Funding Programme for Educational Stays Abroad

Funding Guidelines

1. Eligible Activities

- Internships
- Voluntary services
- Language stays
- Student exchange programmes
- Study abroad programmes
- Research stays for Bachelor's, Master's and doctoral theses
- Academic summer and winter schools/programmes

2. Eligibility Requirements

- Applicants must be between **18 and 30** years of age at the time of application.
- Applicants must have their **place of residence** in and be a **citizen** of a **country classified as a "low-income" or "lower-middle-income" country** by the World Bank at the time of application.
- Applicants must be **enrolled at an educational institution** (e.g. school, college or university) at the time of application.
- The stay abroad must take place outside the applicant's **home country and country of residence.**
- Applications must be submitted **at least 3 months and no more than 6 months** before the planned start date of the stay abroad.
- For internships, voluntary services, language stays, and academic summer and winter schools/programmes, the stay abroad must begin no later than **6 months** after graduating school, college or university.
- Internships, voluntary services, language stays and research stays must last at least **2 weeks.** Academic summer and winter schools/programmes must last at least **1 week.**
- The stay abroad must **not be fully funded** by other grants, funding programmes or scholarships.
- Applicants must not have **previously participated** in any of the eligible activities **abroad** or received financial support from the association (Generation Borderless).

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3. Application Process

Applications can be submitted on a rolling basis as long as sufficient funds are available. Applications will be reviewed in the order in which complete applications are received.

The application process consists of submitting a complete **application form** and participating in an **interview.**

3.1 Application Form

- Applications must be submitted using the relevant application form in English.
- The following documents must be submitted:
    - Copy of passport
    - CV (in English or German)
    - Proof of school attendance or certificate of enrolment (in English, German, Portuguese, French or Spanish)
    - If applicable, graduation certificates or diplomas (in English, German, Portuguese, French or Spanish)
    - If already available, written confirmation of participation in the programme abroad (in English, German, Portuguese, French or Spanish)*
    - If applicable, confirmation of financial support from third parties (in English, German, Portuguese, French or Spanish)

*A Confirmation from the sending or host educational institution/organisation or internship provider may be submitted no later than **4 weeks** before the planned stay abroad.

3.2 Interview

Applicants who meet the eligibility requirements following the review of all required documents will be invited to an interview. The interview may take place regardless of whether a written confirmation of participation in the programme abroad is already available. In such cases, applicants may receive **preliminary funding approval**. Final funding approval is conditional upon submission of the written confirmation of participation and fulfilment of all other requirements.

During the interview, applicants should:

- explain their motivation for the stay abroad
- demonstrate their awareness of the personal and social benefits of the stay abroad

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4. Payment

The grant will be **paid in full directly to the grant recipient** within 7 business days of submission of the grant agreement. The grant agreement must be signed and submitted no later than before the start of the stay abroad.

Applicants may provide a bank account in the application form. If a bank account is opened in the host country, the grant may also be transferred to that account. In this case, the transfer will be made within 7 business days of receipt of the required bank account information.

Any fees charged by the recipient's bank in connection with the payment of the grant will not be covered by the association.

Grant recipients are responsible for providing the association with accurate and complete bank account information. The association is not liable for delays or failed transfers resulting from incorrect or incomplete information provided by grant recipients. Any resulting costs or disadvantages shall be borne by the grant recipients, to the extent permitted by law.

There is no legal entitlement to receive a grant.

5. Grant Amount

The amount of the grant depends on the funds available. Information on the number and amount of available grants will be published on the association's website.

6. Obligations of Applicants and Grant Recipients

6.1 Duty to notify

Applicants and grant recipients are **required to inform the association without undue delay of any significant changes** that are relevant to the application, the funding decision or the implementation of the stay abroad. This includes, in particular:

- Changes to the planned stay abroad, particularly changes to the period, programme or host institution;
- Delays or postponements of the stay abroad;
- Receipt of full funding for the stay abroad from another source;
- Cancellation or early termination of the stay abroad;
- Changes to personal or contact details.

The association reserves the right to review the funding decision if changes affect the eligibility requirements or the basis on which the grant was awarded.

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6.2 Obligations After Completion of the Stay Abroad

- **Confirmation of participation** in the stay abroad (certificate of participation or other official document in English, German, Portuguese, French or Spanish) must be submitted no later than **4 weeks** after completion of the stay abroad.
- Participation in an **online survey** to evaluate the impact of the funding programme is mandatory and must be completed within **4 weeks** after completion of the stay abroad.

6.3 Repayment Obligations

If a stay is terminated before half of the duration of stay has been reached, **50% of the grant** must be repaid. The actual duration of the stay must be verified by confirmation from the host educational institution, employer or host organisation.

In justified cases of hardship, the association may waive the repayment obligation in whole or in part. A case of hardship exists in particular where the early termination of the stay abroad is due to circumstances beyond the grant recipient's control. This includes, in particular, serious illness, accidents, serious personal or family circumstances, and extraordinary events at the destination that make it unreasonable or impossible to continue the stay.

The association shall decide whether a case of hardship exists and determine the amount of any repayment, taking into account the circumstances of each individual case. Appropriate supporting documents may be requested.

The grant must be **repaid in full**, regardless of the duration of the stay, in the event of:

- Breach of the grant agreement;
- Intentional provision of false information or failure to comply with the obligation to report changes;
- Submission of falsified documents.

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