



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE CROATIAN GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/2022

The Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Croatia (Ministry) and the Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes (Agency) offer Croatian Government Scholarships (Scholarships) to foreign higher education students and teachers at higher education institutions as well as researchers who intend to gain further professional experience in Croatian higher education institutions or research institutes.

The Scholarships offer opportunities for study or research in any field of study during the granted mobility period at an accredited public Croatian higher education or research institution to be determined in advance. The awarded mobilities should be implemented during the academic year 2021/2022 (from October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022, July and August excluded).

Potential candidates are invited to apply for the Croatian Government Scholarships by submitting their applications in the [Agency's online application system](#) but the Scholarships can be awarded only to the candidates who are nominated by the foreign partner institutions, i.e., national competent authorities responsible for the implementation of the Bilateral Scholarships Programmes. The preliminary selection of applications is usually performed by the respective foreign government ministries, agencies and/or authorities and applications ranked by these offices take priority. Applications sent by individual applicants to the Agency, the Ministry or to the desired host institution in Croatia but without being nominated for the Scholarships by the national institution in charge will not be processed.

The Scholarships are awarded by the Ministry and the Agency that are responsible for the final selection of applications by implementation of the Bilateral Agreements between the Republic of Croatia and partner countries seeing that the various valid/effective educational co-operation programmes and/or bilateral agreements serve as the basis for cooperation in the fields of science and education and for academic exchange.

Candidates are invited to apply for the Croatian Government Scholarships that are on offer through two different application pools:

1) Application Pool 1: SCHOLARSHIPS BASED ON BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

2) Application Pool 2: SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CROATIAN LANGUAGE STUDENTS

1) TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIPS ON OFFER

A1 Semester studies for Croatian language students (4-5 months)

Description: Scholarships type A1 are on offer to students (BA or MA) who would like to spend one semester learning Croatian and perfecting their Croatian language skills at either the University of Zagreb ([Croaticum](#)) or at the University of Rijeka ([Rijeka School of Slavic Studies](#)).

Eligible applicants: Croatian language students and students of Slavic Studies who are currently enrolled in BA or MA studies in their home countries. Students are required to have completed a minimum of two semesters at their home institutions.

A2 Semester/partial studies (3-10 months)

Description: Scholarship type A2 is on offer to students who would like to spend one part (one or two semesters) of their BA or MA studies at a Croatian higher education institution.

Eligible applicants: Undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) students who are currently enrolled in studies in their home countries. Scholarship type A2 is open to students of all fields of study. Students are required to have completed a minimum of two semesters at their home institutions.

B Full degree undergraduate (BA) or graduate (MA) studies (BA: 36 or MA: 24/12 months)

Description: Scholarships type B are on offer to students who wish to enrol in full degree BA or MA studies in Croatia and obtain a full BA or MA degree at a Croatian higher education institution.

Eligible applicants: Members of the Croatian national minority in Hungary, Romania and the Slovak Republic and citizens of China. Candidates are required to have a four-year high school degree if applying for BA studies or a BA degree if applying for MA studies.

C1 Full postgraduate doctoral (PhD) programme (36 months)

Description: Scholarship type C1 is on offer to students who would like to enrol in full degree doctoral studies in Croatia and obtain a full PhD degree at a Croatian higher education institution.

Eligible applicants: Members of the Croatian national minority in Hungary, Romania and the Slovak Republic and citizens of China. Candidates are required to have a MA degree.

C2 Partial postgraduate doctoral (PhD) studies or research for PhD students (1-12 months)

Description: Scholarship type C2 is on offer to PhD students who would like to spend one part of their PhD studies or do research for their PhD thesis at a Croatian higher education institution.

Eligible applicants: Candidates who are enrolled in a PhD programme at an accredited institution of higher education in their home countries or in a country other than Croatia.

D Postdoctoral studies and research (1-10 months)

Description: Scholarship type D is on offer to candidates who would like to carry out postdoctoral studies or research at one of [Croatia's accredited research institutions](#).

Eligible applicants: Teachers or researchers at accredited institutions of higher education in their home countries or in a country other than Croatia. Candidates are required to have a PhD degree.

E Short research visit (3-29 days)

Description: Scholarships type E is on offer to candidates who would like to carry out short term research at one of [Croatia's accredited research institutions](#).

Eligible applicants: Teachers or researchers at accredited institutions of higher education in their home countries or in a country other than Croatia. Candidates are required to have a PhD degree.

F Summer course/seminar of Croatian language and literature (1 week)

Description: Scholarship type F is granted for the Croatian Seminar for Foreign Slavic Studies Students organised by the [Zagreb School of Slavic Studies](#) in Dubrovnik.

Eligible applicants: Croatian language students and students of Slavic Studies who are currently enrolled in studies in their home countries. Students are required to have completed a minimum of two semesters at their home institutions. Eligible are also lecturers (teachers, senior assistants with a PhD and teaching/research assistants) who teach Croatian language and literature at foreign universities. **Applicants should have a minimum level of language competence of B1** according to the [Common European Framework of Reference for Languages](#) (it applies to understanding, speaking and writing). Preference will be given to candidates with a level of the Croatian language competence B2 and higher.

Important notice: The 49th Croatian Seminar for Foreign Slavic Studies Students that was supposed to be held in Dubrovnik from 17th to 28th August 2020 was unfortunately postponed due to the epidemiological situation at the time. The applicants were informed by Agency about the cancellation of the Seminar in 2020. According to the decision of the Ministry, last year's candidates who due to the circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic could not participate in the programme, will be given the opportunity to participate in the seminar from 16th to 22nd August 2021. In line with that decision, the Ministry and the Agency are not offering any additional scholarships for the Summer course/seminar of Croatian language and culture within the Call for Applications for the academic year 2021/2022.

2) SCHOLARSHIP OFFER BASED ON BILATERAL AGREEMENTS (APPLICATION POOL 1)

This Application Pool is open to higher education students and university staff conducting research or teaching activities. The applicants should be citizens of countries (and territories) that have a valid/effective educational co-operation programme with Croatia or a bilateral agreement signed by the Croatian Government and the relevant ministry of the given country (or territory). Applicants from these countries are entitled to apply for the Scholarships defined in the bilateral agreements and this Call for Applications. Specific scholarship types are offered to each country. The candidates should submit their application documents in the [Agency's online application system](#) and the national competent authorities responsible for the implementation of the Bilateral Scholarships Programmes should then nominate the candidates. Applications of the candidates who are citizens of the below specified countries (and territories) but without the citizenship of these same countries listed below (pages 4 and 5) will not be taken into consideration. The following type and number of Scholarships are on offer on the basis of valid/effective educational co-operation programmes and/or bilateral agreements (Application Pool 1):

COUNTRY	TYPE AND NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS ON OFFER
BULGARIA	1) 2 Scholarships for one semester studies for undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) students. 2) 8 months of Scholarships for study visits or research (1 or 2 months per applicant).
CHINA	3 Scholarships for full degree undergraduate (BA), graduate (MA) or postgraduate (PhD) studies (priority: Croatian language students).
GERMANY	1 Scholarship for a research for university staff conducting research or teaching activities or for researchers holding a PhD degree (up to 3 months).
GERMANY (BAVARIA)	1) 2 Scholarships for partial studies for undergraduate (BA) or graduate (MA) students (one academic year). 2) 2 Scholarships for partial postgraduate (PhD) studies or research.
GREECE	2 Scholarships for postgraduate (PhD) studies or research (up to 10 months each).
HUNGARY	1) Scholarships for semester/partial studies for undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) students (3-10 months). 2) Scholarships for postgraduate (PhD) or postdoctoral studies or research (long-term: 1-10 months or short-term: 3-29 days). 3) Scholarship for a full PhD programme (36 months). Scholarships for full degree undergraduate (BA), graduate (MA) or postgraduate (PhD) studies for members of the Croatian national minority in Hungary (BA: 36 months; MA: 24/12 months; PhD: 36 months).
ISRAEL	1 Scholarship for postgraduate (PhD) studies or research (up to 8 months).

ITALY	1) 5 Scholarships for semester studies for undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) Croatian language students. 2) 12 months of Scholarships for members of the Croatian national minority in Italy (the months of Scholarship can be distributed to multiple applicant).
REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA	1) 2 Scholarships for semester studies for undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) Croatian language students. 2) 8 months of Scholarships for study visits or research (1 or 2 months per applicant).
MONTENEGRO	1) 20 months of Scholarships for partial undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) studies (1 or 2 semesters per applicant). 2) 8 months of Scholarships for research for graduate (MA) or postgraduate (PhD) studies (1 or 2 months per applicant).
POLAND	4 Scholarships for semester studies for undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) students.
PORTUGAL	Scholarships for students and researchers for undergraduate (BA), graduate (MA) or postgraduate (PhD) studies of Croatian language and literature.
ROMANIA	1) 2 Scholarships for semester studies for undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) students. 2) 2 Scholarships for full undergraduate (BA), graduate (MA) or postgraduate (PhD) studies for members of the Croatian minority in Romania (BA: 36 months; MA: 24/12 months; PhD: 36 months).
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	1) 15 months of Scholarships for undergraduate (BA) or graduate (MA) studies (4 months minimum per applicant) and postgraduate (PhD) studies or research (1 month minimum per applicant). 2) 1 Scholarship for mobility of university teachers of Croatian and Slovak language and literature (maximum of 30 days). 3) 5 Scholarships for full degree undergraduate (BA), graduate (MA) or postgraduate (PhD) studies for members of the Croatian national minority in the Slovak Republic (BA: 36 months; MA: 24/12 months; PhD: 36 months).
TURKEY	2 Scholarships for postgraduate (PhD) studies or research (8 months each).
UKRAINE	2 Scholarships for semester studies for undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) students.

The offer above (Application Pool 1) for incoming students, teachers and researchers applies to the following countries: Bulgaria, China, Germany (Bavaria), Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Turkey and Ukraine.

Information about the Croatian higher education institutions and programmes can be obtained on the portal [Study in Croatia](#). The complete list of Croatian accredited academic institutions can be found [here](#).

3) SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED TO CROATIAN LANGUAGE STUDENTS (APPLICATION POOL 2)

This Application Pool is open to candidates who are students at language departments of the Croatian language and literature or Slavic Studies and literature regardless whether their respective countries have a valid cooperation programme or a bilateral agreement with Croatia and regardless of whether the language department of Croatian language and literature falls under the jurisdiction of the Ministry.

The candidates for Scholarships that are on offer in the Application Pool 2 can only be nominated for the Scholarships by their current Croatian language fellow who should nominate the applicants for the Scholarships by his/her Recommendation Letter/Nomination Letter. The applicants should then submit the Recommendation Letter/Nomination Letter together with the rest of the required application documents (listed on pages 9 - 12) in the [Agency's online application system](#).

Candidates are invited to apply for the following Scholarship on offer through the Application Pool 2:

A1 One semester study for Croatian Language students (mobility: 4-5 months).

4) FURTHER INFORMATION AND ELIGIBILITY

4.1. Further Information

Applicants should indicate the preferred mobility period in their application form. For Scholarships type A1 an applicant may submit an application only on one occasion during his/her BA studies and once during his/her MA studies (once per study cycle). For the Scholarships type A1 priority will be given to candidates who have not previously been awarded the same Scholarship. Applicants who are interested in a research, PhD or a postdoctoral scholarship should find a host professor in Croatia willing to support and supervise their research project or PhD project. A Letter of Invitation must be part of the application package. Applicants for these types of Scholarships (C2, D and E) should contact a mentor/supervisor at the desired Croatian host institution to arrange their visit. Candidates applying for a research visit should be fluent in English or Croatian. The term "research" includes preparation for a doctoral or postdoctoral thesis or any other form of scientific research except medical specialization.

4.2. Eligibility

There is no age limit only for the following types of Scholarships:

- 1) Research visits (D and E).

Age limits for applicants depending on the level of studies and the Scholarship type:

- 1) 25 years for candidates applying for Scholarships for BA studies (A1, A2, B).
- 2) 30 years for candidates applying for Scholarships for MA studies (A1, A2, B).
- 3) 35 years for candidates applying for Scholarships for PhD studies (C1, C2).

The following candidates are not eligible to apply:

- 1) Students who have not completed a minimum of two semesters at their home institutions.
- 2) Foreign citizens with a residence permit or applying for a residence permit in Croatia.
- 3) Students already enrolled in a study programme in Croatia.
- 4) Candidates applying for study or research at private Croatian higher education institutions.
- 5) Candidates without the citizenship of the country that nominates them for the Scholarships.

Extension of the Scholarships

Scholarships for semester/partial studies and full degree studies may not be extended. Only postdoctoral study and research Scholarships may be extended under special circumstances on one occasion.

5) FINANCIAL BENEFITS FOR SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS

- 1) **Undergraduate/graduate studies (A1, A2, B)**
 - **1.600,00 HRK** monthly grant.
 - Subsidized accommodation in the student residence hall.
 - Subsidized meals at student restaurants.
- 2) **Full PhD studies and partial PhD studies or research for PhD students (C1, C2)**
 - **1.800,00 HRK** monthly grant.
 - Subsidized accommodation in the student residence hall.
 - Subsidized meals at student restaurants.
- 3) **Postdoctoral studies or research 1-10 months (D)**
 - **3.000,00 HRK** monthly grant.
 - Subsidized accommodation in the student residence hall.
- 4) **Short research visits 15-30 days (E)**
 - **3.000,00 HRK.**
 - Subsidized accommodation in the student residence hall.
- 5) **Short research stays 3-14 days (E)**
 - **200,00 HRK** per diem.
 - Subsidized accommodation in the student residence hall.
- 6) **Summer seminar/course (F)**
 - Tuition-free course.
 - Free accommodation and meals.
 - Cultural programme.

The Scholarships cannot be awarded concurrently with other scholarships. If the scholarship holder has been awarded another scholarship for the same mobility during the same period, he/she is not eligible for the Scholarship in order to prevent double funding for the same mobility period in Croatia.

The grant (monthly financial support) is meant to help cover the living expenses of one person and there is no available financing or visa exemption for accompanying family members or any other persons.

Neither visa related fees nor any other costs related to the scholarship holder's stay in Croatia shall be compensated. **Please note that the monthly grant (financial support) is not meant to cover all the costs of the scholarship holder but rather it is a contribution to the living costs during mobility.** Scholarship holders are advised, apart from the grant to be received from the Agency during the mobility period, to have sufficient financial funds to cover their living costs for at least two months in Croatia.

The Ministry and the Agency reserve the right to change the financial benefits for scholarship holders stated in the Call for Applications before or during the mobility period in accordance with the Croatian legislation and financial regulations in force.

6) APPLICATION PROCEDURE, DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED, EVALUATION AND SELECTION OF APPLICANTS AND THE RESULTS OF THE CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

6.1. Application Procedure

The applicants should submit their applications in the [Agency's online application system](#) before 14th of May 2021 (closing date of the Agency's online application system) and contact their national institution in charge of the preliminary selection of applicants and be nominated for the Scholarships. The national competent authorities responsible for the implementation of the Bilateral Scholarships Programmes should send by e-mail or post the Nomination Letter by which they nominate candidates for the Croatian Government Scholarships in the academic year 2021/2022 also not later than 14th of May 2021 to the following e-mail or postal address:

Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes

E-mail address: bilaterala@mobilnost.hr

Postal address: Frankopanska 26, 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia

A valid application for the Scholarship should consist of:

- 1) **Required documents in English or Croatian** submitted by the applicant in the [Agency's online application system](#)
- 2) **Nomination Letter** sent by e-mail or post to the Agency from the foreign partner institution by which it nominates the applicant for the Scholarship.

The deadline for both the applicants and the foreign partner institutions is 14th of May 2021.

Candidates should fill in the Application Form and submit their application documents in the [Agency's online application system](#) by uploading all of the required documents listed in the Application Form and on pages 9-12 depending on the type of Scholarship the candidate is applying for.

A copy of the filled-in Application Form will automatically be downloaded locally to the applicant's computer and uploaded to the Agency's system. It is recommended that candidates keep a copy of all of the application documents in case they will need them when enrolling in the higher education institution.

6.2. Documents to be Submitted by the Applicants in Accordance with the Scholarship Type:

A1 One semester study for Croatian Language students (4-5 months)

- 1) Application Form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) Letter of Interest (maximum 2 pages).
- 5) Proof of enrolment at the applicant's home institution.
- 6) Transcript of the last two completed semesters at the home institution (Additionally: candidates who have completed a BA programme also need to submit a copy of their BA degree).
- 7) Recommendation Letter of the Croatian language fellow at the home institution co-signed by the Head of Department.

A2 Semester/partial studies (3-10 months)

- 1) Application form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) Letter of Interest (maximum 2 pages).
- 5) Proof of enrolment in BA or MA studies at the applicant's home institution.
- 6) Transcript of the last two completed semesters at the home institution (Additionally: candidates who have completed a BA programme also need to submit a copy of their BA degree).
- 7) Two Letters of Recommendation.
- 8) Letter of Invitation by the host institution in Croatia signed by the Head of Department.
- 9) Certificate of proficiency in English or Croatian – depending on the language of the study programme for the proposed mobility (the language should be indicated in the Letter of Invitation).

B Full degree bachelor (BA) or master (MA) studies (BA: 36 months or MA: 24/12 months)

- 1) Application form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) Letter of Interest (maximum 2 pages).
- 5) Copy of the last acquired Certificate or Diploma (if applying for BA studies: copy of the highest degree/certificate; if applying for MA studies: copy of the BA degree).
- 6) Proof of language proficiency in English or Croatian (minimum A1).
- 7) Letter of Invitation by the dean of the Croatian higher education institution (in which it is indicated that the applicant can enrol in the desired tuition-free study programme upon successful completion of the enrolment procedure and being awarded the Scholarship).

- 8) Copy of the Enrolment Certificate to the desired BA or MA study programme (the document should be sent to the Agency after the candidate has successfully enrolled in the desired study programme at the host institution in Croatia).

C1 Full PhD programme (36 months)

- 1) Application form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) List of publications (if applicable).
- 5) Copy of the highest degree/diploma.
- 6) Precise and detailed Work Plan (maximum 2 pages).
- 7) Proof of language proficiency in Croatian or English – depending on the working language of the doctoral programme.
- 8) Letters of Recommendation from two recognized experts in the relevant discipline.
- 9) Letter of Invitation by the dean of the Croatian higher education institution (in which it is indicated that the applicant can enrol in the desired tuition-free study programme upon successful completion of the enrolment procedure and being awarded the Scholarship).
- 10) Copy of the Enrolment Certificate to the desired PhD study programme (the document should be sent to the Agency after the candidate has successfully enrolled in the desired study programme at the host institution in Croatia).

C2 Partial PhD studies or PhD research (1-12 months)

- 1) Application form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) List of publications.
- 5) Proof of enrolment in the PhD programme at the applicant's home institution.
- 6) Copy of the MA degree.
- 7) Precise and detailed Work Plan (maximum 2 pages).
- 8) Two Letters of Recommendation.
- 9) Letter of Invitation by the dean of the higher education institution in Croatia.
- 10) Proof of language proficiency in English or Croatian – depending on the working language for the proposed research project (the language should be indicated in the Letter of Invitation).

D Postdoctoral studies and research (1-10 months)

- 1) Application form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of valid passport or ID.

- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) List of publications.
- 5) Copy of the PhD degree.
- 6) Precise and detailed Work Plan (maximum 2 pages).
- 7) Letters of Recommendation from 2 recognized experts in the relevant discipline.
- 8) Letter of Invitation by the host institution in Croatia.
- 9) Proof of language proficiency in English or Croatian – depending on the working language for the proposed research project (the working language should be indicated in the Letter of Invitation).

E Short research visit (3-29 days)

- 1) Application form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) List of publications relevant to the proposed research project.
- 5) Copy of the PhD degree.
- 6) Precise and detailed work plan (maximum 2 pages).
- 7) Letters of Recommendation from 2 recognized experts in the relevant discipline.
- 8) Letter of Invitation by the Croatian host institution.
- 9) Proof of language proficiency in English or Croatian – depending on the working language for the proposed research project (the working language should be indicated in the Letter of Invitation).

6.3. Evaluation and Selection of Applicants

The applications sent by the candidates will be subjected to formal assessment by the Agency and the Ministry followed by the procedure of evaluation and selection. During this process the Agency may request that the candidate provides additional documents or information. The purpose of the formal assessment is verification of the application in terms of compliance with the formal criteria. During the formal assessment the completeness of the application is analysed. The application is considered as complete if all required documents have been attached. The candidate's academic profile, proposal and motivation will also be assessed (selection criteria). The final decision on the acceptance of the applications shall be made by the Croatian host institution. Incomplete or inaccurate applications will not be considered. Documents in languages other than English or Croatian will not be accepted.

6.4. The Results of the Call for Applications

The results of the selection will be communicated in June and/or July 2021. All of the applicants and foreign partner institutions will be informed of the results by an official letter sent via e-mail by the Agency. Scholarship holders whose applications will have been approved will receive from the Agency a document called the General Info Package that includes the Letter of Award, Letter of Acceptance, Instructions and

Details About the Mobility in Croatia and the template for the Final Report. Applicants for the summer seminar from 2020 will be offered the chance to participate in the programme in 2021 of which they will receive information in due time. Foreign students coming to study/do research in Croatia and who will be using student accommodation by staying in student residence halls will need to undergo health examination and bring a filled-in Health and Immunisation Questionnaire. More information about that will be given in the General Info Package. An appeal against the decision of the Joint Committee for Scholarship Award of the Ministry and the Agency (the bodies that are responsible for the formal assessment of applications) shall not be accepted. The Ministry and the Agency reserve the right to change the requested duration of mobility in Croatia, city or higher education institution if deemed necessary.

7) ENROLMENT PROCEDURE FOR FULL DEGREE STUDY AND RENEWAL OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

7.1. Enrolment Procedure

The application for the Scholarships and the application for admission by a Croatian host university for full cycle studies (B and C1) are two separate procedures. A scholarship for a full cycle of undergraduate or graduate studies in Croatia **will be approved only upon successful enrolment at the higher education institution** and after the applicant submits to the Agency proof of successful enrolment to the higher education institution. **Please note that the Agency is not in charge of student enrolment and that each student, applying for semester/partial/full degree studies needs to arrange the conditions of his/her enrolment in the study programme with the respective higher education institution in Croatia.** The final decision on the acceptance of the candidates shall be made by the Croatian host institution. Candidates for semester/partial, full BA, MA and PhD studies must contact the desired host institution in Croatia and secure a provisional Letter of Invitation by the Croatian higher education institution in which it is indicated that the applicant can enrol in the desired tuition-free study programme upon successful completion of the enrolment procedure and being awarded the Scholarship.

To scholarship holders who are about to enrol in to a full cycle of undergraduate or graduate studies in Croatia and whose Croatian language skills are not sufficient, a scholarship for an initial one (1) academic year of learning Croatian will be granted followed by the final language exam that needs to be passed successfully. In case the applicant fails the exam, the Scholarship will be automatically discontinued. The Scholarship for one year of studying the Croatian language may be extended exceptionally only under special circumstances on one occasion. Successful applicants will be granted a Scholarship for a full cycle of undergraduate or graduate studies that will be renewed every year pending academic success.

Only members of the Croatian minority in Hungary, Romania and Slovak Republic and citizens of China may apply for Scholarship types B and C1. Priority fields of study include but are not limited to: Croatian language and literature (Croatian: Kroatistika), Croatian culture and national identity (Croatian: Kroatologija), History, Geography, Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology and Teacher Education Studies.

According to the national legislation, future university students should register as new users at the [Central Application System](#) of the Agency for Science and Higher Education and the [Postani student!](#) portal. Prospective students with foreign educational certificates who wish to apply for undergraduate (BA) study programmes in Croatia should send their secondary school diplomas and results of school leaving exams to the Agency for Education and Teacher Training in order to undergo a process of recognition. The applicants can find more information about the recognition of foreign secondary school qualifications on the official [website](#) of the Agency for Education and Teacher Training. Academic recognition for the purpose of continuation of higher education on MA or PhD level is performed by the Offices for Academic Recognition of Foreign Higher Education Qualifications. If applicable, candidates can send their diplomas to the [Croatian ENIC/NARIC Office](#) (office responsible for recognition of higher education qualifications).

7.2. Renewal of the Scholarships for Full Degree Studies

A Scholarship for a full cycle of undergraduate (BA), graduate (MA) or postgraduate (PhD) studies in Croatia is granted for the full duration of the study programme but the Scholarship will be renewed every year depending on the academic success in the previous academic year. A scholarship holder must submit to the Agency at the end of each academic year:

- 1) Proof (certificate) about the exams and obtained ECTS credits in the previous academic year.
- 2) Proof (certificate) about the successful enrolment in the next academic year.

Additionally, upon request of the Agency the scholarship holder is obligated to submit to the Agency a transcript of records or a copy of the student identification document to present his/her study progression (exams and obtained ECTS credits).

For acquired ECTS credits in one (previous) academic year:

- 35 or more ECTS credits: The Scholarship will be renewed for the next academic year. *
- 34 or less ECTS credits: The Scholarship won't be renewed for the next academic year.

*Students enrolled in full degree study programmes at Croatian higher education institutions should obtain 55 or more ECTS credits in the previous academic year to receive a full tuition fee waiver for the next academic year. Students who obtain 30-54 ECTS credits need to cover the cost of the unobtained ECTS credits (the difference between the number of obtained credits and the maximum 60 ECTS credits).

8) OBLIGATIONS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS

The scholarship holders are obligated to submit to the Agency by e-mail the signed **Letter of Acceptance** by which they accept the awarded Scholarship at least one month before the beginning of mobility. Also, they are obligated to send to the Agency by e-mail the **Final Report** about their mobility within one month after the end of their mobility. The scholarship holders should arrange visa and similar requirements (if applicable) and, if staying longer than 90 days, regulate their temporary stay in Croatia by acquiring a residence permit (if applicable). The scholarship holders are strongly advised to be in regular contact with their Croatian host institutions and inform the host institutions and the Agency if any changes to their mobility occur. Also, scholarship holders should arrange and cover the costs of health care by themselves if they come from a country that doesn't have a signed bilateral health care agreement with Croatia and do not have the right to the European Health Insurance Card (EU nationals). Upon arrival to Croatia, scholarship holders should request an OIB (Personal Identification Number – Croatian Tax Number) at the local Tax Administration Office and after that open a giro bank account at any bank and send by e-mail a scan or photo of the documents containing the OIB and IBAN to the Agency. Each scholarship holder is obligated to stay in Croatia throughout the scholarship programme (except in cases of virtual or blended mobility) and be engaged solely in the programme which has been approved by the Ministry and the Agency. Absence is justified for three (3) consecutive months (during summer) for full degree studies. In case the scholarship holder needs to be absent for a longer period, he/she should inform the host institution and the Agency. If the scholarship holder leaves Croatia without a valid reason and without notifying the Agency, the Scholarship can be suspended/terminated and the grant can be reclaimed. The scholarship holders who plan to stay in the student residence hall in Zagreb are required to bring the Health and Immunisation Questionnaire after undergoing health examination in their home countries. Finally, scholarship holders should observe the Croatian legislation in force during the entire mobility period in Croatia. They must also comply with the Agency's instructions, regulations concerning the residence for foreigners in Croatia and with the host institution regulations.

9) TRAVEL EXPENSES, VISA, ENTERING CROATIA AND THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

9.1. Travel Expenses

Travel expenses to Croatia and back to the country of origin are not covered by the scholarship package, i.e., they are the responsibility of the scholarship holder. However, applicants are strongly advised to contact the sending institutions in their home countries who will nominate them for the Scholarship and check if there are any possibilities to cover their travel expenses to Croatia.

9.2. Visa

Information about the conditions of entry and residence of foreign nationals in Croatia is available on the [website](#) of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs. All foreigners who are holders of valid Schengen documents do not need an additional visa for Croatia. For more information, please check the visa

requirements overview on the [website](#) of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs. For the most current information regarding entry and visa regulations between a certain country and Croatia, the applicants should enquire at the Croatian Embassy in their home country or at the national ministry of foreign affairs. Visas are issued by diplomatic missions or consular offices of the Republic of Croatia. Any visa related costs are not covered by the grant.

9.3. Entering Croatia and the COVID-19 Pandemic

The Call for Applications is addressed to all countries regardless of the COVID-19 pandemic but the Scholarships will be awarded subject to the rules in force and various other conditions such as the health situation, visa procedures, opening of borders and operating of higher education institutions and institutes. All mobilities are planned to be physical mobilities but depending on the developments of the COVID-19 situation the Croatian higher education institutions and institutes may be forced to offer online-classes. Physical mobility remains the goal of the programme but if it is not feasible, blended or entirely virtual mobility will be eligible. Before travelling, scholarship holders are advised to check if there are any restrictions to travelling set in force by their home countries or/and Croatia that would prevent them from leaving their home country or from entering Croatia. The [website](#) of the Croatian Ministry of the Interior contains the latest information in connection to entering Croatia as a foreign citizen and is being continuously updated. It also explains the conditions of entry into Croatia considering the restrictions in place to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 and the situation is constantly being reassessed. [KORONAVIRUS.HR](#) is the official Croatian Government website for accurate and verified information on the Coronavirus in Croatia. Maps in support of the Council Recommendation on a coordinated approach to the restriction of free movement in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the EU/EEA are published on the official [website](#) of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. You can also check the [Re-open EU](#) portal, i.e., an interactive tool launched by the European Commission that provides information on how to travel Europe safely.

10) HEALTH CARE DURING MOBILITY IN CROATIA

According to the Croatian Law on Foreigners, foreign residents must have health care during their stay in Croatia. For both EU/Swiss and non-EU citizens health insurance is also necessary for the approval of temporary stay. Regulated health care is the prerequisite for being granted a temporary residence permit.

10.1. EU Nationals

EU countries residents are obligated to obtain the European Health Insurance Card ([EHIC](#)) in their home countries prior to their arrival to Croatia. The EHIC is issued by the national health insurance provider. Scholarship holders who are awarded a Scholarship for full degree mobility in Croatia can, in accordance with the Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the coordination of social security systems, transfer their health care from their home countries to Croatia and have complete health care during their mobility in Croatia. This applies only to EU nationals who are

awarded a Scholarship for full degree BA, MA or PhD studies (Scholarship types B and C1) in Croatia and who can provide proof of having health care in their home countries.

10.2. Countries with Health Care Agreements with Croatia

Croatia regulates health care with North Macedonia, Montenegro and Turkey through agreements on social security signed with the named countries. Citizens of these countries should contact their public health insurance provider before arriving to Croatia in order to obtain the document which enables them to have health care during their mobility in Croatia.

10.3. Countries without Health Care Agreements with Croatia

Scholarship holders coming to Croatia on mobility from countries that do not have bilateral health care agreements with Croatia or do not use the European Health Insurance Card are obligated to organise and cover the costs of health care services during their mobility in Croatia by themselves. The Agency covers the health insurance expenses for scholarship holders from countries which do not have social security agreements with Croatia only if foreseen in a valid/effective bilateral educational co-operation programme.

11) PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION

The Department for Higher Education at the Agency is processing the personal data of applicants for the purpose of evaluating the applications for the Scholarships. More detailed information on processing of personal information is available in the General Notice on Processing of Personal Data published [here](#). Provision of data is voluntary but necessary for application and to participate in the implementation of the Scholarships. By submitting an application all candidates acknowledge that their personal data provided in the application and attachments submitted for the purpose of selection proceedings as well as for the purpose of later nomination, will be processed by the national competent authorities and by the appropriate host higher education institutions in Croatia to the extent that is necessary to address the application. Personal data may be provided to diplomatic posts, foreign partner institutions or Croatian higher education institutions and research institutes and/or other partners relevant to the implementation of the Scholarships. The data will be used for conducting the Call for Applications and evaluation of applications, selection of the beneficiaries and execution of scholarship agreements. This will be done in compliance with the regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and of the free movement of such data, and repealing directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation).

12) CONTACT INFORMATION

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