



*Promoting and advancing the field of Lao Studies.*

27 Monte Vista Way | South San Francisco, CA 94080 USA

Tel: +1.415.373.7966 | [info@laostudies.org](mailto:info@laostudies.org)

Web: [www.laostudies.org](http://www.laostudies.org)

Dear Applicant:

Sabaydii! Thank you for your interest in the *Summer Study Abroad in Laos* (SAIL) program. The Center for Lao Studies (CLS) is offering this unique opportunity for participants to learn Lao and to experience firsthand one of the most ethnically diverse and fascinating countries in Southeast Asia. Join us as we become immersed in Lao society through intensive Lao language lessons, hands-on cultural trainings, a language partner system with Lao university students, and volunteer work with local institutions.

Enclosed you will find a full application for the program. To be considered, applicants must fill out all the required information. **Applications, along with a \$100 application fee must be postmarked by April 16, 2026.** Please note that once you have been accepted, we ask for confirmation of your commitment within one week.

We look forward to the opportunity to work with you and share our knowledge of this intriguing country. Please do not hesitate to contact CLS with any questions throughout the application process.

Sincerely,

Vinyasysamouth, Ph.D.

CLS Executive Director



CLS *Summer Study Abroad in Laos* (SAIL) | June 29–July 31, 2026

Application Deadline: **April 16, 2026**



## APPLICATION & PRE-DEPARTURE SCHEDULE 2026

The following is a timetable of deadlines and orientations that will take place from April to August 2026.

April 16	Deadline for applications. Application materials and a \$100 fee must be postmarked by April 16, 2026. Applicants will be notified within two working days that their application has been received. If you do not hear from a CLS representative within that time frame, please contact the office. Interviews will be arranged after the application deadline.
April 24	Applicants will be notified of the selection committee's decision regarding program acceptance. Applicants who are offered to participate in the program must confirm their acceptance within one week.
May 8	First payment of \$900 due for both first time SAIL applicants and returning SAIL students.
May 22	Final payment of \$2,800 due for first time SAIL applicants. Final payment of \$800 due for returning SAIL students (Total cost for 1 <sup>st</sup> time SAIL students is \$3,800, and cost for returning SAIL students is \$1,800).
June 1–7	Phone orientation with CLS staff member regarding pre-departure preparations (i.e. flight and visa arrangements). During this week, CLS will also send a more complete information packet with trip details.
June 15–19	Final preparation check-in with CLS staff. One week prior to departure, a CLS staff member will contact you to answer any last-minute questions you have.
June 26–28	Arrive in Laos.
June 29	SAIL + School Orientation.
June 29	Comprehensive Lao language test at the Lao-American Institute in Vientiane, Laos for first time SAIL students. First Day of Class.
July 31	Graduation Day. Program Ends.

## CHECK LIST

Please check to make sure you send the following information as part of your application package:

- 1) Fill out all required information in the application and answer the questions.
- 2) Include a current resume or CV.
- 3) Include your \$100 application fee. If accepted into SAIL, this fee will apply toward the program cost.
- 4) Transcripts of all college and/or university training to date. For returning SAIL students, if nothing has changed since the last application, no need to send transcripts.
- 5) For first time applicants, please provide copies of any Lao proficiency assessments that the applicant may have completed.

Please send application materials and a \$100 fee, **postmarked by April 16, 2026** to:

CENTER FOR LAO STUDIES  
27 Monte Vista Way  
South San Francisco, CA 94080

Tel: 1.415.373.7966  
Email: [info@laostudies.org](mailto:info@laostudies.org)  
Web: [www.laostudies.org](http://www.laostudies.org)



# CLS SAIL APPLICATION

June 29–July 31, 2026  
Application due on April 16, 2026

## I. Basic Information

----- Date of Birth: -----  
Last Name                      First Name                      Middle Initial

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*Current Address*

-----  
Telephone                      Personal Email

-----  
*Permanent Address*

-----  
Country of Citizenship                      Passport Number

## II. Education

List all college or university training undertaken to date, starting with the most current degree program.

Institution                      Dept./Major                      Degree/Date Completed

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## III. Transcripts

Please provide transcripts of each institution listed above.

## IV. Resume

Please attach a current resume or CV.

**V. Letters of Recommendation**

List two individuals in the U.S. that will provide us with letters of recommendation. One must be work-related or academic and at least one should know you personally and well. NO family members please.

Name	Occupation	Number of years known
Relationship	Telephone	Email
Name	Occupation	Number of years known
Relationship	Telephone	Email

**VI. Emergency Contact**

Please list the name of an individual we can contact in case of an emergency.

Name	Address	
Relationship	Telephone	Email

If you have family or friends who will be residing in Laos during the time that you will be there, please list their names and contact numbers in case of an emergency.

Name	Address	
Relationship	Telephone	Email

**VII. Written Responses**

Please answer the following questions honestly, and to the best of your ability. Please limit your answers to less than four pages total.

1. Why are you interested in studying in Laos?
2. What are your academic and/or career and personal goals? Indicate how participation in the program will help to achieve those goals.

