Republic of Serbia
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGICAL
DEVELOPMENT

PROJECT

"WORLD IN SERBIA"

Scholarships for students from Non-Aligned Movement member states and observer states in the academic year 2022/2023

Belgrade, August 2022

Content:

1. Introduction 3
2. Project Partners 4
3. Project Description 4
   3.1 Project Implementation Phases 4
   3.2 Scholarship Structure within the Project 5
   3.3 Conditions for Receiving a Scholarship 5
   3.4 Application Documentation 6
   3.5 Application Deadline 6
   3.6 Obligations of Project Scholarship Holders 7
   3.7 Reasons for Losing the Scholarship 8
   3.8 General Provisions for Studying within the Project 8
4. Nomination and Selection of Candidates 9
5. Expected effects of the Project Implementation 10

1. Introduction

The "World in Serbia" project, which awards scholarships from the Government of the Republic of Serbia to candidates from member states and observer states of the Non-Aligned Movement (hereinafter: NAM), has been successfully implemented since the academic year 2010/2011.

Thanks to this project, the Republic of Serbia has the honour of hosting young people from 116 countries in Africa, Asia, Central and South America. The traditional hospitality of our people, the helpfulness and responsible attitude of the professors and staff of the student-standard institutions where the students are accommodated, made it possible for scholarship holders from all over the world to feel welcome and to adapt to the way of life in the Republic of Serbia.

The "World in Serbia" project provides exceptional conditions, enabling scholarship holder accommodation and food in the student standard system of the Republic of Serbia, health insurance and a monetary scholarship in the amount of RSD 15,000.00 per month. Such scholarship conditions, as well as welcoming the scholarship holders, undoubtedly contributed to the huge interest among member states and observer states of the NAM for new scholarships.

All the bilateral talks that the representatives of the Republic of Serbia held with the representatives of the NAM member states and observer states, highlighted the satisfaction with the cooperation so far within the Project and expressed interest in continuing the cooperation, including countries that have not nominated their students so far.

With the aim of affirming the Republic of Serbia and its culture, tradition, higher education, and policy of good relations of cooperation and mutual respect in the NAM member states and observer states, the Republic of Serbia will, through the "World in Serbia" Project, offer **200** new scholarships to the states in the school year 2022/2023.

The following stand out as special specific goals of the "World in Serbia" Project:

1. Providing opportunities for young people from other cultures to get to know the Republic of Serbia, its language, culture, and traditions.
2. Providing opportunities for young people from the Republic of Serbia to get to know colleagues from different continents, their culture, values, and traditions.
3. Affirmation of the Republic of Serbia, as a state and the system of higher education, through scholarship holders - future promoters of professional ties between our country and their home countries.

2. Project Partners

The implementation of the Project is managed by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia. The Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development appoints a person from the ranks of employees for coordinating the implementation of the Project. In addition to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Health and the Agency for Qualifications of the Republic of Serbia as well as the Universities of the Republic of Serbia and other institutions according to the needs of students, also participate in the implementation of the Project, in accordance with the law.

3. Project Description

3.1 Project Implementation Phases

The project envisages scholarships for citizens of NAM member states and observer states proposed by the governments of their countries, and is implemented in two phases:

In the **first phase** of the Project, scholarship holders attend an online Serbian language course (level A1). After successfully passing the test, upon arrival in the Republic of Serbia, scholarship holders have an intensive 720-hour course of Serbian language (one semester). Project scholarship holders who know Serbian do not attend the course but take a test in Serbian as a foreign language in order to qualify for enrolment. Project scholarship holders who know Serbian take the entrance exam in the September enrolment period and enrol in the desired studies for the academic year 2022/2023.

The project also foresees the assistance of students - hosts, who will provide support to the scholarship holders from their arrival at the airport, reception upon arrival in the country, and through support to perform all administrative, organizational, and other needs of the scholarship holders in the period from their arrival to the Republic of Serbia.

In the **second phase** of the Project, it is planned for scholarship holders to attend studies according to their interests, in accordance with the offered study programmes in Serbian or teaching in Serbian with the possibility of consultation in English at higher education institutions founded by the Republic of Serbia, which are part of the University of Belgrade, University of Novi Sad, University of Kragujevac and University of Niš.

3.2 Scholarship Structure within the Project

The project scholarships **include**:

- free preparatory classes of Serbian (online course and intensive Serbian language course after the arrival in the Republic of Serbia);
- free education in basic academic and vocational studies, specialist vocational studies, Master's academic and vocational studies, specialist academic or doctoral studies.
- scholarship in the amount of RSD 15,000.00 per month;
- free accommodation and food in student standard institutions;
- compulsory health insurance for scholarship holders up to the age of 26;
- free residence visa;
- free recognition of secondary school diplomas;
- free recognition of higher education diplomas.

The project scholarship **does not include:**

- travel expenses for arrival and departure from the Republic of Serbia;
- costs of public transport in the Republic of Serbia;
- costs of textbooks and work resources during the studies.

The scholarship in the amount of RSD 15,000.00 per month allows covering of the costs of public transport, textbooks, and work resources during the studies.

We recommend that scholarship holders, in accordance with their own abilities, bring with them a certain amount of money to cover costs that are not fully covered by the scholarship and to meet their personal needs.

3.3 Conditions for Receiving a Scholarship

The scholarship can be granted to a candidate who meets the following conditions:

- they are a national of a NAM member state and observer state;
- they were nominated by the competent authority of the country participating in the Project;
- they are younger than:
    - 21 years for first degree studies – graduate academic studies, graduate vocational studies;
    - 25 years for specialist vocational studies of the first degree and for studies of the second degree – Master's academic studies, Master's vocational studies, specialist academic studies;
    - 35 years for third degree studies – doctoral academic studies.

- They have completed adequate education:
    - for enrolment in graduate academic/vocational studies – they have completed a four-year secondary education;
    - for enrolment in Master's academic studies:
        - o in the amount of 60 ECTS points – has an adequate diploma of a higher education institution obtained in graduate academic studies with at least 240 ECTS points, that is, a corresponding diploma of a higher education institution lasting four years;

        - o in the amount of 120 ESPB points - has an adequate diploma of a higher education institution obtained in graduate academic studies with at least 180 ECTS points;
    - for enrolment in doctoral academic studies - has an adequate diploma of a higher education institution obtained in a Master's academic, i.e. integrated academic studies, with at least 300 ECTS points, or completed five years of academic studies;
    - for enrolment in specialist/Master's vocational studies - has an adequate diploma of a higher education institution, obtained in graduate vocational studies with at least 180 ECTS points.
    - conversational level of English or Serbian.

3.4 Application Documentation

Documentation submitted by the candidate when applying:

- application to the competition with information about the two study programmes that he/she wants to attend, in accordance with his previous education and the conditions for enrolment in the desired study programme in the Republic of Serbia;
- curriculum vitae with a motivational letter in English or Serbian;
- a photocopy of travel document (passport);
- evidence of acquired education - certified photocopies of documents (secondary school certificates, secondary school diplomas, higher education diplomas, Master's degrees, transcripts of grades and diploma supplements) translated into Serbian/English;
- proof of knowledge of the English or Serbian at a conversational level (certificate, diploma, etc.);
- a medical certificate not older than six months, which confirms that the candidate does not suffer from any infectious disease, translated into Serbian/English;
- HIV negative certificate translated into Serbian/English.

3.5 Application Deadline

The deadline for submitting the application forms with accompanying documentation is **31st October 2022.**

3.6 Obligations of Project Scholarship Holders

The scholarship holder is obliged to:

- bring the original documents (secondary school certificates, diplomas of higher education, Master's degrees, transcripts of grades and diploma supplements), translated into Serbian/English upon arrival in the Republic of Serbia;
- bring the original medical certificate not older than six months, which confirms that the candidate does not suffer from any infectious disease, upon arrival in the Republic of Serbia;
- bring the original HIV-negative certificate;
- pass the Serbian language exam before starting with the studies at the faculties of a University in the Republic of Serbia;
- acquire 37 ECTS points for enrolment in the next year of study, within the enrolled study programme during the academic year;
- respect the regulations of the Republic of Serbia and the acts of the higher education institution in which he/she receives the scholarship;
- compensate for all damage caused to the premises of the student standard institution and higher education institution;
- observe the rules of conduct prescribed by the statute of the higher education institution;
- observe the rules of conduct and house rules in the student standard institution;
- regulate temporary residence and timely submit a request for its extension when the conditions are met, in accordance with the provisions of the Law on Foreigners ("Official Gazette of RS", number 24/2018, 31/2019);
- keep the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development informed about all changes of importance to the status of the scholarship holder within the Project in a timely manner, and no later than within 30 days from the date of their occurrence (graduation, withdrawal from studies, etc.)
- return to the country that nominated him/her for a scholarship under the Project, upon the completion of his/her studies.

Scholarship holders in doctoral studies are obliged to:

- pass the exams provided by the study programme for a specific year of study;

- provide confirmation that the topics for scientific and research work provided for in the study programme have been approved;
- provide a confirmation that they have submitted a dissertation (because exams, scientific research papers and dissertations carry a certain ESPB number).

3.7 Reasons for Losing the Scholarship

The scholarship holder loses the scholarship if:

- he/she fails to pass the Serbian language exam with at least a passing grade;
- during the academic year, within the enrolled study programme, he/she fails to acquire 37 ECTS points required for enrolment in the next year of study in the status of a student financed from the budget within the Project, in accordance with the general act of the higher education institution, which determines the conditions for enrolment in the following year;
- he/she seriously violates the student's obligations, stipulated by the general act of the higher education institution, in accordance with the law;
- he/she has been legally sentenced to a prison sentence of at least six months' probation or a more severe sentence;
- he/she behaves inappropriately, that is, grossly violates the rules of study, prescribed by the statute of the higher education institution and the student standard institution;
- he/she gives up the scholarship on his/her own initiative.

Scholarship holders in doctoral studies lose their scholarship if:

- they fail to acquire the 37 ECTS required for enrolment in the next year of study;
- they fail to pass the remaining exams in the following school year
- they fail to bring a confirmation that their topics for scientific-research works provided for in the study programme have been approved;
- they fail to bring confirmation that they have submitted a dissertation;
- they fail to defend the doctoral dissertation within the legal deadline.

3.8 General Provisions for Studying within the Project

As part of the Project, the scholarship holder can attend only one study programme

During the academic year, within the enrolled study programme, the student is obliged to acquire 37 ECTS points required for enrolment in the next year of study as a student financed from the budget within the Project, in accordance with the general act of the higher education institution, which determines the conditions for enrolment in the following year;

A scholarship holder who has acquired at least 37 ECTS points in each academic year during the course of his/her studies, after completing the last year of the study programme, reserves the right to a scholarship for the duration of another academic year.

Students who have graduated, and who need to perform a medical/professional internship in order to have their diploma recognised, are allowed to extend part of the scholarship in the form of free accommodation, food, health insurance, without a scholarship in the amount of RSD 15,000.00 per month during the internship period.

Students who have lost their scholarship can regain their scholarship status only in the following academic year if they acquire 37 ECTS points.

A scholarship holder is obliged to attend the enrolled study programme, as any transfer to another study programme within the Project is not possible.

A scholarship holder who, due to a serious illness during the entire academic year, is unable to acquire a sufficient number of ECTS points envisaged for enrolment in the following year of study as a student financed from the budget, has the right to enrol in the same year of study for a second time, and reserve the right to the scholarship. The scholarship holder is obliged to submit complete medical documentation (with confirmation from the council of doctors of the institution where the scholarship holder was treated, that it is a serious illness) to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development by the end of the current academic year, i.e. by September 30.

During the repeated academic year, the scholarship holder is obliged to pass the remaining exams, i.e. to acquire a sufficient number of ECTS points for enrolment in the next year of study. Otherwise, the scholarship holder loses the right to the scholarship.

The scholarship holder is obliged to inform the competent authorities about the rights and obligations related to the regulation of temporary residence in the Republic of Serbia.

Higher education institutions included in the Project are obliged to submit reports on the progress of scholarship holders at least twice a year (within fifteen days from the end of the winter semester, i.e. summer semester) at the request of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development.

Higher education institutions included in the Project are obliged to inform the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development about all changes of importance to the status of scholarship holders within the Project in a timely manner, and no later than within 30 days from the date of their occurrence (graduation, withdrawal from studies, etc.).

4. Nomination and Selection of Candidates

Each country participating in the Project should nominate the candidates proposed for the scholarship within the Project. All registered candidates must meet the conditions for receiving the scholarship.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs submits to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development an integrated list of nominated candidates as well as applications with complete documentation of all applying candidates.

The minister in charge of education will issue a decision appointing a special interdepartmental committee, which will review the documentation received by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as the selection of nominated candidates. The committee will be composed of representatives of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Agency for Qualifications - ENIK/NARIK Centre. This decision will determine the tasks of the committee for the selection of candidates and the awarding of scholarships.

The decision on the selection of the shortlisted candidates, made by the minister in charge of education, is forwarded by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the purpose of informing the embassies, that is, all the candidates who applied.

5. Expected effects of the Project Implementation

The successful implementation of the Project will enable the achievement of short-term and long-term positive effects for the Republic of Serbia, namely:

- positioning of the Republic of Serbia as a modern, open, and European country, the affirmation of which will be contributed by scholarship holders, as future bearers of the social, economic, and political life of their respective countries;
- improving and deepening friendly relations between young people from all over the world;
- getting to know colleagues from different continents provides an opportunity for intercultural learning of young people, getting to know other cultures and values, increasing their sensitivity to differences;
- promoting the higher education system of the Republic of Serbia;
- promoting the cultural, scientific, economic, tourist and other capacities of the Republic of Serbia.