



ŠVIETIMO MAINŲ PARAMOS FONDAS

LITHUANIAN STATE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THE LITHUANIAN (BALTIC) STUDIES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2016-2017

The Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania takes pleasure in offering the quota for the Lithuanian state scholarships for students, lecturers and researchers of higher education and research institutions from the following countries: **Armenia, Austria, Bulgaria, Belgium (Flanders), Croatia, Finland, Greece, Georgia, Iceland, India, Kazakhstan, Montenegro, Mongolia, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Philippines, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United States of America, United Kingdom and Uzbekistan.**

Scholarships for **Lithuanian (Baltic) studies** (duration of studies – one (up to 5 months) or two (up to 10 months) semesters per person) will be offered for the candidates of these countries. The overall scholarship quota is 80 months.

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

Studies 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 1. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. The candidate has to be a student (not in the final year), lecturer or researcher at higher education and research institution in **Armenia, Austria, Bulgaria, Belarus, Belgium (Flanders), Croatia, Finland, Greece, Georgia, Iceland, India, Kazakhstan, Montenegro, Mongolia, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Philippines, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United States of America, United Kingdom or Uzbekistan.**
2. Candidates for the Lithuanian (Baltic) studies scholarship must have an official letter of acceptance issued by the host higher education and research institution in Lithuania.
3. Candidates applying for the Lithuanian (Baltic) study scholarships are required to aggregate **30 ECTS per one semester** in the respected field, and also must fulfill other requirements for the Lithuanian (Baltic) studies.
4. Lithuanian state scholarships cannot be coupled with other grants, scholarships or other academic exchange programs.
5. **Priority** will be given to the applicants who study Lithuanian language as a subject at home institution.

PART 2. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

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

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

- **Tuition fee for 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 the scholarship holder.
- Travel and accommodation costs shall be covered by the scholarship holder.

PART 3. 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 4. 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 online application form (the 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 - transcript of academic records of the last two semesters issued by the applicant's present higher education and research institution.
4. Certified copy of obtained higher education diploma or diplomas.
5. Two recommendation letters from home higher education and research institution (written within the past six months).
6. Official original (or scanned copy) letter of acceptance issued by the host higher education and research institution in Lithuania.
NB2. Applicants for the Lithuanian (Baltic) studies scholarship – this letter must contain information on the chosen subjects and the number of credits for each subject.

NB3. The duration and dates of the intended studies should also be indicated in the official letter of acceptance.

7. Detailed programme of intended studies that is agreed upon with the receiving institution.
8. Copy of certificate of proficiency in English or Lithuanian (or another language acceptable for the host institution).

NB4. 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.

9. 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 one original set. This set must be put into plastic sheet or envelope. Please **do not put** each individual document into plastic sheets or binders.
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 5. 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).

Applications 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.

Applications postmarked after the deadline will not be considered.

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.