



## Application Form for High School Students (Grades 9–12)

Penn State STARTALK Arabic Academy  
June 21–July 16, 2021

Please type, or print legibly, and verify phone numbers and email addresses.

All students accepted for the STARTALK Arabic Academy will be considered for tuition support (funding). You do not need to submit a separate funding application at this time.

First name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth (month/day/year): \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent or legal guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian address, if different from above: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian daytime phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and location of your current school: \_\_\_\_\_

Your current (spring 2021) high school grade:     9     10     11     12

Name of a teacher, counselor, or other school representative from whom you have requested a recommendation: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address of recommender: \_\_\_\_\_

The STARTALK Arabic Academy will be held remotely (online) this summer. However, if there is enough student interest, and if Covid-19 conditions permit, we may hold optional student activities in-person at Penn State's University Park campus. (Other activities will be provided for remote-only students, so don't worry if you're not near University Park.) Please indicate whether you would like to participate in such activities if available.     Yes     No     Not sure

Please indicate any languages, in addition to English, with which you have experience; briefly describe whether you have studied the language in school (for instance, “French, two years in high school”) or have experience through other means (for instance, “My family speaks Spanish at home” or “I spent last summer with my relatives in Slovakia and learned a small amount of Slovak”). If you have had any prior contact with the Arabic language, please describe, and indicate your level of knowledge.

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**Note:** Prior contact with Arabic is not expected for the STARTALK Arabic Academy, which is designed for beginners. For our program, you'll need to be available on Zoom for our small-group classes and shared activities for 4 weeks, June 21–July 16, Monday through Friday (except for the holiday on July 4), from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., with breaks along the way; you'll also need to spend about another 2 hours in the afternoon or evening on those days, learning on your own time with materials we'll provide (such as videos), or meeting with flexible timing with other members of our program, such as tutors or conversation partners. On Fridays, these 2 additional hours can extend into the weekend if you'd like. If you anticipate having any problem with your availability on this schedule, or any problem with having regular access to Zoom on a laptop, desktop, Chromebook, or other device, please let us know below, as we may be able to work with you to resolve it. For instance, if you anticipate needing to miss a morning or two for another commitment, we might be able to record the class session for you to watch later in the day. [If you don't anticipate any problems with the schedule or Zoom access, just leave this section blank.]

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## Submit Application

In order for your application to be complete, return this form along with the following to Elena Galinova at [galinova@psu.edu](mailto:galinova@psu.edu).

1. a letter of recommendation from a school official (teacher, counselor, other school representative)
2. a copy of your high school transcript
3. a personal statement (two to three paragraphs) describing your interest in studying Arabic at the STARTALK Arabic Academy (Send the statement as a separate file. Include your name and "STARTALK Application: Personal Statement" at the top of the document.)

Applications received by May 15 will be given full consideration, though later applications may also be considered if space remains.

If you have any questions, please email [galinova@psu.edu](mailto:galinova@psu.edu) or call 814-867-1665.

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

Parent/legal guardian's signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_