



ŠVIETIMO MAINŲ PARAMOS FONDAS

LITHUANIAN STATE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR APPLICANTS FROM BELARUS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2016-2017

The Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania takes pleasure in offering Lithuanian state scholarships for students, lecturers and researchers of higher education and research institutions of the Republic of Belarus:

1. Scholarships for 1st cycle (Bachelor), 2nd cycle (Master) and 3rd cycle (PhD) students **for short-term studies in all fields including Lithuanian (Baltic) studies** (minimum duration of studies – 5 months). Total duration for short-term studies cannot exceed **10 months**.
2. Scholarships for research visits for **3rd cycle (PhD) students** (minimum duration of research visit – 1 month). Total duration **for research** visits cannot exceed **10 months**.
3. Scholarships for research visits **for lecturers and researchers** (minimum duration of research visit – 1 month). Total duration **for research visits** cannot exceed **10 months**.

PART 1. DESCRIPTION

Lithuanian state scholarships programme is designed for the advanced students, lecturers and researchers of higher education and research institutions of the Republic of Belarus for **short-term studies or research visits** at higher education and research institutions of the Republic of Lithuania. This scholarship programme is open to applicants from all fields of studies and research.

The scholarships are not intended for a full degree programs. Normally, an academic degree or diploma cannot be obtained during the period covered by the scholarship.

The study or research visit must take place from 1st of September 2016 to June/July 2017. The autumn semester in higher education and research institutions of Lithuania normally lasts from 1st of September until 31st of January and spring semester – from 1st February until 30th of June.

PART 2. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. The candidate has to be a student (not in the final year, and who completed at least 2 years of studies), lecturer or researcher at higher education and research institution of the Republic of Belarus.
2. The candidate must have an official letter of acceptance issued by the host higher education and research institution in Lithuania.
3. Candidates applying for study scholarships are required to aggregate at least **25 ECTS credits per one semester** in the field chosen (except for Lithuanian (Baltic) studies).
4. Candidates applying for Lithuanian (Baltic) studies scholarships are required to aggregate **30 ECTS per one semester** in the respective field, and also must fulfill other requirements for Lithuanian (Baltic) studies.
5. Lithuanian state scholarships cannot be coupled with other grants, scholarships or other academic exchange programs.
6. **Priority** will be given to the applicants who study Lithuanian language as a subject at home institution.

PART 3. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

1. Financial conditions for short-term study scholarships:

- ✓ 1st cycle (Bachelor), 2nd cycle (Master) and 3rd cycle (PhD) students of all fields **except** those coming for Lithuanian (Baltic) studies shall receive a scholarship from the Republic of Belarus.

In addition, a monthly scholarship of approx. 228 EUR* will be granted from the Republic of Lithuania;

2. Financial conditions for Lithuanian (Baltic) studies:

- ✓ 1st cycle (Bachelor), 2nd cycle (Master) and 3rd cycle (PhD) students approved for Lithuanian (Baltic) studies will receive a monthly scholarship of approx. 570 EUR* from the Republic of Lithuania;
- ✓ Researchers and lecturers approved for Lithuanian (Baltic) studies will receive a monthly scholarship of approx. 950 EUR* from the Republic of Lithuania.

3. Financial conditions for research scholarships:

- ✓ Researchers of all fields shall receive a scholarship from the Republic of Belarus. In addition, a monthly scholarship of approx. 456 EUR* will be granted from the Republic of Lithuania;
- ✓ 3rd cycle (PhD) students approved for the research visit shall receive a scholarship from the Republic of Belarus. As an addition, a monthly scholarship of approx. 228 EUR* will be granted from the Republic of Lithuania;

** The exact sum of the total amount paid will be calculated according to the number of days that specific month consists of, and due to that slight variations in the monthly stipendium might happen.*

NB. Scholarship is intended to cover scholarship holder's expenses only. Additional amounts for accompanying partners or family are not provided.

4. Tuition fee for the studies will be covered by the Republic of Lithuania. The maximum amount of the tuition fee will be determined by the normative costs that are approved by the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania. Any other fees such as student union fee, library membership fee, etc. shall be paid by scholarship holder.

5. Travel and accommodation costs shall be covered by the scholarship holder.

PART 4. LITHUANIAN (BAL TIC) STUDIES

The Lithuanian language belongs to the Indo-European family of languages. It is one of the remaining two live Baltic languages boasting of numerous archaisms, the best-retained ancient system of sounds and a number of morphological peculiarities. Lithuanian (Baltic) studies are intended for all applicants interested in Lithuanian or Baltic philology, Indo-European linguistics, Lithuanian literature, Lithuanian history, culture, ethnography and folklore.

Specific requirements for Lithuanian (Baltic) studies

Applicants for Lithuanian (Baltic) studies scholarship are required to design their study programme which should include subjects from the two groups of study fields below:

1. **First group – philology.** Eligible study fields from this group are as follows: Baltic philology, Lithuanian philology, linguistics and literature.
2. **Second group – history, philosophy, theology and culture.** Eligible study fields from this group are as follows: Lithuanian history, ethnology, folklore and culture.

Applicants for Lithuanian (Baltic) studies are required to aggregate **30 ECTS per one semester**. The total credit value from study fields of both first and second groups should be not less than 22.5 ECTS in one semester. Remaining 7.5 ECTS credits of the programme shall be chosen from other study fields at the discretion of the applicant.

The list of higher education institutions where Lithuanian (Baltic) studies:

- [Vilnius University](#)
- [Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences](#)
- [Vytautas Magnus University](#)
- [Klaipeda University](#)
- [Siauliai University](#)

PART 5. SHORT-TERM STUDIES AND RESEARCH VISITS

Applicants for short-term studies and research visits scholarships are required to design their study/research visit programme and agree with a host institution in Lithuania.

Candidates applying for study scholarships are required to aggregate at least **25 ECTS credits per one**

semester in the field chosen (except for Lithuanian (Baltic) studies). The list of higher education and research institutions can be found here <https://www.aikos.smm.lt/en/StudyProgramm/EducationProviders>.

PART 6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The list of documents to be submitted (in the order given):

Please do not put each individual document into plastic sheets or binders.

1. Printed and signed application form (form can be found on the website www.scholarships.lt).
2. Official original letter from the candidate's higher education and research institution approving the status of a student, lecturer or researcher.
NB1. For students the letter must contain information on the applicant's current cycle of studies (1st, 2nd or 3rd cycle), year of studies and expected date of graduation.
3. For students – original (or certified copy) transcript of academic records of the last two semesters from the candidate's present higher education and research institution.
4. Certified copy of obtained higher education diploma or diplomas.
5. Two original recommendation letters from home higher education and research institution (written within past six months).
6. Official original (or scanned copy) letter of the acceptance issued by the host higher education and research institution in Lithuania.
*NB2. Applicants for **study scholarships** – this letter must contain information on the chosen subjects and the number of credits for each subject.*
*NB3. Applicants for **research scholarship** – this letter must contain information on the chosen field of research.*
NB4. The duration and dates of the intended studies or research visit should also be indicated in the official letter of acceptance.
7. Detailed programme of intended studies or research visit that is agreed upon with the receiving institution.
8. The list of scientific publications published within the last 2 years (applicable only for research visit).
9. Copy of certificate of proficiency in English or Lithuanian (or another language acceptable for the host institution).
NB5. TOEFL, IELTS, CPE or other widely recognized exams of English proficiency are acceptable. If the candidate does not hold any of those certificates, then a signed letter confirming the proficiency in the language from the home university's professor of English or Lithuanian is also acceptable.
10. Copy of the valid identity document.

Documents must be:

1. Completed in English, Russian or Lithuanian only (or with certified translations into one of these languages).
2. **Submitted in two (2) identical sets (one original set and one copy of the original set). Every set must be put into plastic sheet or envelope. One (original) set should be submitted to the Education Exchanges and Support Foundation, another (copy) set – to the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus.**
3. Typed and printed (handwritten documents will not be accepted).

Printed and signed online application form with additional documents has to be sent by ordinary post.

Documents submitted only online, sent by fax or e-mail will not be accepted. Incomplete applications or postmarked after the deadline will not be considered.

PART 7. IMPORTANT DATES

1st of April, 2016 – deadline for online application submission. Application form can be found at www.scholarships.lt. Online Application System will be closed at 12.00 Central European time (GMT+1).

Original application form with all required documents (original version) should be sent by post to the Education Exchanges and Support Foundation (<http://www.smpf.lt>) by **1st of April, 2016**, date as per postmark to this address:

**Higher Education Programmes Unit
Education Exchanges Support Foundation
Rožių al. 2
LT-03106 Vilnius, Lithuania**

Contact person - Donata Pečiukėnienė, e-mail donata.peciukeniene@smpf.lt.

Copy of the application form with all required documents (copy version) should be sent by ordinary or registered post to the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus (<http://www.minedu.unibel.by>) by **1st of April, 2016**, date as per postmark. Applications postmarked after the deadline will not be considered. **Please note that the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus can set the earlier deadline for receiving scholarship applications.**

1st of July, 2016 – e-mail notification on the results for study, research scholarships and Lithuanian (Baltic) studies scholarships will be sent to all the applicants personally by the Education Exchanges Support Foundation. In addition the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus will be informed about the selection results.