

## Support of Refugees

For many decades, the Friedrich Ebert Foundation (FES) has actively supported the integration of immigrants and refugees. Over a quarter of our scholarship recipients have a migrant background.

**We welcome applications to our scholarship programs from refugees. All such applicants have an equal opportunity for acceptance.**

If you are yourself a refugee or support refugees, here is some basic information on the application:

### Fundamental values underlying FES Scholarships

The Friedrich Ebert Foundation is committed to the basic values of social democracy: freedom, justice and solidarity. Our programs are designed for students and doctoral candidates with high academic potential from Germany and abroad. We pay particular attention to the professional qualification, civic engagement, and social background of our applicants.

### What we offer

We support our scholarship recipients financially through grants. We provide individual counseling and a seminar program that brings students together and allows them to address current economic, political and social developments. We support their programs of study and civic engagement on a wide range of social and political issues. Scholarship recipients and former scholarship holders also form and interact with networks based on their field of study – often established at the local university.

We welcome applications from refugees for Bachelor and Master degrees ([link](#)) and for doctoral grants ([link](#)).

If you have a residence permit for studies in accordance with § 16 Residence Act, please click here ([link](#)) (Foreign Office)-basic grant) or here [link](#) (AA-doctoral sponsorship) for more information.

### Basic conditions for funding:

- At the present time, we can only sponsor refugees who either have an established residence status and / or who can claim BAföG (access to BaföG is possible only after having stayed in Germany for more than 15 months).
- German language proficiency must be at least at the B1/B2 level.
- Refugees must have a confirmation of admission or a certificate of matriculation at a state or state-recognized German university.
- Applicants must provide course assessments from their studies, to date, in Germany or abroad (does not apply for doctoral candidates).

If you do not meet one of these criteria, you cannot submit an application at this time. Many other public and privately funded scholarships may, however, still be applicable to you.

### **Our criteria**

- We expect above-average academic performance ([FAQs](#)) at school and in the course of studies.
- We are interested in your personality and look for applicants who show political interest, curiosity, tolerance and openness, team orientation, critical thinking, and self-reflection.
- Evidence of commitment to and active involvement in social and political issues is a plus.
- For an overview of additional requirements, please look [HERE](#) (in German).

### **More Tips for applying**

For help with your application, we recommend you get in touch with current or past scholarship holders. We encourage you to contact the Friedrich Ebert Foundation's "Ambassadors" ([link](#)). There are current scholarship recipients willing to answer questions and provide guidance. You can also reach out to FES University Groups. They may be found at almost all higher education institutions and are happy to talk about the work and scholarship programs of FES.

### **About the Application**

If you opt to apply with us, [HERE](#) you will find all further information about the application process (in German).

Unfortunately, due to the high number of applications, we have to refuse many qualified applicants. Re-application is possible (if you are rejected by the Scholarship Committee dur-

ing your initial studies toward a Bachelor, you can consider re-applying for the Masters or a PhD).

### **What services and requests we do not support**

We support university studies of qualified applicants, but cannot provide financial support for individual research projects, language courses, help with procuring visas, or support for publications. Other public and private sponsors may be able to help (see below).

Additional information about "Emigration, migration, integration" can be found in our [FES topics portal](#)

### **Alternative and additional offers**

- Contact directly the universities. By now, most of them have their own contact persons for refugees.
- DAADs page [study-in](#) provides a good overview of all questions concerning studying for refugees.
- The educational guidance guarantee fund college helps with [individual offers](#) and an [Overview of other programs](#).
- Stiftung.org offers a [Online Foundation Search](#) of 10,000 foundations.
- If you are looking for refugee volunteering opportunities in your area, the site [Deutschland-Kann-Das \(Germany can do it\)](#) provides an overview of more than 700 offers.

### **Contact**

- For further questions regarding your application, please contact our responsible department ([link](#))
- Facebook page for educational grants ([link](#))

*Please understand that due to many inquiries answers may be delayed.*

Changes concerning the support of refugees will be announced at this point.