

2010 Davis School of Russian Application Instructions

APPLICATION AND ADMISSION

In a given summer, students may **enroll** in courses at one Language School only and are normally enrolled in courses at one level only. Students may **apply** to more than one School, however. To do so, please submit a complete application and fee to each School.

In order to attend any of the Middlebury College Language Schools, you must be a high-school graduate, and we strongly recommend that you have completed at least one year of college-level study. Admission is granted on the basis of academic qualifications and the availability of space. Having previously attended the Language Schools, Middlebury College, or the Monterey Institute of International Studies does not guarantee admission.

Admission is for one summer and/or graduate program abroad only, and cannot be deferred to a future year. Students who wish to continue their studies in future sessions must complete the reactivation procedure described below. Admission to the Language Schools is entirely separate from undergraduate admission to Middlebury College. **If you are a current Middlebury undergraduate student, please refer to the special instructions for Middlebury undergraduates at <http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/ls/applications/russian.htm>.**

Upon acceptance, all students must pay a \$400 non-refundable enrollment deposit to be applied to the tuition charges.

If you have attended one of the Middlebury College Language Schools or Schools Abroad, **you may reactivate your application without paying the \$65 application fee.** Please read the section "Reactivating an Application" following the Application Checklist.

Final placement in a level is determined by performance on written and/or oral tests. By applying for admission, you indicate your willingness to accept the placement deemed appropriate by the School.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

1. Application

Please be sure to complete the correct online application as described on the Application Information page.

2. \$65 Non-refundable application fee

A non-refundable application fee of \$65 in U.S. funds is due when submitting an application. You may pay by credit card when you submit your online application, or you may mail a check or money order payable to Middlebury College. On your check, write your name and the language that you plan to study. You may not pay the application fee by cash.

This fee is waived if you are a member of one of the groups listed below. If you belong to such a group, type the appropriate abbreviation in the box for Language Schools previously applied to ("If yes, which School?").

REAC: You are an alum of the Language Schools.

MUG: You are currently a student of Middlebury College.

MILLS: You are currently a student of Mills College.

MIIS: You are currently a student of the Monterey Institute of International Studies.

ALUM: You are an alum of Middlebury College or the Monterey Institute of International Studies.

USMIL: You are an active-duty member of the U.S. military.

If you are eligible for a fee waiver, please select "Pay Later" on the online application and do not submit payment.

3. Transcript(s)

We require an official transcript from each post-secondary institution attended, whether or not you studied a foreign language there. If you are a first-year college student, please submit an official transcript from your high school, as well as first semester college grades, when available. We strongly recommend that foreign transcripts be translated into English by a certified credentialing service. The official transcript must be in a sealed envelope, signed on the flap by the registrar. If possible, have transcripts mailed to you, and then submit them with your other application materials. If this is not possible, request that transcripts be addressed to the specific Language School to which you are applying.

4. Recommendations

You must submit **two** letters of recommendation for a seven-week or nine-week Summer Language Session. Graduate level applications require **three** letters of recommendation. For your convenience, recommendation forms are available for download at <http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/ls/applications/russian.htm>. Recommendations from persons other than foreign-language teachers may be in the form of written and signed letters to the Language

Schools. Each recommendation should be in a sealed envelope, signed by the recommender along the flap. If you choose not to sign the Student Waiver Statement on the form, please arrange to have a copy of the recommendation made for you before it is sealed in the envelope. The following recommenders are all acceptable, listed here in our order of preference: language instructors with whom you have studied the target language (your contact with them must be from the past two years), recent instructors with whom you have studied other languages or disciplines, work supervisors from professional or volunteer work, or colleagues.

Letters contained in official college placement files are acceptable provided that they are no more than two years old.
Note: Recommendations should be written in English.

5. 200-Word essay

You must submit a statement of roughly 200 words in English in which you discuss:

- (a) your formal and informal experience with the language, including travel, study, or residence abroad;
- (b) how you learned about Middlebury's programs;
- (c) your reasons for wanting to study the language you have chosen;
- (d) your career goals; and
- (e) any additional information that you consider relevant to your application.

Submit your essay in the designated section of the online application. **We suggest that you complete the essay as a word-processing document, and then copy and paste the text into the online application.**

6a. Supplementary information – all School of Russian applicants

If you have had formal instruction in Russian, please supply the following information on a separate sheet of paper:

1. level of course(s);
2. institution and dates for each course;
3. names of teachers;
4. hours per week (with breakdown of lecture, drill, and laboratory);
5. textbooks used and extent to which the content of the text was covered.

6b. Supplementary information for School of Russian 6-week program applicants

All applicants to the School of Russian 6-week program must submit a one-page essay in English describing their research focus and a 5-page analytical paper in Russian, preferably one that was written for a class and graded. If submitting a graded paper, a copy with the grading and instructor's comments is preferred. The paper can be on any topic in any field. Applicants wishing to study in Russia should specify the location (Moscow or Irkutsk) and give specific reasons for their choice as it relates to their research topic.

Returning graduate students do not need to submit these essays.

After we have determined that you are academically qualified for admission to the School of Russian, we will send you instructions for taking the online grammar placement test. If your score indicates that you may be eligible for the graduate program we will contact you to schedule a telephone interview in Russian with the director, Dr. Karen Evans-Romaine. The placement test and interview are used to determine that you have the necessary language proficiency for admittance to the Middlebury graduate program.

In general, if the results of your grammar test or interview indicate that you are not ready for the graduate program, you will be given the option of enrolling in the 9-week session. You will be placed into the appropriate level at the beginning of the 9-week session, when other students are also placed. (You will not have to take the grammar and entrance interview again at that time.) At the start of the 6-week graduate session (which is 2 ½ weeks after the start of the 9-week session), you will have an opportunity to retake the placement tests and possibly change to the graduate program at that time, if you have been placed into levels 5-7 in the 9-week program; alternatively, you may continue in the undergraduate session, if you wish.

7. DML applications - Second-language placement exam

If you are a new DML applicant, you will submit an application only to the school you choose for your first language. However, you must take graduate-level placement tests in both of your D.M.L. languages as part of the application process. Once we have received your application and the \$65 application fee (or confirmation from you that you are eligible for a fee waiver, as above), the School you have chosen for your second language for doctoral study will send you the information for taking the appropriate exam in that language.

APPLICATION PROCESSING

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis **once they are complete** (see the above checklist, numbers 1 through

7). If your university or recommender must send materials directly, they may do so. It is your responsibility to follow up with them to make sure that your application materials have been sent. Please send the materials to:

Davis School of Russian – Middlebury College
Sunderland Language Center
356 College Street
Middlebury, VT 05753

Do not enclose financial aid application materials in the same envelope as the Language School's application materials. (See Financial Aid instructions below.)

When you begin your online application, you will be asked to enter or create a username and password. Please make a note of your username and password, so that you can log on to your account later to verify that we have received your supporting materials: https://emerald.middlebury.edu/PNTR/bwskalog.P_DispLoginNon. Please allow one to two weeks for the materials to be processed.

Applicants can normally anticipate a decision letter within four to six weeks of the date that their application is complete.

REACTIVATING AN APPLICATION

To reactivate your application, please submit a new online application. If you have completed any coursework since you last attended, you must send an updated course history and official transcript. If you have *not* completed any coursework since you last attended, please let us know in the essay section of the application.

FINANCIAL AID

Students may apply for financial aid for only one Language School. Financial aid application materials should be sent directly to Student Financial Services, Meeker House, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 05753.

The Financial Aid application will be posted online no later than November 1 at <http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/ls/finaid/>.

Financial aid and scholarships are available for all Russian School programs, and are offered to qualified candidates on the basis of need, as determined by Student Financial Services. Middlebury College does not offer teaching assistantships for Language School students. Please read the instructions on the financial aid application carefully in order to submit the proper information.

In addition to regular, need-based financial aid, the Language Schools offer several scholarships and fellowships. For more information, please visit http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/ls/fellowships_scholarships/.

You **should not** wait until you have been accepted by a Language School to submit your Financial Aid application. The financial aid budget is limited, and there is always more demand for aid than we are able to accommodate, so you should submit a completed financial aid application as soon as possible to ensure the best possible chance of receiving aid.