

Dear Language Fair Community,

The recent winter storm has had a severe and lingering impact, causing many of you to spend an unprecedented amount of time away from your classes. After taking into account the challenges and strain this has caused for both teachers and students, we wish to announce a major change regarding registration for the 2026 UofM Language Fair:

Registration for online pre-fair events and in-person events will remain open through Wednesday, February 18th. The decision to extend registration to this later date comes with our hope that you will be able to return safely to class and continue helping your students prepare to shine at the Fair.

We want to provide the best experience possible for you and your students, both in submitting their pre-fair entries and while they are participating in events in person in the University Center; this placed the 2026 Fair a bit earlier in the year than usual. Given the unexpected icy weather, we have done our best to select a new registration deadline that will give as much time as possible before we finalize the schedule and program – while still allowing us to maintain the quality of our venue and events!

With this later registration deadline, it is likely the online pre-fair event judging will continue during the weekend of the Fair itself, with online winners being posted the first week in March. Since this adjustment will allow our judges more time to evaluate submissions (and the new deadline will hopefully give students more time to prepare), please encourage students to enter any pre-fair events that interest them! We would like to take advantage of the Fair's earlier date to schedule school visits in March and April to award pre-fair event winners and further recognize your school's Language Fair participants, as we have done in some previous years. More updates regarding awards will be provided closer to the day of the Language Fair.

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