Always mention your NCE status, especially if asked about special hiring authorities. Be prepared to explain what it is and how you obtained it, whether in an interview or your cover letter. You should also mention NCE on your résumé and cover letter, in emails with HR officials, on LinkedIn and anywhere else you can think of.

Alumni of the Fulbright U.S. Student Program, the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship and Critical Language Scholarship receive noncompetitive eligibility (NCE) upon completion of their programs. This is a special hiring authority granted by the U.S. government.

**Request an extension.**
NCE lasts for one year, but you can request an extension from an agency. When you apply for a job, note the qualifying experience. The agency will determine if they can hire using NCE, and if they want to extend it for up to 2 more years.

**Get a copy.**
Obtain a copy of your NCE certification so you can send it with job applications and easily share it when needed.

**Keep learning.**
Did you know that USAJobs, CLS and Gilman all offer in-person and online professional development events? You can learn how to leverage international experience or how to write a federal résumé.

**Network.**
This is the best way to share your NCE and make contacts within agencies, departments and with other program alumni.

**Stay in touch.**
Did you use NCE to successfully get a job? Let the Gilman and CLS teams know! We want to hear how you’re doing and what you’re up to after finishing your program.

**Look for jobs that require special language skills.**
Many of you gained invaluable, critical language skills during your exchange program. Look for jobs that require these skills so you can stand out as an applicant.

**Make it known.**
Always mention your NCE status, especially if asked about special hiring authorities. Be prepared to explain what it is and how you obtained it, whether in an interview or your cover letter. You should also mention NCE on your résumé and cover letter, in emails with HR officials, on LinkedIn and anywhere else you can think of.