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

BAYHOST

Bayerisch-Tschechische Hochschulagentur
Česko-bavorská vysokoškolská agentura

– guidelines for an expert opinion for extension applications –

Every year, the Free State of Bavaria awards one-year scholarships for graduates from Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia and Ukraine. The scholarships are meant to finance postgraduate studies (i.e. Master's programs), PhDs or one-year research stays at a state or state financed higher education institution in Bavaria. It is initially granted for one year and can generally be extended on application a maximum of two times (to a total of three years). For the extension of the scholarship, **two expert opinions** are required:

- for **Master's students** from lecturers (including at least one expert opinion from a professor) from the current degree program in Bavaria (only academic courses, no language courses);
- for **PhDs** from professors from the doctoral department of the current Bavarian university, one of which must be from the dissertation supervisor.

This assessment is of particular importance for the selection of suitable candidates. We therefore ask you to apply strict standards. In your statement, please state your full name, your academic position, and your institution (with city and country) and the name of the applicant to whom you are submitting your statement. Please sign the opinion (indicating the date).

The one-year scholarship program of the Free State of Bavaria for students from Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe is intended to promote student exchange and academic cooperation. The decision is influenced, among other things, by the fact whether the award of the scholarship is in the interest of the respective Bavarian higher education institution and whether it supports cooperation in research and teaching between Bavaria and Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe. Therefore, please address this aspect in your review and let us know if, for example, the scholarship is beneficial for the research work at your department or if it contributes to the development and maintenance of an important partnership with a higher education institution in Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe.

Questions that you should also address (as far as possible) in your assessment:

- How and for how long have you known the applicant?
- What is your assessment based on (personal interview, project outline, etc.)?
- Was an in-depth interview with the applicant the basis for your assessment?
- How do you assess the applicant's ability to carry out academic work or to write a dissertation?
- What makes the applicant stand out in particular?
- What outstanding qualities have you noticed in the applicant (e.g. creativity, independence, determination, exceptional talent, voluntary work)?

- In respect to a PhD: How do you assess the submitted PhD project, among other things with regard to
  - its significance for research,
  - the theoretical or methodological approach,
  - the degree of difficulty,
  - the status of the preliminary work,
  - the work plan and schedule?
- Do you consider the applicant and the submitted project as a whole to be particularly worthy of support, worthy of support, not worthy of support?

The expert opinion can be sent directly to BAYHOST / BTHA by e-mail.

Contact for applicants

with the citizenship of Czechia:

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