

The Scholarship Program of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES)

Talent support is one of the founding principles of the FES.

In times of the president of the German Reich, Friedrich Ebert, talented children growing up in socially disadvantaged families hardly gained access to universities or research programs.

For this reason, in 1925, the first scholarships were awarded by FES to particularly talented young people from the working-class milieu, who engaged in the young democracy of the Weimar Republic.

Even today, one of the aims of FES is the lowering of social disadvantage and the support of people, who - in presence and future - engage for freedom, justice and social cohesion – in terms of social democracy.

Who we support: Endued with social democracy

A commitment to the common good is highly appreciated by the FES. For this reason, besides superior academic achievements, the applicant's social political engagement and personality are of great importance for the selection.

The selection is independent from any party membership. However, political knowledge and sympathy for the core values of social democracy will be expected.

Additionally, young people of low-income families will be considered notably in terms of the selection and the amount of the scholarship.

This year, almost 2000 students and postgraduates will be supported by FES

Foreign Students

Every year, FES supports foreign applicants who already study or do their doctor's degree in Germany. Up to 40 students from Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe can be admitted to the scholarship program every year. However, those who already receive support from public funds cannot be admitted to the FES-scholarship-program.

Requirements

Please consider the following requirements:

- **Applicants have to study in Germany already in time of application.**
- **At time of application, foreign students have to prove first marked academic performances**
- **Excellent German language skills have to be proven at time of application**

FES can award a scholarship only to foreign applicants who provide proof of adequate German language skills in the form of a language proficiency certificate.

Students can prove their German language skills by presenting one of the following proficiency certificates "Deutsche Sprachprüfung für den Hochschulzugang" (DSH) or the "Test Deutsch als Fremdsprache" (TestDaF) or the "**Zentrale Mittelstufenprüfung**" (Goethe Institut).

An adequate knowledge of German is considered to have been proven when applicants pass the DSH with at least a grade point average score of DHS-2 or when applicants achieve at least TDN 4 level language skills in all TestDaF examination sections.

For more detailed information please see:

- **DSH:** www.fadaf.de
 - **TestDaF:** www.testdaf.de
 - **Zentrale Mittelstufenprüfung:** www.goethe.de
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FES supports:

- All kind of academic subjects
- Students of public or state-approved universities and Universities of Applied Sciences (Fachhochschulen)
- Master programs and postgraduate studies

FES does not support:

- Second undergraduate degrees
 - Study visits outside of Germany
 - Final phase of degree
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Application Procedure

- **Time of Application**
At time of application, foreign students have to prove first marked academic performances (Exception: master programs and postgraduate studies)
- **Period of Application:**
There is no period of application. The Application can be submitted at any time
- **Supported Academic Subjects:**
All subjects are supported (exception: postgraduate studies in the subject of medicine)
- **Duration of Application Process:**
4-6 Month
- **Mode of Application**
 1. **Applicant self-apply**
(Please see <http://www.fes.de/studienfoerderung> for detailed information about the necessary documents and http://www.fes.de/fes_stuf/inhalt/documents/Bewerbungsformular.pdf for the application form)
 2. **Individual Interview**
In the second step, those candidates who have reached the second round will be invited for two individual interviews. At first, applicants will be interviewed by one of FES' trust lecturers, then by one of the members of the FES application committee (AWA). On the basis of these interviews, two reports are written and presented to the AWA.
 3. **Discussion and Final Decision in the AWA**
Eventually, the AWA makes its final decision about your application. The AWA is an independent committee, consisting of university lecturers as well as other persons in the fields of science, politics, art and media. The

committee holds its meetings at least three times a year. In the AWA, every application will be discussed extensively and finally decided.

4. Written Notification

You will be notified by post of the decision made by the AWA.

- **Numbers:**

Every year FES receives more than 14.000 applications

3000 candidates emanate out of these applications

Finally, 800 applicants get a scholarship (one fifth being awarded to postgraduate students)

Benefits and Expectations

Benefits:

Foreign scholarship holders receive:

- 650 €per month
- 276 €of family allowance if applicable
- Assumption of health care charges
- Ancillary income higher than 400 €per month will be credited against the scholarship

Expectations

FES expects from the scholarship holders:

- the regular participation in extracurricular seminars and activities of the campus groups
- to achieve a higher-than-average degree
- the continuation and intensification of their social political engagement

With the end of each term, a semester report has to be presented to FES, showing the scholarship holder's current academic development and his or her social engagement.

Contact

All applications should be addressed to:

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Bonn-Germany

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