One-year scholarship program sponsored by the Free State of Bavaria for graduates of Central, Eastern and Southeastern European states

Call for application for the funding year 2027/28

– advice for extension applications –

For the academic year 2027/28, the Free State of Bavaria will once again be awarding one-year scholarships to graduates from Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia and Ukraine. The scholarship is intended to finance postgraduate studies (i.e. Master's programs), PhDs or one-year research stays at a state or state-funded higher education institution in Bavaria.

A. General conditions

- Funding is generally provided for a maximum period of three years. The scholarship is granted for one year (but no longer than until completion of studies or PhD) and can be extended twice for one year each time upon application.

  → For PhDs in Bavaria: in well-founded and comprehensibly documented exceptional cases, the funding can be extended by up to one or two additional semesters with a third extension application. Please get in touch with the responsible contact person at BAYHOST / BTHA, as additional documents may be required.

  → Scholarship extensions are not possible for one-year research stays as part of a doctorate in the home country.

  → In the case of the second application for an extension as part of a postgraduate course (e.g. Master's degree), in which the usual duration of study is exceeded, the extension must be explicitly justified.

- The award of a scholarship does not guarantee a scholarship for the following academic year. Among other things, the application for an extension must show progress in studies or research, which must be demonstrated by tangible interim results and give reason to expect a successful completion of studies.

- A scholarship extension can be requested for an entire academic year or for a winter semester. In the case of a scholarship extension for a winter semester, no further extension (e.g. for the following summer semester) is possible.

- As a general rule, the application for extension can refer to compensation for disadvantages due to chronic illnesses and disabilities.

- Furthermore, the general conditions for first-time applications apply.

B. List of documents needed in the application (extensions)

All documents must be **submitted online via the BAYHOST / BTHA StipSys form by February 28, 2027** at the latest.

Applications received late or submitted by e-mail or post will not be considered. The same applies to incomplete applications or applications that do not comply with the prescribed form.

Early contact with professors regarding the review is strongly recommended.

All documents must be submitted in German or English.

Documents for all extension applications:

1. **online form StipSys** including the following documents in PDF format (max. 5 MB per file):
2. **certificate of enrollment** for the upcoming **summer semester**
3. **justification for continuing** the scholarship stay in Bavaria (1 - 2 pages)
4. **assessment of new perspectives** - "What new perspectives have arisen in the past academic year for your (future) professional activity?" (1 - 2 pages)
5. **Curriculum vitae** in tabular form

additionally for postgraduate studies (e.g. Master):

6. proof of **academic achievements** to date in Bavaria
7. **report on the most important results** of the course of study in Bavaria to date, e.g. seminar and lecture attendance, performance records (1 - 2 pages)
8. **two expert opinions** from lecturers (including at least one expert opinion from a professor) from the current degree program in Bavaria (only academic courses, no language courses). See also "Guidelines for an expert opinion", which should be forwarded to the relevant academic staff.

additionally for PhDs:

9. **interim report on research results in Bavaria** with reference to the project outline from the initial application and an explanation of the goals achieved (max. 4 pages)
10. **two expert opinions** from professors from the doctoral department of the current Bavarian university, one of which must be from the dissertation supervisor.

    In the case of joint PhDs (e.g. Cotutelle) and cooperative PhDs (with a university of applied sciences), one of the two reports may be issued by the supervisor from the respective partner university in the home country.

    See also "Guidelines for an expert opinion", which should be forwarded to the professors concerned.

C. Instructions for submitting the application via StipSys

- **Allow sufficient time and rest:** Once all documents have been submitted, it will take around 30 minutes to complete the online form, upload the documents and send the application if you process them quickly.

- **Important**: If the form is inactive for too long, the session will be terminated automatically. It is also not possible to save the form temporarily. It is advisable to prepare all documents **BEFORE completing the form and to refresh the form window in the** browser (e.g. F5 key).

- **Documents may only be uploaded in PDF format with a maximum of 5 MB per file**: Only one file per category (e.g. letter of motivation, university certificate) can be uploaded. Several PDF files from one category must therefore be converted into one PDF file before uploading. Alternatively, additional documents can be uploaded as separate, clearly named files in the "Other attachments" category.

- **Accept privacy policy** (next page of the online form)

- **Register with StipSys at the end of the online form to submit the final application**: When registering, please provide your name, country of origin, e-mail address and password. If you already have a StipsSys account (e.g. from your first application to BAYHOST/BTHA), you can reuse your registration data. A forgotten password can be reset.

- **Activate your StipSys account**: After successful submission of the application, two e-mails will be sent: a confirmation of receipt of the application and a request to activate the StipSys account. Clicking on the activation link serves to verify the e-mail address so that the application can be processed by BAYHOST / BTHA.

- **After submitting the application**: no subsequent changes are possible: any additions and subsequent submissions to the application can only be made by e-mail to the responsible contact person at BAYHOST / BTHA.

- **Deleting the application**: After logging in, click on "Withdraw application". The withdrawn application will not be considered in the selection process.

- **If several applications have been submitted, only the last application will be considered.**

D. Time frame: selection of scholarships for the academic year 2027/28

Deadline for extensions	**February 28, 2027**
Review and evaluation of applications	March – April 2027
Meeting of the selection committee	April – May 2027
Dispatch of notification letters to the selected candidates	May 2027
Continuation of the scholarship program	October 1, 2027

E. Contact

For applicants with the **citizenship of Czechia**:

Ms. Dagmar Heeg
Bayerisch-Tschechische Hochschulagentur |
Česko-bavorská vysokoškolská agentura
Consultation hours: on appointment
Tel: ++49 941 943-5315
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For applicants from **all countries (except Czechia)**:

Ms. Katrin Döppe
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