



AFCLC

Air Force Culture and Language Center

THE AIR FORCE'S GLOBAL CLASSROOM

**Language Enabled Airman Program (LEAP)
Overview**

AFCLC Mission



Air Force Culture and Language Center



Air University
Maxwell AFB, Alabama

Culture and regional faculty experts

Cutting-edge language & culture tools

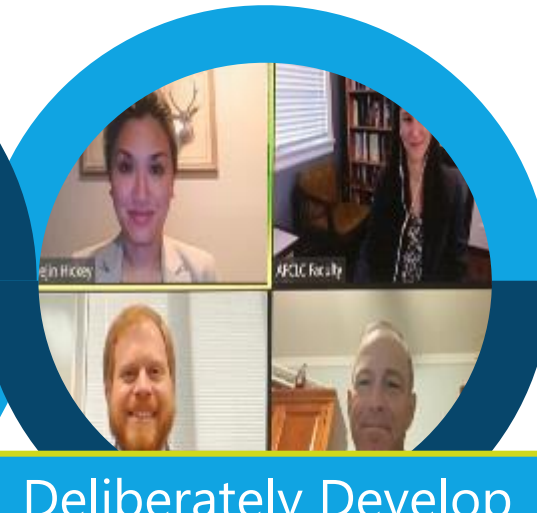
Language Enabled Airman Program



Apply Air &
Space
Power



Partner
Interoperability and
Adversary
Understanding



Deliberately Develop
Through Language,
Region, and Culture
Education

Faculty Subject Matter Expertise

- Cultural Property Protection
- Dilemmas of Global Basing
- Working with Indigenous Cultures
- Interagency Cooperation
- Gender and Islam
- Radicalism and Extremism
- Intercultural Communication for Leaders
- Women, Peace, and Security
- Resilience and Organizational Culture
- Language Acquisition & Assessment
- Partnership-Building



Equipping the General Purpose Force

- Airman Readiness Courses
- Courses for CCAF Credit

All Levels of PME

- AWC/ACSC Electives and Core
- IOS, SOS, SNCOA, etc.
- Supervised student research

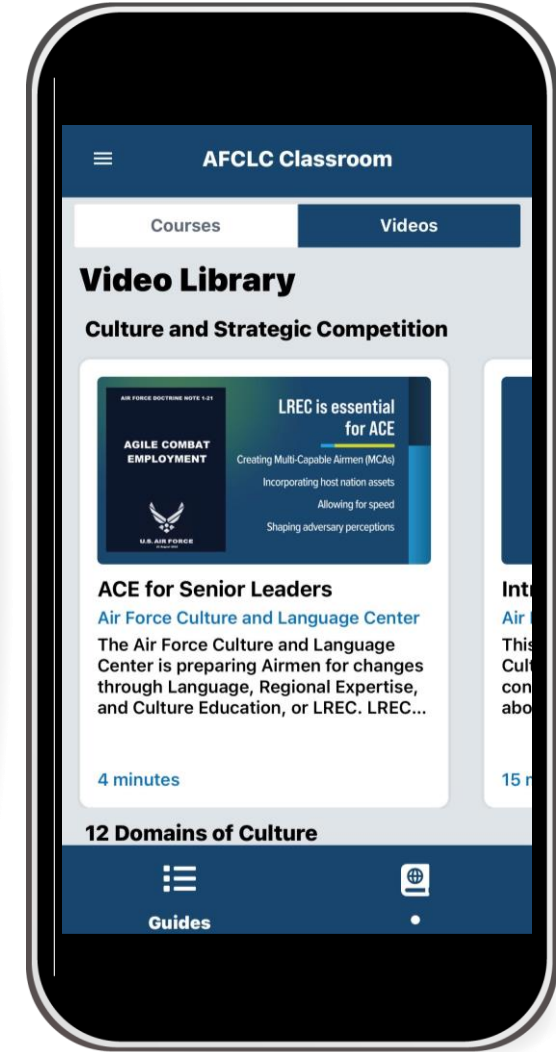
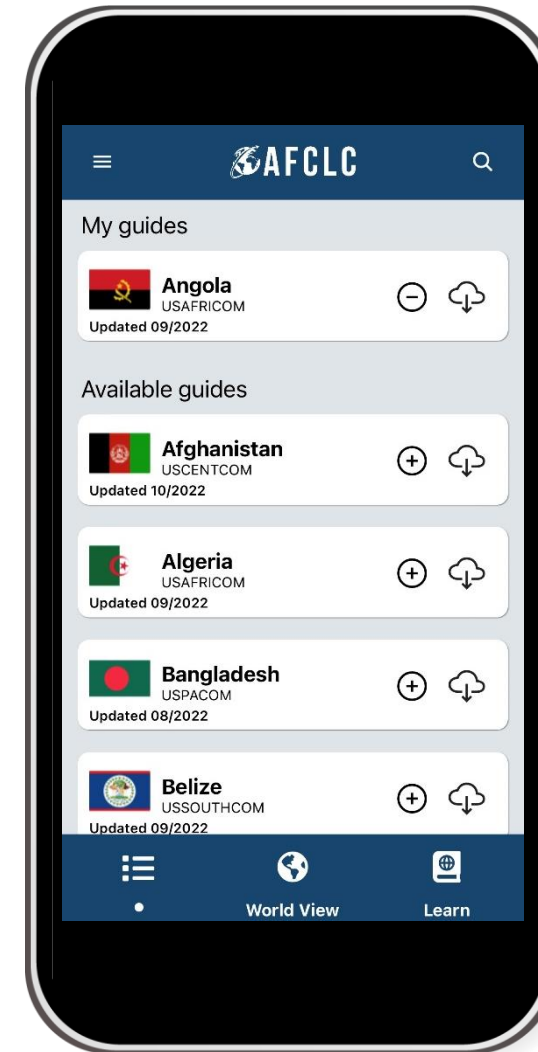
Education at Enterprise Scale & Velocity



Air Force Culture and Language Center

New Culture Guide App – Version 2.0

- Baseline cultural competence development in 2.5 hours
- Organically produced and curated content
- Accessible, relevant, impactful curriculum
- Untethered from government platforms
- New integrated deterrence courses
- Downloadable certificate of completion available for all courses



38,993
mobile app
downloads

Language Enabled Airman Program



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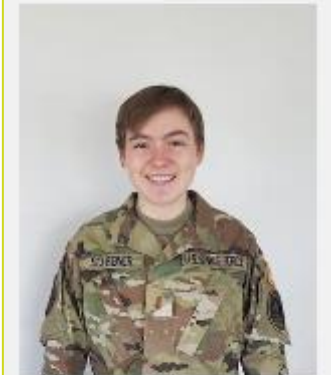
LEAP deliberately develops and sustains language enabled, cross-culturally capable Airmen and Guardians throughout their careers to enhance the application of air and space power; fill global mission requirements; and strengthen partnerships, interoperability, and adversary understanding

Who are LEAP Scholars?



- 3,700+ service members, officer and enlisted in USAF / USSF
- Only Active Duty selected to LEAP at this time (*however, those who separate and continue in the Reserves or Guard may participate in Space A courses*)
- Leaders within their units and career fields ... from pilots to intel officers, from special operators to physicians
- Representation of 97 strategic languages
- Passion for language, regional expertise, and culture (LREC)
- Vision for applying their skills to Air Force missions

<https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/AFCLC/LEAP-Spotlight>



What's Expected of a LEAP Scholar?

- Excel in one's Primary career field – pilot, physician, attorney, cyber officer, maintenance officer, etc.
- Complete online eMentor courses every 2-4 years, depending on one's proficiency level
- Volunteer for periodic Language Intensive Training Events (LITEs), pending unit commander approval
- Support periodic short-term exercises, mobile training teams, conferences, and translation projects
- Serve in language-focused assignments and deployments based on determination of Career Field Managers and Air Force Personnel Center



Online, synchronous language courses, flexibly scheduled and delivered, designed to develop and sustain LEAP Scholars



Native-level instructor, one-on-one or with a group of 2-4



Two-hour sessions, same day/time two days a week, based on your availability



Flex courses (variable days/times) are available for irregular, e.g. flying schedules



Course length

- 40-hour / 3-month course for 2+ level and lower
- 12-hour / 3-week course for 3 proficiency level or higher
- Advanced Assessment and Special Project Course







Registration X3 per year through LEaDeR



Courses will be required every 2-4 years, depending on your proficiency level

Language and cultural immersions averaging 30 days, flexibly scheduled and delivered, designed to develop and sustain LEAP Scholars



-  Based on your language, proficiency level, and regional experience
-  Frequency:
 - Initial LITE or equivalent credit within two years of selection
 - Follow-on two years later for those in the 1-2+ proficiency range
 - Follow-on as resources / events allow for those in the 3-4 range
-  Traditional LITEs (2-4 weeks, depending on the program)
 - US or overseas
 - May focus on a strategic topic such as competition with China and Russia
 - Virtual LITE from home station
-  Advanced LITEs (1-8 weeks):
 - Training Partnership Request (TPR) Exercise, mobile training, or conference
 - Professional military education with partner military

Integrated by Design: LEAP-ACE Course



Air Force Culture and Language Center

*"We gained in-depth insight into the Thai culture and language, allowing us to **go beyond just translating into understanding and portraying military objectives in the Thai language.**"*

TSgt Potchawan Shumake,
F-35 Decentralized Materiel Support NCOIC, Thai LEAP Scholar

Language Intensive Training Event

- Multi-Capable Airmen Postured for Agile Combat Employment (ACE)
- LEAP Scholars from range of AFSCs including pilot, cyber, aircraft maintenance, contracting and intel
- Courses held CONUS via partnership with AFSOC and DLI at Hurlburt Field
- Enhancing readiness and language / cultural fluency in ACE-focused topics
 - First week – ENGAGE course with Air Commandos
 - Second/Third weeks – Language intensive training on technical vocabulary associated with ACE scenarios including operational role-play scenarios in target languages e.g. F-35/RPA bed-down, humanitarian assistance scenario



Thai Course



Tagalog Course

Career Field Opportunities



Air Force Culture and Language Center



- **SAF/IA (International Affairs):** In-Region Training and Space A sustainment for Foreign Area Officers (FAO) serving in attaché and security cooperation (USAF)
- **Regional Space Advisor (RSA)** (USSF)
- **Enlisted International Affairs**
- **Reserve FAOs and Air National Guard Bilateral Affairs Officers (BAO)**
- **Military Personnel Exchange Program Participants & Instructors**
- **International Health Specialists**
- **Air Force Office of Special Investigations Agents**
- **Special Operators**
- **Air Advisors**

LEAP Training Partnership Requests



Air Force Culture and Language Center

Connects commands / units to qualified LEAP Scholars for ad hoc language requirements (exercises, mobile training, conferences, virtual meetings, and document translation)

DAFI 36-4005, 3.8.1

T-120 to T-14

- Unit submits TPR via LEaDeR with dates, AFSCs, ranks, event description / skills

~ 1-5 days

- AFCLC recruits LEAP vols; each Scholar & unit CC sign SOU

Pre & Post Travel

- Requestor funds travel; AFCLC tracks travel clearance, arrival status



Event Title
Exercise MOBILITY GUARDIAN 2023

Description
Scholars,
Please see amazing opportunity for a m
Mobility Guardian 23 is AMC's premier e
Scale Global Exercise. The internation
Japan. There will be mobility and coalit
Japan, Australia and Hawaii. There will

Find & Invite Participants

Language: Japanese

Name
<input type="checkbox"/> Maj ANDREW ROMNEY 20B4170
<input type="checkbox"/> Lt Col JACK CHUNG 15B2235
<input type="checkbox"/> TSgt JASON SUGIMOTO 13A5337
<input type="checkbox"/> SrA TADAYOSHI KIRIYAMA 22E0129
<input type="checkbox"/> Lt Col JOHN WRIGHT 11B3081
<input type="checkbox"/> SSgt MATTHEW WRIGHT 19B2648



CLC-LI 400	ADVANCED MILITARY ENGAGEMENT PRACTICUM	AFCLC Language, Region, Culture
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- AFCLC collects AARs; updates MilPDS / MyVector



AFCLC prepared eight (8) Airmen for MG '23 Japanese language support Japan / Guam

LEAP Partnerships via TPRs FY21-23



Air Force Culture and Language Center

287 unique events and projects / 529 Airmen and Guardians / 55 languages / 44 countries

EUCOM



AFRICOM



CENTCOM



INDO-PACOM



SOUTHCOM & Mexico



**BPC Eastern Europe
Ukrainian**

**MEDREX Angola
Portuguese**

**OAR / OAW
Pashto & Dari**

**ACE Exercises
Japanese**

**Counter-BRI
Spanish**

**GPF support for
11 languages;
47 Scholars to
13 countries,
fueling critical
intel, logistics**

**Enabled defense
global health
initiatives through
41 Scholars,
11 exercises &
translation projects**

**Day one support
to OAR; 22
scholars a critical
source of reach-
back support for
the first 60 days**

**Furthered 43 ACE
exercises and
counter-CCP
influence events
across
11 countries**

**US the partner of
choice in Latin
America, 10 events
countering China's
Belt & Road
influence**

31 events held in the US (87 Scholars, 20 languages) and 149 virtual projects (318 Scholars, 41 languages)



Bilateral Exercise Relámpago Colombia

"Tyler's bilingual leadership, technical acumen at his J-O-B and core characteristics as an officer make him one of the best I've worked with in 12 years as a FAO. As we polled every unit and section for outstanding performers...every single team, Colombian and U.S, mentioned Capt McGuire. That's why we are sending him home with the Air Force Achievement Medal."

Capt Tyler McGuire

- Logistics Readiness Flight Commander
- Passenger and Fleet Services
- LEAP scholar since 2018
- Spanish Language

Col William McDowell
Commander
612th Theater Operations Group



USMC's Southeast Asia Regional Operating Concept, Philippines

"In the 34 times that I have performed exercises with the USMC, this is the first time that they've attached linguists. Linguists that are truly one of us. And it has made a huge difference! My Marines trust them, and my Marines are drawn to them. This needs to happen, every single time from here on out..."

Capt Timothy Nolan

- Special Operations Pilot
- LEAP scholar since 2019
- Tagalog Language

Philippine Marine Corps Brig Gen Jimmy Larida



SMSgt Alain Mukendi

- Supt, Infrastructure Systems
- LEAP scholar since 2013
- French and Lingala Languages

Vermont NG SPP Senegal Enlisted PME Initiative

“(Senegal’s) NCOs are relied on to be the technical experts, just like we do here. So, we were charged with working with them to help them create an NCO program, not build one for them, but help them create one ... We have all of the material here in the states, but it has to be their own, it has to be Senegalese.”

SMSgt Michael Bilharz
SPP Academic Lead
Vermont NG



SSgt Zahra Karim Zadeh

- HVAC Instructor (Civil Engineering)
- LEAP scholar since 2021
- Farsi and Arabic Languages

World Cup Qatar

“(KZ) provided critical leadership and oversight throughout the mission. This included working closely with the Qatari Ministry of Defense, across the JTF, including the JTF Headquarters and in the Joint Operations Center.”

Brig. Gen. Matthew Reid,
Commanding General of the Naval
Amphibious Task Force 51/5th Marine
Expeditionary Brigade



SOTF 10.1 Poland

“Captain Klokun has been expertly translating critical intelligence sharing operations between SOTF 10.1 and Ukrainian SOF command centers on a daily basis. We simply could not accomplish our mission without Service Members with his language expertise and mastery of technical military and special operations vernacular – simply invaluable.

... we accomplished something unique and equipped him with a means to dialog directly with my command center by secure means – a huge win. Anton was key.”

Capt Anton K. Klokun

- Force Support Officer
- Chief, Readiness and Plans
- LEAP scholar since 2022
- Ukrainian and Russian Languages

- Lt Col Matthew J. Mesko
SOTF 10.1

LEAP Application Preparation

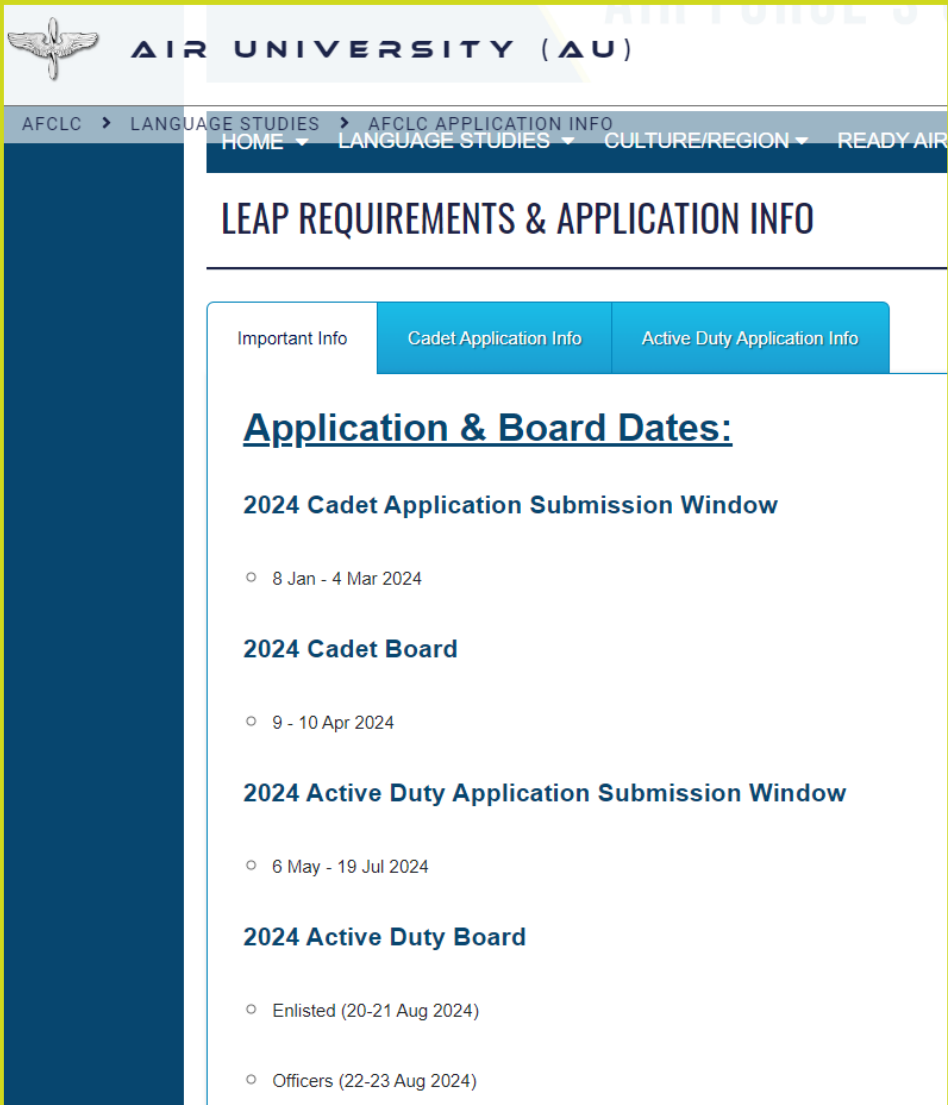


Read 2024 Selection Guidance on the AFCLC Site / Language Studies



Take Your Defense Language Proficiency Test (DLPT) and/or Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) through your Base Education Center

- Minimum score is 1/1 for most languages (1+1+ for languages such as French, Spanish, German, and Italian)
- If you have proficiency in more than one language, take additional tests



The screenshot displays the AFCLC website interface. At the top, the Air University (AU) logo is visible. The navigation menu includes AFCLC, LANGUAGE STUDIES, and AFCLC APPLICATION INFO. The main heading is "LEAP REQUIREMENTS & APPLICATION INFO". Below this, there are three tabs: "Important Info", "Cadet Application Info", and "Active Duty Application Info". The "Important Info" tab is selected, showing the following content:





Application & Board Dates:

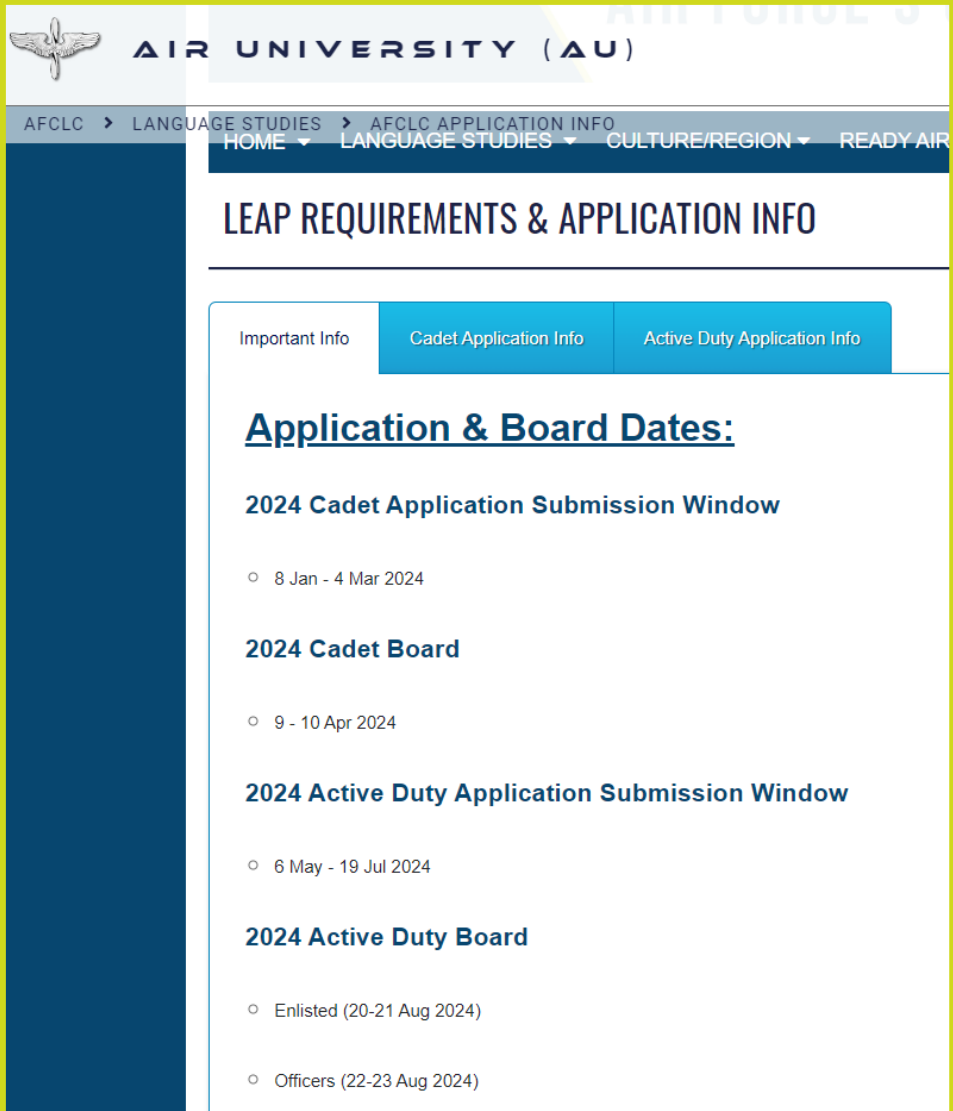
- 2024 Cadet Application Submission Window**
 - 8 Jan - 4 Mar 2024
- 2024 Cadet Board**
 - 9 - 10 Apr 2024
- 2024 Active Duty Application Submission Window**
 - 6 May - 19 Jul 2024
- 2024 Active Duty Board**
 - Enlisted (20-21 Aug 2024)
 - Officers (22-23 Aug 2024)

LEAP Application Preparation (cont)



Air Force Culture and Language Center

-  Obtain unofficial copies of all college transcripts and a copy of your SURF from AMS
-  Save your most recent EPRs and/or training reports (if you have any) in accordance with the instructions in the application guidance
-  Prepare four 200-word statements that convey how you learn and practice languages; what cross-cultural competence means to you; and how you hope to grow through LEAP and utilize your language skills for the mission
-  Talk to your Commander and Supervisor about why you want to be a LEAP scholar (500-character push note required from each)



AIR UNIVERSITY (AU)

AFCLC > LANGUAGE STUDIES > AFCLC APPLICATION INFO
HOME > LANGUAGE STUDIES > CULTURE/REGION > READY AIR

LEAP REQUIREMENTS & APPLICATION INFO

Important Info | **Cadet Application Info** | Active Duty Application Info

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Selection Board Evaluation

- Your approach to developing foreign language(s)
 - Your track record as a student / scholar
 - How you view cross-cultural competency
 - Goals that align with future career / missions
 - Leadership accomplishments and potential
 - LREC experience ... but also room to grow
 - What your commander and supervisor say
- 500-character push note = stratification, leadership potential, why their LEAP development is important





For More Information

<https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/AFCLC/Language-studies>

afclc.language@us.af.mil

afclc.leap.selection@us.af.mil