



Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships

Arts Scholarships

Academic year: 2020-2021
Country: Bulgaria

Opening of the call: 01 November 2019
Submission deadline: 20 November 2019

Scholarship	⇒	Swiss Government Excellence Arts Scholarships for foreign students
Offered by	⇒	The Swiss Government via the Federal Commission for Scholarships for Foreign Students FCS
Objectives	⇒	To enable selected applicants to undertake initial Master's studies at conservatories or art schools affiliated with universities of applied sciences.
Universities of applied sciences	⇒	University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland / Bern / University of the Arts / University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland / University of Applied Sciences Eastern Switzerland / Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts / University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland / Conservatorio della Svizzera italiana / Zurich University of the Arts
Validity	⇒	The Scholarship is only valid to pursue the initial master's degree. The arts scholarships are granted at one of the above-mentioned universities of applied sciences in Switzerland. It is not valid for mixed programmes (part time in Switzerland and part time in another country).
Target group	⇒	Highly qualified young artists - from all artistic fields - wishing to pursue an initial master's degree. These scholarships are only offered to citizens of countries with which Switzerland has reciprocity agreements for art scholarships.
Duration	⇒	12 months (starting in September), prolongable up to 21 months at most depending on the Master programme chosen and the necessary ECTS credits.
Amount and additional allowances	⇒	The scholarship amounts to a monthly payment of CHF 1,920. ⇒ For non-EU and non-EFTA grantees only: the FCS pays mandatory Swiss health insurance. ⇒ There are no family allowances. ⇒ Scholarship holders from non-EU and non-EFTA countries receive a flight allowance (lump sum) for a ticket back to their country of origin (provided at the end of the scholarship). ⇒ Special CHF 300 housing allowance (paid once at the beginning of the scholarship).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ One-year half-fare public transportation card. ⇒ Support services and various trips, dinners and sightseeing tours organised for Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship holders.
<p>Eligibility criteria and specific conditions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Bachelor's degree or equivalent. ⇒ Applicants must be born after 31 December 1984. ⇒ Applicants should start their scholarship no later than three years after graduating with their Bachelor's degree. ⇒ Applicants who have been in Switzerland since more than one year at the beginning of the scholarship in September are not eligible. ⇒ Applicants must be in command of the necessary language skills required for the Master's programme. ⇒ Scholarship holders are expected to move to Switzerland during their grant period. ⇒ Only valid to pursue an initial master course. Applicants for arts and music cannot apply for a second master's degree. ⇒ Applicants who have already benefited from a Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship are not eligible to apply for a second scholarship. <p>PLEASE NOTE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ The application for a FCS Arts Scholarship and the application for admission by your chosen Swiss conservatory or art school (university of applied sciences) are two separate procedures. FCS applicants have to document that an institution has accepted them or that they are being considered for admission. This may be in the form of a conditional acceptance pending an entry exam or other specific requirements. ⇒ Without such a document, the application will be rejected.
<p>Application timeframe</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Opening of the call: 01 November 2019 ⇒ Application deadline: 20 November 2019 ⇒ Beginning of the scholarship: 01 September 2020
<p>Application procedure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ The application package can be obtained by email from the Swiss Embassy in Sofia (see below).
<p>Application documents</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Please submit 2 sets (=1 original + 1 copy) of application documents in exact order given below: The 1st set contains the original, signed documents plus the confidential letters of recommendation and, if applicable the attested translations in English. The other set is the copy of the 1st set except for the confidential letters of recommendation (only 1st set). No copies for 2nd set. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Signed FCS application form (typed and printed) with photo. 2) A full CV with list of exhibitions, concerts, awards etc. 3) A motivation letter (max. 2 pages specifying your reasons to study in Switzerland, the importance of the choice for your future career as well as your professional projects at the end of the scholarship). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ The applicants for arts scholarships do not have to submit a research proposal. ⇒ The required application elements: 4a) For musicians: High-quality CD of three different styles of music if the music involves interpreters and directors. Composers have to submit their scores (CD labelled with name, surname and country).

- 4b) **For painters, graphic artists and sculptors:** Copies or photos of three pieces of your work, along with rough drafts (incl. their dates of creation; work labelled with your name, surname and country).
- 5) A proof for “admission is under consideration” at the intended Swiss arts or music school (conservatory). This may be in the form of a conditional acceptance pending an entry exam or other specific requirements.
 - ⇒ If applicable, a copy of the letter from a professor confirming the supervision of the studies.
- 6) Two confidential letters of recommendation from two different professors in the applicant’s field (use only the FCS reference form – originals in sealed envelopes only for the 1st set). No copies for 2nd set.
- 7) Photocopies of certificates and grade sheets from previously attended universities/colleges and diplomas with grades, starting with the most recent. If not in English, French, Italian or German with attested certified translations in English. Do not submit the original certificates.
- 8) **Signed** medical certificate (use only the FCS health certificate form).
- 9) Two copies of the applicant’s passport (main page with personal data). Dual nationals add copies of both passports. Applicants already in Switzerland during the application procedure add a copy of the residence permit for Switzerland.
 - ⇒ **Please do not put the documents into plastic or binders.**

Contact institution for the application

⇒ Questions and application documents, should to be submitted to the following address – if not mentioned otherwise below*:

⇒ Swiss Embassy in Bulgaria
Ul. Shipka 33
1504 Sofia

E-mail: sofia@eda.admin.ch
Tel: 00359 2 943 41 85
Web: <https://www.eda.admin.ch/sofia>

* Contact person:

Mr Dimiter Dimov,
Project Coordinator
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