to the work of a Foreign Service Officer, including English expression and situational judgment.

italki

<https://www.italki.com/en>

italki is an online language learning community that connects students and teachers worldwide for one-on-one lessons and other language practice.

Fulbright U.S. Student Program

<https://us.fulbrightonline.org/>

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program provides funding for American citizens to study, conduct research, or teach English in more than 140 countries around the world.

Boren Awards

<https://www.borenawards.org/>

Boren Awards provide funding for undergraduate or graduate students to study critical languages in other countries.

Critical Language Scholarship

<https://clscholarship.org/>

The Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Program allows American undergraduate students to spend eight to ten weeks in the summer studying a critical language abroad.

Global Language Network

<https://thegln.org/>

The Global Language Network (GLN) is a Washington DC-based non-profit that provides online, in-person, and hybrid language classes for adults in more than 60 languages at a minimal cost.

Peace Corps

<https://www.peacecorps.gov/>

The Peace Corps is an independent agency of the United States government that trains and deploys volunteers to provide local assistance in host countries around the world.

AmeriCorps

<https://americorps.gov/>

AmeriCorps volunteers serve with organizations across the United States to provide resources in local communities in the areas of education, economic opportunity, disaster services, conservation and climate change, public health, and veterans services.

Chinese Proficiency Test

<https://www.chinesetest.cn/>

The Chinese Proficiency Test (HSK) is an international standardized test of Chinese language proficiency for non-native speakers.

Inside a U.S. Embassy

<https://afsa.org/inside-us-embassy>

This book, published in 2011 by the American Foreign Service Association, is a guide to Foreign Service careers.

Interagency Language Roundtable

<https://www.govtilr.org/>

The Interagency Language Roundtable (ILR) website lists the ILR Skill Level Descriptions for reading, listening, speaking, and writing.