



# CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE CROATIAN GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS IN THE 2020/2021 ACADEMIC YEAR

The Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Croatia (the Ministry) and the Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes (the Agency) offer Croatian Government Scholarships (the Scholarships) to foreign higher education students and professors of higher education institutions as well as research fellows who intend to gain further professional experience in Croatian institutions of higher education or research in the 2020/2021 academic year.

The Scholarships are awarded by the Ministry and the Agency by implementation of the bilateral agreements between the Republic of Croatia and other countries seeing that the bilateral contracts serve as the basis for cooperation in the fields of science and cooperation.

Potential candidates are invited to apply for the Croatian Government Scholarships by submitting their applications in the <u>Agency's online application system</u> but the Scholarships can be awarded only to the applicants who are nominated by the foreign partner institutions, i.e. national competent authorities responsible for the implementation of the Bilateral Scholarships Programmes.

The selection of applicants 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 competent authority will not be processed.

Potential candidates are invited to apply for the Croatian Government Scholarships through two different application pools:

- 1) SCHOLARSHIPS BASED ON BILATERAL INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS (Pool 1)
- 2) SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS OF THE CROATIAN LANGUAGE ABROAD (Pool 2)

# SCHOLARSHIPS BASED ON BILATERAL INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS (Pool 1)

This application pool is open only for 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). Applications of the students enrolled in the institutions of the below specified countries (and territories), but without the citizenship of these same countries listed below (pages 2 and 3) will not be taken into consideration.

COUNTRIES WHOSE CITIZENS MAY APPLY ON THE BASIS OF A VALID/EFFECTIVE EDUCATIONAL CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME AND/OR A BILATERAL AGREEMENT:

BELGIUM (FLANDERS)	Two (2) scholarships for the summer course of Croatian Language and Literature
BULGARIA	<ol> <li>Two (2) scholarships for undergraduate/graduate studies of Croatian language and literature in duration of one semester each</li> <li>Scholarships of up to 8 months for study visits, in the duration of 1 to 2 months individually</li> <li>Four (4) scholarships for the summer course of Croatian language and literature</li> </ol>
CZECH REPUBLIC	Three (3) scholarships for the summer course of Croatian Language and Literature
CHINA	Four (3) scholarships for undergraduate (BA/BSc), graduate (MA/MSc) or postgraduate (PhD) studies (whereby the students of Croatian language and literature have priority)
GERMANY	One (1) scholarship for a research visit (up to 3 months) for associate or higher-ranking professors or for researchers holding minimum a PhD or an equivalent degree
GERMANY (Bavaria)	<ol> <li>Two (2) scholarships for partial study for undergraduate (BA/BSc)/graduate (MA/MSc) study (one academic year)</li> <li>Two (2) scholarships for partial postgraduate (PhD) study or research visit</li> <li>Four (4) scholarships for the summer course of Croatian Language and Literature</li> </ol>
GREECE	<ol> <li>Two (2) scholarships of ten (10) months each for postgraduate (PhD) studies or for research</li> <li>Two (2) scholarships for the summer course of Croatian Language and Literature</li> </ol>

HUNGARY	<ol> <li>Scholarship for semester/partial studies for undergraduate (BA/BSc) and graduate (MA/MSc) students in duration of three to ten (3-10) months for students of the Croatian Language and Literature</li> <li>Scholarship for postgraduate or postdoctoral studies or research in duration of 3-29 days (short-term) or 1-10 months (long-term)</li> <li>Scholarship for full PhD programme for the duration of 36 months</li> <li>Four (4) scholarships for the summer course of Croatian Language and Literature</li> <li>Scholarships for full undergraduate (BA), graduate (MA) or postgraduate studies (PhD) for members of the Croatian national minority in Hungary in duration of 36 or 24 months</li> </ol>
ISRAEL	One (1) scholarship for postgraduate studies and research for the duration of eight (8) months
ITALY	6) Five (5) scholarships for semester studies for students of the Croatian Language and Literature     1) Twelve (12) months of scholarships for members of the Croatian national minority in Italy
REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA	<ol> <li>Two (2) scholarships for semester studies for undergraduate (BA/BSc) and graduate (MA/MSc) students in the field of Croatian studies</li> <li>Eight (8) months of scholarships for study visits for the duration of one (1) or two (2) months each</li> <li>Two (2) scholarships for the summer course of Croatian Language and Literature</li> </ol>
MONTENEGRO	<ol> <li>Twenty (20) months of scholarships for undergraduate (BA/BSc) and graduate (MA/MSc) studies for the duration of one (1) or two (2) semesters</li> <li>Eight (8) months of scholarships for research visits for graduate/postgraduate (PhD) studies for the duration of one (1) or two (2) months each</li> </ol>
POLAND	Four (4) scholarships for semester studies for Croatian Language and Literature students     Three (3) scholarships for the summer course of Croatian Language and Literature
PORTUGAL	Scholarships to Portuguese students and researchers, for undergraduate or postgraduate studies of Croatian language and literature     Scholarships for the summer course of Croatian language and culture
ROMANIA	<ol> <li>Two (2) semester scholarships for Croatian Language and Literature students</li> <li>Two (2) scholarships for the summer course of Croatian Language and Literature</li> <li>Two (2) scholarships for full undergraduate, graduate or postgraduate studies for members of the Croatian minority in Romania</li> </ol>
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	Fifteen (15) months of scholarships for undergraduate (BA/BSc) and graduate (MA/MSc) study for the duration of four (4) months minimum and for postgraduate studies or research for the duration of minimum one (1) month

	<ol> <li>Two (2) scholarships for the summer course of Croatian Language and Literature</li> <li>One (1) scholarship for stay of university professors of Croatian/Slovak languages and literature in the maximum duration of 30 days</li> <li>Five (5) scholarships for full undergraduate, graduate or postgraduate studies for members of the Croatian national minority in the Slovak Republic</li> </ol>
TURKEY	Two (2) scholarships for postgraduate studies or research for the duration of eight (8) months each
UKRAINE	Two (2) scholarships for semester studies for Croatian Language and Literature students     One (1) scholarship for the summer course of Croatian Language and Literature

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

# SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS OF THE CROATIAN LANGUAGE (Pool 2)

This application pool is open only to applicants who are students at language departments of the Croatian language and literature or Slavic Studies and literature abroad, 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 these Scholarships (Pool 2) can only be nominated by their current Croatian language fellow who should nominate the applicants for the Scholarships by his/her Recommendation Letter/Nomination Letter.

The above-mentioned students can only apply for the following scholarships:

- A/1 one semester studies for students of Croatian Language abroad (4-5 months)
- **F** summer course of Croatian language and literature in August 2020 (2 weeks).

## 1. SCHOLARSHIP TYPES

The following eight categories of scholarships are on offer in the 2020/2021 academic year:

# A/1 one semester studies for students of Croatian language abroad (4-5 months)

Eligible applicants: undergraduate (BA/BSc) and graduate (MA/MSc) students currently enrolled in studies, especially those majoring in Croatian Language and Literature, as well as graduate students working on their thesis. Before application, students are required to have completed a minimum of two semesters at their home institutions.

## A/2 semester/partial studies (3-10 months)

Eligible applicants: undergraduate (BA/BSc) and graduate (MA/MSc) students. Before application, students are required to have completed a minimum of two semesters at their home institutions.

# B full degree bachelor or master studies (36 or 24 months)

Eligible applicants: candidates from China and members of the Croatian national minority in Hungary, Romania and the Slovak Republic.

The scholarship award is conditional upon successful entrance exam/admission to the respective postgraduate (doctoral) study programme in Croatia. Please note that the application for the Scholarships and the application for admission by a Croatian host university for full cycle studies are two separate procedures and the Scholarship 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.

# **C/1 full PhD programme** (36 months)

Eligible applicants: candidates holding a Master's degree

The scholarship award is conditional upon successful admission to the respective postgraduate (doctoral) study programme in Croatia. Please note that the application for the Scholarships and the application for admission by a Croatian host university for full cycle studies are two separate procedures and the Scholarship 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.

# **C/2** partial PhD studies (up to 12 months)

Eligible applicants: candidates enrolled in a PhD programme at an accredited institution of higher education in his/her home country or in a foreign country (other than Croatia).

## **D** postdoctoral studies or research (1-10 months)

Eligible applicants: candidates holding a PhD

# E research visit (3-29 days)

Eligible applicants: associate or higher-ranking professors or researchers holding minimum a PhD at an accredited institution of higher education in his/her home country or in a foreign country (other than Croatia), for carrying out research at one of the <u>Croatian accredited research institutions</u>.

## F summer course (2 weeks)

Eligible applicants: foreign students of Croatian and Slavic Studies who are currently enrolled in studies in foreign universities. Also, lecturers (professors, senior assistants with a PhD and teaching/research assistants) who teach Croatian language and literature at foreign universities. The scholarship type F is granted for the Croatian Seminar for Foreign Slavic Studies Students in Dubrovnik in August 2020 organised by the Zagreb School of Slavic Studies.

A minimum level of language competence is 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.

## 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS

The scholarship holders can make use of the Scholarships only for the period of the academic year which the scholarship is granted for (October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021, July and August excluded).

The Scholarships allow for study or research in any field of arts and sciences during the granted period at an accredited public Croatian higher education or research institution to be determined in advance. For scholarships type A1 an applicant may submit an application only on one occasion during his/her BA/BSc studies, and on another occasion during his/her MA/MSc studies (once per cycle).

The semester/partial studies and full PhD and partial PhD studies scholarships may not be extended. Postdoctoral studies and research or research visit scholarships may be extended exceptionally, only under special circumstances, on one occasion. These scholarships can only be used for conducting studies or research in Croatia, which means that scholarship holders must stay in Croatia during the whole period of their studies or research. If the scholarship holder conducts his/her research outside Croatia, the scholarship will be discontinued.

All applicants should indicate the preferred period in their application form. The Ministry and the Agency reserve the right to change the requested duration of study stay in Croatia, place or institution if admission as requested by the applicant is not feasible.

The results are expected to be published in June 2020. Applicants for the summer course (F) will be informed of the results by the Zagreb School of Slavic Studies during May 2020. All the other applicants will be informed of the results by an official letter sent via e-mail by the Agency. Scholarship holders will receive from the Agency a document called the General Info Package including: Instructions and further details on the stay in Croatia, Letter of Award, Letter of Acceptance and the template for the Final Report. Foreign students coming to study/do research in Croatia who will be using student accommodation and staying in student residence halls will need to undergo health examination and bring a filled-out Health and Immunisation Questionnaire. More information about that will be given in the General Info Package. The scholarship holder is required to submit to the Agency the Final Report within 30 days of the end of the Scholarship.

An appeal against the decision of the Joint Committee for Scholarship Award of the Ministry and the Agency (the body that does the formal assessment of applications) shall not be accepted.

# Cases of non-eligibility

- Foreign citizens with a residence permit or in the course of applying for a residence permit in Croatia cannot apply
- 2) Students already enrolled in a study programme in Croatia cannot apply
- 3) Students applying for private higher education institutions cannot apply
- 4) Candidates without the citizenship of the country that nominates them.

## Age limits for applicants

- 1) 25 years for scholarships for undergraduate/graduate studies
- 2) 35 years for scholarships for postgraduate studies
- 3) 45 years for postdoctoral scholarships.

# There are no age limits for the following types of scholarships:

- 1) research visit
- 2) summer courses.

For scholarships type A1 and F priority will be given to candidates who have not previously been awarded a bilateral scholarship in Croatia.

## 3. 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 and subsidized meals at student restaurants
- 2) full PhD or partial PhD studies (C1, C2)
  - 1.800,00 HRK monthly grant
  - subsidized accommodation in the student residence hall and 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) research visit 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 course of 2 weeks (F)
  - · tuition-free course, free accommodation and meals

These scholarships cannot be awarded concurrently with other scholarships. If the scholarship holder has been awarded another scholarship for the same mobility, he/she is not eligible for this scholarship in order to prevent double funding for the same mobility.

The scholarship is meant to cover the living expenses of one person only so there is no available financing or visa exemption for accompanying members of the family 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 scholarship is not meant to cover all the costs of the scholarship holder but rather it is a contribution to the living costs. Scholarship holders are advised, apart from the scholarship funds to be received from the Agency during the mobility period, to have sufficient 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 scholarship period, in accordance with the Croatian legislation and financial regulations in force.

## 3. APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED

Applicants should submit their applications in the Agency's online application system.

Potential candidates should fill out the Application Form and upload all of the required documents listed in the Application Form and below (pages 9-12) depending on the category of scholarship the candidate is applying for. A copy of the filled-out Application Form will automatically be downloaded locally to the applicant's computer and uploaded to the Agency's system. It is recommended that applicants keep a copy of all of the application documents in case they will need them when enrolling in the higher education institution. The applications sent by the candidates will be submitted to formal assessment by the Croatian side (the Ministry and the Agency) followed by the procedure of evaluation and selection. During this process the Agency may request the candidate to provide additional documents or explanations.

The documents listed below can be submitted only in one of the following languages: Croatian or English.

DOCUMENTS IN OTHER LANGUAGES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

## Documents to be submitted depending on the scholarship type:

## A/1 one semester studies for students of Croatian Language abroad

- 1) Application Form submitted through the Agency's online application system
- 2) A photocopy of passport or ID
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (in Europass format)
- 4) Transcript of the last two completed semesters at the home institution (<u>Additionally</u>, candidates who have completed a BA/BSc programme also need to submit a copy of their BA/BSc degree)
- 5) Letter of Interest
- 6) Recommendation Letter of the Croatian language fellow at the home institution, co-signed by the Head of Department
- 7) Copy of enrolment at the applicant's home institution

# A/2 semester/partial studies (3-10 months)

- 1) Application Form submitted through the Agency's online application system
- 2) A photocopy of passport or ID
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (in Europass format)
- 4) Transcript of the last two completed semesters at the home institution (<u>Additionally</u>, candidates who have completed a BA/BSc programme also need to submit a copy of their BA/BSc degree)
- 5) Letter of Interest
- 6) Certificate of proficiency in Croatian unless there is another working language agreed upon for the proposed course/programme (to be attached to the Letter of Invitation)
- 7) Copy of enrolment at the applicant's home institution
- 8) Letter of Invitation by the host institution in Croatia signed by the Head of Department
- 9) Two Letters of Recommendation

## B full degree bachelor or master studies

- 1) Application Form submitted through the Agency's online application system
- 2) A photocopy of passport or ID
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (in <u>Europass</u> format)
- 4) Letter of Interest
- 5) Copy of the last acquired Certificate or Diploma (if applying for bachelor studies: copy of the highest degree /certificate; if applying for master studies: copy of the bachelor degree)
- 6) Proof of language proficiency in English or Croatian minimum A1 (a language certificate of the school of foreign languages; transcript of records from school, or from undergraduate studies)
- 7) Copy of the Enrolment Certificate (for undergraduate/graduate programme), submitted after successful completion of the enrolment process

# **C/1 full PhD programme** (36 months)

- 1) Application Form submitted through the Agency's online application system
- 2) A photocopy of passport or ID
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (in Europass format)
- 4) List of publications
- 5) Copy of the highest degree / diploma received
- 6) Precise and detailed Work Plan maximum two pages
- 7) Proof of language proficiency in Croatian or English depending on the working language agreed upon for the proposed course/programme (the working language should be declared in the Letter of Invitation)
- 8) Letters of Recommendation from two recognized experts in the relevant discipline
- 9) Letter of Invitation by the dean of the higher education institution in Croatia offering the doctoral programme (in which he/she declares that the applicant can take part in a tuition-free programme if he/she is accepted in the doctoral programme and if the scholarship is awarded to him/her).

## **C/2** partial PhD studies (up to 12 months)

- 1) Application Form submitted through the Agency's online application system
- 2) A photocopy of passport or ID
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (in Europass format)
- 4) List of publications
- 5) Copy of the highest degree/diploma received
- 6) Precise and detailed Work Plan maximum two pages
- 7) Proof of language proficiency in Croatian or English depending on the working language agreed upon for the proposed course/programme (the working language should be declared in the Letter of Invitation)

- 8) Two Letters of Recommendation: one by the applicant's home institution
- 9) Copy of enrolment in the doctoral programme in the applicant's home country
- 10) Letter of Invitation by the dean of the higher education institution in Croatia offering the doctoral programme

# **D** postdoctoral studies, research (1-10 months)

- 1) Application Form submitted through the Agency's online application system
- 2) A photocopy of passport or ID
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (in Europass format)
- 4) List of publications
- 5) Copy of the highest degree/diploma received
- 6) Precise and detailed Work Plan maximum two pages
- 7) Proof of language proficiency in Croatian or English depending on the working language agreed upon for the proposed course/programme (the working language should be declared in the Letter of Invitation)
- 8) Letters of Recommendation from two recognized experts in the relevant discipline
- 9) Letter of Invitation by the future host institution in Croatia

## E research visit (3-21 days or 1-10 months)

- 1) Application Form submitted through the Agency's online application system
- 2) A photocopy of passport or ID
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (in Europass format)
- 4) List of publications
- 5) Copy of the highest degree/diploma received (supporting document of associate or higher-ranking professorship)
- 6) Precise and detailed work plan maximum two pages
- 7) Proof of language proficiency in Croatian or English depending on the working language agreed upon for the proposed course/programme (the working language should be declared in the Letter of Invitation)
- 8) Two Letters of Recommendation from two recognized experts in the relevant discipline
- 9) Letter of Invitation by the future host institution in Croatia

# **F** summer course in August 2020 (2 weeks)

- 1) Application Form submitted through the Agency's online application system
- 2) A photocopy of passport or ID
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (in Europass format)

- 4) Copy of enrolment at the applicant's home institution (for students) or copy of the highest degree/diploma received (for researchers, lecturers)
- 5) Letter of Interest
- 6) Letter of Recommendation issued by a professor of the sending higher education institution
- 7) Proof of language proficiency in Croatian (minimum B1)

## PLEASE NOTE:

Incomplete or inaccurate applications will not be considered. Documents in other languages than English or Croatian will not be accepted.

## **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.

## 4. OBLIGATIONS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP HOLDER

# Scholarship terms for undergraduate/graduate studies

For scholarship holders who are about to enrol in to a full cycle of undergraduate/graduate studies in Croatia and whose Croatian language skills are not sufficient, a scholarship for an initial one (1) academic year shall be granted in order to enable them to follow Croatian language lessons and be prepared for the final language exam, which they should pass successfully. In case they fail, the scholarship is automatically discontinued and the scholarship holder is obliged to return to his/her country. Scholarship awarded for one year of studying Croatian language may be extended exceptionally, only under special circumstances, on one occasion. Successful applicants will be granted a full cycle of undergraduate/graduate studies and renewed every year, pending academic success. Only members of the Croatian minority in Hungary, Romania and Slovak Republic who will enrol in any of the five study programmes (Croatian language and culture ("kroatistika" and "kroatologija"), History, Geography, Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology, Teacher Education Studies) and citizens of China may apply for this scholarship.

Each scholarship holder is obliged, throughout the scholarship programme, to stay in Croatia 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) and in case a scholarship holder needs to be absent for a longer period, he/she should inform the Agency. If the scholarship holder needs to be absent for a longer period during the classes, he/she should also send this information to the Agency.

According to the national legislation, some candidates for the Scholarships should undergo external evaluation of secondary education (State School Leaving Exam) and register as new users using the Central Application System of the Agency for Science and Higher Education.

Prospective students with foreign educational certificates who wish to apply for undergraduate study programmes in Croatia should send their secondary school diplomas and results of school leaving exams to the Agency for Education and Teacher Training where they will undergo a process of recognition.

The applicants can find more information about the recognition of foreign secondary school qualifications on the official <u>website</u> of the Agency for Education and Teacher Training.

The application for the Scholarships and the application for admission by a Croatian host university for full cycle studies are two separate procedures and the Scholarship 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.

A scholarship for a full cycle of undergraduate/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 to the study period with the respective higher education institution. The final decision on the acceptance of the candidates shall be made by the Croatian host institution.

A scholarship for a full cycle of undergraduate/graduate studies in Croatia will be renewed every year, pending academic success in the previous academic year.

A scholarship holder must submit to the Agency at the end of each academic year, **not later than**October 1st:

- 1) Certificate about successful enrolment in the next academic year
- 2) Certificate about passed exams/acquired ECTS credits in the previous academic year For acquired:
  - more than 35 ECTS the scholarship will be renewed
  - between 30 and 35 ECTS the scholarship will be renewed only if the student covers the tuition fee
  - less than 30 ECTS the scholarship won't be renewed.

Upon request the scholarship holder must submit to the Agency a transcript of records or a copy of the student identification document (*indeks*) at mid-semester to present his/her study progression.

## Scholarship terms for postgraduate studies and research

The applicant should meet the academic requirements of the Croatian higher education institution. The scholarship will be approved only after the Croatian host institution accepts the candidate.

Scholarship holders can make use of the scholarship only during the period of the specific academic year for which the scholarship has been granted. Scholarship holders must stay in Croatia during the whole period of their studies or research. If the scholarship holder conducts his/her research outside Croatia, the scholarship can be suspended or terminated and the scholarships fund can be reclaimed.

Each scholarship holder is obliged to submit to the Agency a detailed Final Report about the studies or research he/she has carried out, as well as a certificate by his/her supervisor about the research within 30 days after the end of the scholarship. If this is not the case, a scholarship refund shall be claimed. Prospective students who wish to apply for graduate or postgraduate study programmes and have a foreign higher education qualification or degree, will need to undergo the process of academic recognition. Academic recognition for the purpose of continuation of higher education on graduate or postgraduate study programmes in Croatia is performed by Offices for Academic Recognition of Foreign Higher Education Qualifications at Croatian higher education institutions. Please contact desired Universities for more information.

Candidates for research should be fluent in Croatian or English. The term "research" includes preparation for a doctoral or postdoctoral thesis, as well as any other form of scientific research except medical specialization.

#### **5. HEALTH INSURANCE**

During their stay in Croatia, all international students with temporary residence permit must have health insurance. Regulated health insurance is the prerequisite for being granted a temporary residence permit.

#### **EU** nationals

EU countries residents are obliged to obtain the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) prior to their arrival to Croatia. The EHIC is issued by the national health insurance provider.

# Countries with health care agreements with Croatia

Croatia regulates the issue of health care for foreign nationals during their stay in Croatia through agreements on social security signed with the following countries: North Macedonia, Montenegro and Turkey. Students from the aforementioned countries should contact their public health insurance provider before arriving in Croatia in order to obtain the document which enables them to receive health care in Croatia.

## Countries without health care agreements with Croatia

The Agency covers the health insurance expenses for scholarship holders from countries which do not have social security agreements with Croatia, if so foreseen in a valid/effective bilateral educational cooperation programme.

#### 6. VISA

Information on the conditions of entry and residence of foreign nationals in the Republic of Croatia is available on the website of the Croatian Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs.

For the most current information regarding entry and visa regulations between a certain country and Croatia, scholarship holders should enquire at the Croatian Embassy in their country or at the national ministry of foreign affairs. Any visa related costs are not covered by the scholarship grant.

## 7. 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 Croatian Government 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 programme. By submitting an application for the scholarship 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, the Ministry and the Agency 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 institution and research institutes and/or other partners relevant to the implementation of the programme. The data will be used for conducting the call for proposals procedure and evaluate applications in the programme, selection of the beneficiaries and conclusion of scholarship agreements with them and execution of concluded scholarship agreements. This all 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).

## 8. APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION

A valid application 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 to the Agency from the foreign partner institutions by which they nominate the applicants for the Scholarships.

## The deadline for both the applicants and the foreign partner institutions is April 30, 2020.

The applicants should submit their applications in the <u>Agency's online application system</u> before April 30, 2020 (closing date of the Agency's online application system).

The national competent authorities responsible for the implementation of the Bilateral Scholarships Programmes should send by e-mail or regular post the Nomination Letter by which they nominate candidates for the Croatian Government Scholarships in the 2020/2021 academic year also not later than April 30, 2020 to the following address:

## **Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes**

E-mail address: bilaterala@mobilnost.hr

Postal address: Frankopanska 26, 10 000 Zagreb, Croatia

Web: www.mobilnost.hr

Telephone: +385 (0)1 5005 635