

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE CROATIAN GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026/2027

The Ministry of Science, Education and Youth of the Republic of Croatia ([Ministry](#)) and the Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes ([Agency](#)) are pleased to announce the opening of the Call for Applications for the Croatian Government Scholarships in the academic year 2026/2027 (Bilateral Scholarships). The Republic of Croatia invites foreign higher education students and teachers at higher education institutions as well as researchers who intend to gain further professional experience in Croatian higher education institutions or research institutes to apply. More information about the Croatian higher education system, study programmes or studying and living in Croatia can be found on the [Study in Croatia](#) portal.

The Bilateral Scholarships offer opportunities for study and/or research in any field of study during the granted mobility period at an accredited public Croatian higher education or research institution to be determined in advance. The mobilities must be implemented during the academic year 2026/2027, from October 2026 to September 2027 (July and August excluded).

The implementation of the Bilateral Scholarships is financially supported by funds from the Croatian State Budget. The valid/effective educational co-operation programmes and/or bilateral agreements serve as the basis for cooperation in the fields of science and education and for academic exchange. Candidates are invited to apply for the Bilateral Scholarships that are on offer through two different application pools:

- **APPLICATION POOL 1: Scholarships based on Bilateral Agreements.**
- **APPLICATION POOL 2: Scholarships for learning the Croatian language.**

Potential candidates are invited to submit their application documents in the [Agency's online application system](#) but the Bilateral Scholarships can be awarded only to the candidates who are nominated by the foreign partner institutions, i.e., national competent authorities responsible for the implementation of the bilateral agreements (Application Pool 1) or by their Croatian language teachers (Application Pool 2). The preliminary selection of applications is usually performed by the respective foreign government ministries, agencies and/or authorities and applications ranked by these offices take priority. After receiving the applications and nominations, the Ministry and the Agency will perform the final selection and award the Bilateral Scholarships according to the bilateral agreements in force and this Call.

1. TYPES OF SCHOLARSHIPS ON OFFER

A1 One semester study of the Croatian language (4 - 5 months)

Description: Bilateral Scholarship A1 is on offer to foreign students (BA or MA) who want to take a 1 semester course to perfect their Croatian language skills at the University of Zagreb ([Croaticum](#) – 14 ECTS) or the University of Rijeka ([Rijeka School of Croatian Studies](#) – 4 ECTS).

Eligible applicants: Foreign students who are currently enrolled in BA or MA studies of the Croatian language or Slavic Studies. Eligible are also students who are learning Croatian. Candidates are required to have completed a minimum of 2 semesters at their home institutions.

Benefits: Tuition-free course (Winter or Summer semester), monthly financial support, subsidised accommodation in student residence halls and subsidised meals in student restaurants.

A2 Semester/partial Bachelor's or Master's studies (4 - 10 months)

Description: Bilateral Scholarship A2 is on offer to foreign students who want to spend one part of their BA or MA studies (1 or 2 semesters) at a public Croatian higher education institution.

Eligible applicants: Undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) students who are currently enrolled in studies in their home countries. Scholarship type A2 is open to students of all fields of study. Candidates are required to have completed a minimum of 2 semesters at their home institutions.

Benefits: Tuition-free partial BA or MA studies, monthly financial support, subsidised accommodation in student residence halls and subsidised meals in student restaurants.

B Full undergraduate (BA) or graduate (MA) studies (BA: 36 or 48; MA: 24 or 12 months)

Description: Scholarship B is on offer to students who want to enrol in full degree BA or MA study programmes and obtain a BA or MA degree at a public Croatian higher education institution.

Eligible applicants: Members of the Croatian national minority in Hungary, Romania and the Slovak Republic and citizens of China. Candidates are required to have a four-year high school degree if applying for BA studies or a BA degree if applying for MA studies.

Benefits: Tuition-free full degree BA or MA studies, monthly financial support, subsidised accommodation in student residence halls and subsidised meals in student restaurants.

C1 Full postgraduate doctoral (PhD) programme (36 months)

Description: Scholarship C1 is on offer to students who want to enrol in full degree doctoral study programmes and obtain a PhD degree at a public Croatian higher education institution.

Eligible applicants: Members of the Croatian national minority in Hungary, Romania and the Slovak Republic and citizens of China. Candidates are required to have a MA degree.

Benefits: Tuition-free full degree PhD studies, monthly financial support, subsidised accommodation in student residence halls and subsidised meals in student restaurants.

C2 Partial postgraduate doctoral (PhD) studies or research for PhD students (1 - 10 months)

Description: Bilateral Scholarship C2 is on offer to foreign PhD students who want to spend one part of their doctoral studies or conduct research for their PhD thesis at a public Croatian higher education institution or research institute.

Eligible applicants: Candidates who are enrolled in a PhD programme at accredited institutions of higher education in their home countries or in a country other than Croatia.

Benefits: Tuition-free partial PhD studies or research stay, monthly financial support, subsidised accommodation in student residence halls and subsidised meals in student restaurants.

D Postdoctoral studies and research (1 - 10 months)

Description: Bilateral Scholarship D is on offer to candidates who want to carry out postdoctoral studies or research at one of [Croatia's public accredited research institutions](#).

Eligible applicants: University teachers or researchers at accredited institutions or research institutes in their home countries or in a country other than Croatia. Candidates are required to have a PhD degree at the time of applying for the Bilateral Scholarship.

Benefits: Tuition-free research stay, monthly financial support and subsidised accommodation in student residence halls.

E Short postdoctoral research visit (3 - 29 days)

Description: Bilateral Scholarship E is on offer to candidates who want to carry out short term research at one of [Croatia's public accredited research institutions](#).

Eligible applicants: University teachers or researchers at accredited institutions of higher education or research institutes in their home countries or in a country other than Croatia. Candidates are required to have a PhD degree at the time of applying for the Scholarship.

Benefits: Tuition-free research stay, monthly financial support and subsidised accommodation in student residence halls.

F Summer seminar of Croatian language, literature and culture (2 weeks)

Description: Scholarship F is on offer to foreign students for the seminar that is organised by the [Zagreb School of Slavic Studies](#) in the city of Dubrovnik from the 16th to the 29th of August 2026.

Eligible applicants: Croatian language and literature students and students of Slavic Studies who are at the time of application enrolled in MA or BA studies. Candidates are required to have completed a minimum of 2 semesters at their home institutions. Eligible are also students who are learning (taking classes of) the Croatian language at their universities. Finally, lecturers (teachers, senior assistants with a PhD degree and teaching/research assistants enrolled in PhD studies) who teach Croatian language and literature at universities outside Croatia can also apply.

Benefits: Tuition-free course, accommodation and meals, cultural programme.

Important:

- Candidates must have a **minimum level of language competence of B1** according to the [Common European Framework of Reference for Languages](#).
- In the selection procedure preference will be given to **applicants with a higher level of Croatian language competence** over those with a lower level of Croatian.
- The number of available places for the summer seminar is **limited**.
- **Priority** will be given to students who will be nominated by their countries (Application Pool 1) over candidates who will be nominated by their teachers (Application Pool 2).
- The applications will be approved according to the valid/effective educational co-operation **programmes and this Call**.
- Priority will be given to students who are currently enrolled in **graduate studies (MA)** over students who are currently enrolled in undergraduate studies (BA).
- **Applications from students will have priority** over applications from teachers.

The language of instruction for different Bilateral Scholarship types:

- A1, A2, B, C1 and F is delivered in Croatian.
- C2, D and E is delivered in either Croatian or English (as stated in the Invitation Letter).

2. SCHOLARSHIPS BASED ON BILATERAL AGREEMENTS ([APPLICATION POOL 1](#))

2.1. Eligibility

This Application Pool is open to foreign higher education students and university staff conducting research or teaching activities as well as foreign scientists and researchers at research institutes. The applicants should be citizens of countries (and/or territories) that have a valid/effective educational co-operation programme with Croatia signed by the Croatian Government and the relevant ministry of the given country (or territory). Applicants from these countries are entitled to apply for the type and number of Bilateral Scholarships defined in the bilateral agreements and this Call.

2.2. Application Procedure

The candidates must submit their application documents in the [Agency's online application system](#) by the requested deadline and then the national competent authorities responsible for the implementation of the bilateral agreements should nominate the candidates for the Bilateral Scholarships on offer.

Applications of the candidates who are residents of the below specified countries (and territories) but without the citizenship of these same countries listed below (pages 5 - 6) will not be taken into consideration. Specific scholarship types are offered to each country. The following type and number of Bilateral Scholarships are offered based on valid/effective educational co-operation programmes and/or bilateral agreements (**Application Pool 1**):

COUNTRY	NUMBER AND TYPE OF BILATERAL SCHOLARSHIPS ON OFFER
BELGIUM (FLANDERS)	2 Scholarships for the summer seminar of Croatian language literature and culture (scholarship type: F).
BULGARIA	1) 2 Scholarships for one semester (4 - 5 months) studies for undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) studies (scholarship types: A1 and A2). 2) 8 months of Scholarships (1 or 2 months per applicant) for partial doctoral studies/research for PhD students (scholarship type: C2) or for postdoctoral studies/research for candidates who have a PhD degree (scholarship type: D). 3) 4 Scholarships for the summer seminar of Croatian language, literature and culture (scholarship type: F).
CHINA	8 Scholarships for full degree undergraduate (BA), graduate (MA) or postgraduate (PhD) study programmes (BA: 36 months; MA: 24 months; PhD: 36 months) (scholarship types: B and C1).
CZECH REPUBLIC	3 Scholarships for the summer seminar of Croatian language, literature and culture (scholarship type: F).
GERMANY	1 Scholarship (1 - 3 months) for postdoctoral studies/research for postdoctoral candidates, i.e., university staff conducting research or teaching activities or for researchers holding a PhD degree (scholarship type: D).
GERMANY (BAVARIA)	1) 2 Scholarships for partial/semester (3 - 10 months) studies for undergraduate (BA) or graduate (MA) studies (scholarship types: A1 and A2). 2) 2 Scholarships for partial (1 - 10 months) doctoral studies/research for PhD students (scholarship type: C2) or for postdoctoral studies/research for candidates who have a PhD degree (scholarship type: D). 3) 4 Scholarships for the summer seminar of Croatian language, literature and culture (scholarship type: F).
GREECE	1) 2 Scholarships (1 - 10 months each) for partial PhD studies/research for doctoral students (scholarship type: C2) or for postdoctoral studies/research for candidates who have a PhD degree (scholarship type: D). 2) 2 Scholarships for the summer seminar of Croatian language, literature and culture (scholarship type: F).
HUNGARY	1) Scholarships for partial/semester (3 - 10 months) studies for undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) studies (scholarship types: A1 and A2). 2) Scholarships for partial PhD studies/research for doctoral students (C2) or for postdoctoral studies/research for candidates who have a PhD degree (scholarship types: D and E) (long-term: 1-10 months or short-term: 3 - 29 days). 3) Scholarship for a full PhD programme (36 months) (scholarship type: C1). 4) Scholarships for full degree undergraduate (BA), graduate (MA) or postgraduate (PhD) studies for members of the Croatian national minority in Hungary (BA: 36 months; MA: 24 months; PhD: 36 months) (scholarship types: B and C1). 5) 4 Scholarships for the summer seminar of Croatian language, literature and culture (scholarship type: F).
ISRAEL	1 Scholarship (1 - 8 months) for partial PhD studies/research for doctoral students (scholarship type: C2) or for postdoctoral studies/research for candidates who have a PhD degree (scholarship type: D).
ITALY	1) 5 Scholarships for 1 semester studies for undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) Croatian language students (scholarship type: A1). 2) 12 months of Scholarships for members of the Croatian national minority in Italy: the months of Scholarship can be distributed between more applicants (scholarship types: A1, A2, C2 and D).
KOSOVO	2 Scholarships for the summer seminar of Croatian language, literature and culture (scholarship type: F).

MONTENEGRO	1) 20 months of Scholarships (1 or 2 semesters per applicant) for partial undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) studies (scholarship type: A2). 2) 8 months of Scholarships (1 or 2 months per applicant) for partial PhD studies/research for doctoral students (scholarship type: C2) or for postdoctoral studies/research for candidates who have a PhD degree (scholarship type: D).
NORTH MACEDONIA	1) 24 months of Scholarships (3 – 10 months per applicant) for undergraduate (BA), graduate (MA) and postgraduate (PhD) studies (scholarship types: A1, A2 and C2). 2) 2 Scholarships for the summer seminar of Croatian language, literature and culture (scholarship type: F).
POLAND	1) 4 Scholarships for semester (4 - 5 months) studies for undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) studies (scholarship types: A1 and A2). 2) 3 Scholarships for the summer seminar of Croatian language, literature and culture (scholarship type: F).
PORTUGAL	1) 2 Scholarships for students and researchers for undergraduate (BA), graduate (MA) or postgraduate (PhD) studies of Croatian language and literature (scholarship types: A1, A2 and C2). 2) 1 Scholarship for the summer seminar of Croatian language, literature and culture (scholarship type: F).
ROMANIA	1) 2 Scholarships for semester (4 - 5 months) studies for undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) students (scholarship types: A1 and A2). 2) 2 Scholarships for full undergraduate (BA), graduate (MA) or postgraduate (PhD) study programmes for members of the Croatian national minority in Romania (BA: 36 months; MA: 24 months; PhD: 36 months) (scholarship types: B and C1). 3) 2 Scholarships for the summer seminar of Croatian language, literature and culture (scholarship type: F).
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	1) 15 months of Scholarships for partial/semester (4 - 10 months; 1 or 2 semesters) studies for undergraduate (BA) or graduate (MA) students (scholarship types: A1 and A2), for partial PhD studies/research (1 - 10 months) for postgraduate doctoral students (scholarship type: C2) or for postdoctoral studies/research (1 - 10 months) for candidates who have a PhD degree (scholarship type: D). 2) 1 Scholarship (3 - 30 days) for university teachers of Croatian and Slovak language and literature (scholarship type: E). 3) 5 Scholarships for full undergraduate (BA), graduate (MA) or postgraduate (PhD) study programmes for members of the Croatian national minority in the Slovak Republic (BA: 36 months; MA: 24 months; PhD: 36 months) (types: B and C1). 4) 2 Scholarships for the summer seminar of Croatian language, literature and culture (scholarship type: F).
TÜRKIYE	2 Scholarships (1 - 8 months each) for partial PhD studies/research for doctoral students (scholarship type: C2) or for postdoctoral studies/research for candidates who have a PhD degree (scholarship type: D).
UKRAINE	1) 2 Scholarships for semester (4 - 5 months) studies for undergraduate (BA) and graduate (MA) students (scholarship types: A1 and A2). 2) 1 Scholarship for the summer seminar of Croatian language, literature and culture (scholarship type: F).

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

2.3. National Institutions Responsible for Nominating the Candidates

Candidates who are applying for the scholarships based on bilateral agreements (Application Pool 1) should contact the following institutions according to their country of origin to express their interest in applying for the Bilateral Scholarships and ask to be nominated. After doing the pre-selection of the applications and the initial screening of candidates, the national institutions should then nominate the candidates for the Bilateral Scholarships by sending a Nomination Letter to the Agency and/or Ministry.

COUNTRY	INSTITUTION
Bulgaria	Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Bulgaria
China	China Scholarship Council
Czech Republic	Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic
Germany	DAAD
Bavaria	BAYHOST
Greece	Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports of the Hellenic Republic
Hungary	Tempus Public Foundation
Israel	/
Montenegro	Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation of Montenegro
North Macedonia	Ministry of Education and Science of North Macedonia
Poland	NAWA
Portugal	Ministry of Education of Portugal
Romania (for Romanian citizens)	Ministry of Education of Romania
Slovak Republic (for Slovakian citizens)	Ministry of Education, Research, Development and Youth of the Slovak Republic
Türkiye	Ministry of National Education of Türkiye
Romania (members of the Croatian national minority in Romania)	Embassy of the Republic of Croatia in Bucharest
Slovak Republic (members of the Croatian national minority in Slovakia)	Embassy of the Republic of Croatia in Bratislava
Italy (members of the Croatian national minority in Italy)	Embassy of the Republic of Croatia in Rome
Switzerland	Swissuniversities

3. SCHOLARSHIPS FOR LEARNING THE CROATIAN LANGUAGE ([APPLICATION POOL 2](#))

3.1. Eligibility and Scholarship Types

This Application Pool is open to candidates who are students of the Croatian language and literature or Slavic Studies and literature regardless of 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 at their home university falls under the jurisdiction of the Ministry. Candidates are invited to apply for the two scholarship types on offer through the Application Pool 2:

A1 Semester studies of the Croatian language in Zagreb or Rijeka (mobility: 4 - 5 months).

F Summer seminar of Croatian language and literature in Dubrovnik (mobility: 2 weeks).

The candidates for the scholarships that are on offer in the Application Pool 2 must be nominated for the Bilateral Scholarships by their current Croatian language professor. Interested students should ask their Croatian language teachers to prepare a Recommendation Letter. To successfully apply for the scholarship, the candidates must submit the Recommendation Letter in the [Agency's online application system](#) together with the rest of the required application documents (listed on pages 11 - 13).

3.2. Choice of Semester and Institution

Candidates for the semester scholarships (A1) for learning the Croatian language can choose between the winter (October – February; 5 months) or the summer semester (March – June; 4 months). The choice of semester should be indicated in the Agency's application form. Students applying for semester studies (A1) can choose between a more work intensive language course at the University of Zagreb - [Croaticum](#) (usually 14 ECTS) or a less work intensive program at the University of Rijeka - [Rijeka School of Croatian Studies](#) (usually 4 ECTS).

Candidates who are interested in applying for the Bilateral Scholarship for the summer seminar of Croatian language, literature and culture (F) can apply only for the one seminar that is organised each year by the Zagreb School of Slavic Studies in Dubrovnik during two weeks in the month of August.

3.3. Priority and Number of Scholarships

The Croatian language professors are encouraged to nominate their students primarily for the scholarships for semester studies (scholarship type: A1) seeing that the number of these scholarships that can be awarded by the Ministry and the Agency is not limited. The number of Bilateral Scholarships for the summer seminar of Croatian language, literature and culture (scholarship type: F) is limited. The Ministry and the Agency will give priority to foreign students who will be nominated for the summer seminar by the foreign students' national competent authorities (countries of origin) and according to valid/effective educational co-operation programmes and bilateral agreements (Application Pool 1).

4. IMPLEMENTATION, ELIGIBILITY AND FURTHER INFORMATION

4.1. Implementation

The mobilities must be implemented in the academic year 2026/2027. Mobilities can begin no earlier than September 28th, 2026 and must be completed by September 30, 2027. The months of July and August are not acceptable with the only exemption the summer seminar of Croatian language that will take place in August 2026. The applicants should indicate the preferred mobility period in their application form. The mobility can be carried out only at a public higher education institution and research institute (private institutions are not acceptable). All mobilities are planned to be physical mobilities. The Agency and the Ministry reserve the right to change the requested mobility period and/or place any applicant to a course and/or institution different from that indicated in his/her application form.

4.2. Eligibility

Age requirement:

- Candidates must be at least 18 years of age on the 1st of October 2026.

Age limits for applicants depending on the level of studies and the scholarship type:

- 34 years when applying for scholarships for semester studies of Croatian language (A1), partial/semester BA and MA studies (A2) and for partial/semester PhD studies/research (C2).
- 30 years when applying for scholarships for full degree BA and MA study programmes (B) and for full degree PhD study programmes (C1).

There is no age limit for the following types of scholarships:

- Postdoctoral research visits (D and E).
- Summer seminar of Croatian language, literature and culture (F).

The following candidates are not eligible to apply:

- Students who have not completed a minimum of two semesters at their home institutions.
- Foreign citizens with a residence permit or applying for a residence permit in Croatia.
- Candidate who only have Croatian citizenship.
- Students already enrolled in a study programme in Croatia.
- Candidates applying for study or research at private Croatian higher education institutions.
- Candidates without the citizenship of the country that nominates them for the scholarships.

4.3. Further Information for PhD and Postdoc Candidates

Candidates who are interested in a research, PhD or a postdoctoral scholarship should find a host professor (mentor) in Croatia willing to support and supervise their research or PhD project. A Letter of Invitation must be part of the application package. Applicants for these types of Scholarships (C2, D and E) should contact a mentor/supervisor at the desired Croatian host institution to arrange their visit. Candidates applying for a research visit should be fluent in English or Croatian. The term "research" includes preparation for a doctoral or postdoctoral thesis or any other form of scientific research except medical specialization. More information about studying in Croatia can be found on the following websites:

- [Study in Croatia Portal](#)
- [List of Croatian accredited academic institutions](#)
- [Register of Study Programmes](#)
- [International Student Guide to Croatia](#)

5. FINANCIAL BENEFITS FOR BILATERAL SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS

1) Undergraduate/graduate studies (A1, A2, B)

- **300,00 EUR** monthly financial support (July and August excluded).
- Subsidized accommodation in student residence halls.
- Subsidized meals at student restaurants.

2) Full PhD studies and partial PhD studies or research for PhD students (C1, C2)

- **320,00 EUR** monthly financial support (July and August excluded).
- Subsidized accommodation in student residence halls.
- Subsidized meals at student restaurants.

3) Postdoctoral studies or research 1 - 10 months (D)

- **480,00 EUR** monthly financial support.
- Subsidized accommodation in student residence halls.

4) Short research stays 3 - 14 days (E)

- **30,00 EUR** per diem.
- Subsidized accommodation in student residence halls.

5) Summer seminar (F)

- Tuition-free course.
- Free accommodation and meals.
- Cultural programme.

The Bilateral Scholarships cannot be awarded concurrently with other scholarships, grants, stipends etc. If a scholarship holder has been awarded another scholarship for the same mobility, he/she is not eligible for the Bilateral Scholarship to prevent double funding for the same mobility period in Croatia. A scholarship holder cannot have more than 1 scholarship that is funded from the Croatian national budget (Bilateral Scholarships, CEEPUS, Croatian Central State Office for Croats Abroad etc.) or simultaneously receive financial support from another source or from another scholarship programme (e.g., Erasmus+).

The monthly financial support is not meant to cover all the costs of the scholarship holder but rather it is a contribution to the living costs during mobility. Scholarship holders are advised, apart from the grant to be received from the Agency during the mobility period, to have sufficient financial funds to cover their living costs for at least two months in Croatia. To receive the full financial support for a certain month, the scholarship holder must be at least 15 full interrupted days physically in Croatia during that month.

The Bilateral Programme for Academic Mobility in Croatia is funded from the Croatian State Budget adopted by the Croatian Parliament. 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 mobility period in accordance with the Croatian legislation and financial regulations in force. The scholarship holder is obliged to return any undue payment of the financial support. Neither visa related fees nor any other costs related to the scholarship holder's stay in Croatia shall be compensated.

6. APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED

6.1. Application Pool 1

The candidates should submit their application documents in the [Agency's online application system](#) and contact their national institution in charge of the preliminary selection of applicants to be nominated for the scholarships. The national competent authorities responsible for the implementation of the Bilateral Scholarships Programmes should send by e-mail (or post) the Nomination Letter by which they nominate candidates for the Bilateral Scholarships to the following e-mail or postal address:

Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes

E-mail address: bilaterala@ampeu.hr

Postal address: Frankopanska 26, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia

A valid application for the Bilateral Scholarship should consist of:

- **Required documents in English or Croatian** submitted by the applicant in the [Agency's online application system](#)
- **Nomination Letter** sent (by e-mail or post) to the Agency from the foreign partner institution by which the home country nominates the applicant for the Scholarship.

Deadline (Application Pool 1): the deadline for the candidates to submit their application documents in the Agency's online system and for the foreign partner institutions to send their Nomination Letters to the Agency by e-mail (preferably) or by post is the **10th of April 2026**.

6.2. Application Pool 2

The candidates should submit their application documents in the [Agency's online application system](#) including the Recommendation Letter from their current Croatian language professor. It is considered that this way the applicants are nominated for the scholarships so neither the candidates nor the Croatian language professor needs to additionally send the application documents by e-mail or post to the Agency.

All the candidates should fill in the Application Form and submit their application documents in the [Agency's online application system](#) by uploading all the required documents listed in the Application Form and on pages 12 - 14 of this Call depending on the type of scholarship the candidate is applying for.

A copy of the filled-in Application Form will automatically be downloaded locally to the applicant's computer/phone in PDF format and uploaded to the Agency's system. If the candidate does not receive the Application Form, this means that the application was not successful and the Agency did not receive the application. It is recommended that candidates keep a copy of all the application documents.

Deadline (Application Pool 2): the deadline for the candidates to submit their application documents in the [Agency's online application system](#) is the **10th of April 2026**.

6.3. Documents to be Submitted by the Applicants According to the Scholarship Type:

A1 One semester study for Croatian Language students (4 - 5 months)

- 1) Application Form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of the valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) Letter of Interest (1 - 2 pages).
- 5) Proof of enrolment at the applicant's home institution.
- 6) Transcript of the last two completed semesters at the home institution (Additionally: candidates who have completed a BA programme also need to submit a copy of their BA degree).
- 7) Recommendation Letter of the Croatian language fellow at the home institution co-signed by the Head of Department.

A2 Semester/partial studies (3 - 10 months)

- 1) Application Form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) Letter of Interest (1 - 2 pages).
- 5) Proof of enrolment in BA or MA studies at the applicant's home institution.
- 6) Transcript of the last two completed semesters at the home institution (Additionally: candidates who have completed a BA programme also need to submit a copy of their BA degree).
- 7) Letter of Recommendation by a professor from the applicant's home institution.
- 8) Letter of Invitation by the host institution in Croatia signed by the Head of Department.
- 9) Certificate of proficiency in English or Croatian – depending on the language of the study programme for the proposed mobility (the language should be indicated in the Letter of Invitation).

B Full degree bachelor (BA) or master (MA) studies (BA: 36 months or MA: 24/12 months)

- 1) Application Form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) Letter of Interest (1 - 2 pages).
- 5) Copy of the last acquired Certificate or Diploma (if applying for BA studies: copy of the highest degree/certificate; if applying for MA studies: copy of the BA degree).
- 6) Proof of language proficiency in English or Croatian.
- 7) Letter of Invitation by the dean of the Croatian higher education institution (in which it is indicated that the applicant can enrol in the desired tuition-free study programme upon successful completion of the enrolment procedure and being awarded the Scholarship).
- 8) Copy of the provisional Enrolment Certificate to the desired BA or MA study programme (the document proves that the applicant will be accepted by the desired host institution).

C1 Full PhD programme (36 months)

- 1) Application Form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of the valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) List of publications (if applicable).
- 5) Copy of the highest degree/diploma.
- 6) Precise and detailed Work Plan (1 - 2 pages).
- 7) Proof of language proficiency in Croatian or English – depending on the working language of the doctoral programme.
- 8) Letters of Recommendation from two recognized experts in the relevant discipline.
- 9) Letter of Invitation by the dean of the Croatian higher education institution (in which it is indicated that the applicant can enrol in the desired tuition-free study programme upon successful completion of the enrolment procedure and being awarded the Scholarship).
- 10) Copy of the Enrolment Certificate to the desired PhD study programme (the document proves that the applicant will be accepted by the desired host institution).

C2 Partial PhD studies or PhD research (1 - 10 months)

- 1) Application Form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of the valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) List of publications.
- 5) Proof of enrolment in the PhD programme at the applicant's home institution.
- 6) Copy of the MA degree.
- 7) Precise and detailed Work Plan (1 - 2 pages).

- 8) Two Letters of Recommendation.
- 9) Letter of Invitation by the dean of the higher education institution in Croatia.
- 10) Proof of language proficiency in English or Croatian – depending on the working language for the proposed research project (the language should be indicated in the Letter of Invitation).

D Postdoctoral studies and research (1 - 10 months)

- 1) Application Form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of the valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) List of publications.
- 5) Copy of the PhD degree.
- 6) Precise and detailed Work Plan (1 - 2 pages).
- 7) Letters of Recommendation from 2 recognized experts in the relevant discipline.
- 8) Letter of Invitation by the host institution in Croatia.
- 9) Proof of language proficiency in English or Croatian – depending on the working language for the proposed research project (the working language should be indicated in the Letter of Invitation).

E Short research visit (3 - 29 days)

- 1) Application Form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of the valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) List of publications relevant to the proposed research project.
- 5) Copy of the PhD degree.
- 6) Precise and detailed work plan (1 - 2 pages).
- 7) Letters of Recommendation from 2 recognized experts in the relevant discipline.
- 8) Letter of Invitation by the Croatian host institution.
- 9) Proof of language proficiency in English or Croatian – depending on the working language for the proposed research project (the working language should be indicated in the Letter of Invitation).

F Summer seminar of Croatian language and literature (2 weeks)

- 1) Application Form submitted through the [Agency's online application system](#).
- 2) A photocopy of the valid passport or ID.
- 3) Curriculum Vitae (using the [Europass](#) template is preferred but not mandatory).
- 4) Copy of enrolment at the applicant's home institution (for students) or copy of the highest degree/diploma received (for teachers, researchers and lecturers).
- 5) Letter of Interest (1 - 2 pages).
- 6) Letter of Recommendation by a professor from the applicant's home institution.
- 7) Proof of language proficiency in Croatian (minimum B1).

7. EVALUATION AND SELECTION OF APPLICANTS AND THE RESULTS OF THE CALL

7.1. Evaluation and Selection

The applications sent by the candidates will be subjected to formal assessment by the Agency and the Ministry followed by the procedure of evaluation and selection. During this process the Agency may request that the candidate provides additional documents or information. The purpose of the formal assessment is verification of the application in terms of compliance with the formal criteria. During the formal assessment the completeness of the application is analysed. The application is considered as complete if all required documents have been attached. The candidate's academic profile, proposal and motivation will also be assessed (selection criteria).

Applications from candidates who have already been beneficiaries of the Bilateral Scholarships during previous years will have a lower priority. Precedence will be given to first-time applicants.

The final decision on the acceptance of the applications shall be made by the Croatian host institution. Incomplete or inaccurate applications will not be considered. If the applicant submits more applications, only the last application submitted in the online system within the time limit for submission shall be subject to assessment. Documents in languages other than English or Croatian will not be accepted. Applications sent by individual applicants to the Agency, the Ministry or to the desired host institution but without being nominated for the scholarships will not be processed.

7.2. Results of the Call

The results of the selection will be communicated during June and/or July of this year. The applicants and foreign partner institutions will be informed of the results by an official letter sent via e-mail by the Agency. Scholarship holders whose applications will have been approved will receive from the Agency an information package that includes the Letter of Award, the Letter of Acceptance, the General Info Package and the link for the Final Report. Foreign students coming to Croatia who will be using student accommodation by staying in student residence halls will need to undergo health examination and bring a filled-in Health Form. More information about that will be provided in due time by the Agency.

Additionally, the students who will receive the scholarship to participate in the summer seminar of Croatian language will first be informed of the results by the Zagreb School of Slavic Studies. As the organiser of the seminar, it will contact the students by e-mail during May of this year. After that the Agency will send the aforementioned documents (Letter of Award...) as official confirmation.

An appeal against the decision of the Joint Committee for Bilateral Scholarship Award of the Ministry and the Agency (the bodies that are responsible for the formal assessment of applications) shall not be accepted. The Ministry and the Agency reserve the right to change the requested duration of mobility in Croatia, city or higher education institution if deemed necessary.

8. ENROLMENT PROCEDURE AND THE RECOGNITION OF QUALIFICATIONS

8.1. Enrolment Procedure

Future university students must register as new users at the Central Application System at the [Postani student!](#) portal of the Agency for Science and Higher Education. Useful information about how to apply for a [Study Programme](#) in Croatia can be found on the [Study in Croatia](#) portal.

8.1. Parallel Procedures

The application for the scholarship and the application for admission by a Croatian university for full cycle studies (B and C1) are two separate procedures. A scholarship for full degree BA, MA or PhD studies in Croatia will be approved only upon successful enrolment at the desired higher education institution and after the applicant submits to the Agency proof of successful enrolment to the higher education institution.

The Agency is not in charge of student enrolment and each candidate, applying for semester/partial/full degree studies needs to arrange the conditions of his/her enrolment in the study programme with the respective higher education institution in Croatia. The final decision on the acceptance of the candidates shall be made by the Croatian host institution. Candidates for semester/partial, full BA, MA and PhD studies must contact the desired host institution in Croatia and secure a provisional Letter of Invitation by the Croatian higher education institution in which it is indicated that the applicant can enrol in the desired tuition-free study programme upon successful completion of the enrolment procedure.

8.3. Preparatory Language Course

Candidates can only apply for study programmes that are delivered in Croatian language by accredited public higher education institutions in Croatia. English study programmes or study programmes delivered by private Croatian higher education institutions are not formally acceptable for the Bilateral Scholarship. To scholarship holders who are about to enrol into a full cycle of undergraduate or graduate studies in Croatia and whose Croatian language skills are not sufficient, a Scholarship for an initial one academic year of learning Croatian will be granted followed by the final language exam that needs to be passed successfully. In case the applicant fails the exam, the scholarship will be automatically discontinued. The preparatory course of studying the Croatian language may be extended exceptionally only under special circumstances on one occasion. Successful applicants will be granted a Bilateral Scholarship for a full degree (BA, MA or PhD) study programme that will be renewed every year pending academic success.

8.4. Eligibility

Only members of the Croatian national minority in Hungary, Romania and Slovak Republic and citizens of China may apply for the Scholarship types B and C1. Priority fields of study include but are not limited to: Croatian language and literature (Croatian: Kroatistika), Croatian culture and national identity (Croatian: Kroatologija), History, Geography, Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology and Teacher Education Studies.

8.5. Recognition of Qualifications

Recognition of prior educational qualifications for the purpose of continuation of education at Croatian higher education institutions (academic recognition) is an integral part of the enrolment procedure.

Applicants to undergraduate (BA) study programmes who hold a foreign secondary school qualification must submit a request for recognition of their educational qualification along with the enrolment application to the Agency for Science and Higher Education. Detailed instructions, request forms and a list of supporting documents are available on the website the [Agency for Science and Higher Education](#).

Prospective students who wish to apply for graduate or postgraduate study programmes and who hold a foreign higher education qualification or degree need to undergo the process of academic recognition for the purpose of continuation of education in Croatia. This is performed by either the Agency for Science and Higher Education (as described above) or by Croatian higher education institutions. Prospective students should contact their desired higher education institution for procedure details.

9. RENEWAL OF THE SCHOLARSHIP AND THE EXTENSION OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

9.1. Renewal of the Scholarship for Full Degree Studies

A Bilateral Scholarship for a full cycle of undergraduate (BA), graduate (MA) or postgraduate (PhD) studies in Croatia is granted for the full duration of the study programme but the scholarship will be renewed every year depending on the academic success in the previous academic year. A scholarship holder must submit to the Agency at the end of each academic year:

- 1) Proof (certificate) about the exams and obtained ECTS credits in the previous academic year.
- 2) Proof (certificate) about the successful enrolment in the next academic year.

Additionally, upon request of the Agency the scholarship holder is obligated to submit to the Agency a transcript of records or a copy of the student identification document to present his/her study progression (exams and obtained ECTS credits).

For acquired ECTS credits in one (previous) academic year:

- 35 or more ECTS credits: the scholarship will be renewed for the next academic year. *
- 34 or less ECTS credits: the scholarship won't be renewed for the next academic year.

*Students enrolled in full degree study programmes at Croatian higher education institutions should obtain 55 or more ECTS credits in the previous academic year to receive a full tuition fee waiver for the next academic year. Students who obtain 30-54 ECTS credits need to cover the cost of the unobtained ECTS credits (the difference between the number of obtained credits and the maximum 60 ECTS credits).

9.2. Extension of the Scholarship

Scholarship type: A1

This scholarship may exceptionally be extended by the Agency and/or Ministry only once for valid reasons and after submitting a written and signed request to the Agency. The request should be sent at least two months prior to the end of the mobility period in Croatia with a Recommendation Letter from a teacher from the Croatian host institution. This only applies to international students who have been awarded a scholarship for the winter semester (October - February) at either Croaticum or the Rijeka School of Croatian Studies and who wish to continue perfecting their Croatian language skills during the summer semester of the same academic year (period: from the beginning of March to June 30th).

Scholarship type: A2

This scholarship may exceptionally be extended by the Agency and/or Ministry only once for valid reasons and after submitting a written and signed request to the Agency. The request should be sent at least two months prior to the end of the mobility period in Croatia with a new Letter of Invitation from the host institution that confirms the new mobility period. This only applies to international students who have been awarded a scholarship for the winter semester (October - February) at an accredited Croatian higher education institution and who wish to continue their studies during the summer semester of the same academic year (period: from the beginning of March to September 30th the latest).

Scholarship type: C2, D and E

This scholarship may exceptionally be extended by the Agency and or/ Ministry only once for valid reasons and after submitting a written and signed request to the Agency. The request should be sent at least two months prior to the end of the mobility period in Croatia with a new Letter of Invitation from the host institution that confirms the new mobility period in Croatia. The awarded period can be extended according to the valid bilateral agreement and this Call. The extension may occur only once and it is applicable only to the same academic year for which the scholarship was originally awarded.

Important:

- The requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
- The Agency and/or Ministry reserve the right to turn down any application for the extension based on budgetary or other reasons deemed fit.
- The scholarship types B and C1 may not be extended beyond the awarded period (number of academic years according to the chosen study programme).
- The scholarship types A1, A2, C2, D and E may not be extended to the next academic year.

10. OBLIGATIONS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS

The scholarship holders are obligated to submit to the Agency by e-mail the signed **Letter of Acceptance** by which they accept the awarded Bilateral Scholarship at least one month before the beginning of their mobility in Croatia. Also, they are obligated to send to the Agency the **Final Report** about their mobility within one month after the end of their mobility in Croatia by using an online questionnaire.

The scholarship holders should arrange visa and similar requirements (if applicable) and, if staying longer than 90 days, regulate their temporary stay in Croatia by acquiring a residence permit (if applicable). Third-country nationals (foreigners who are non-nationals of member states of the European Economic Area: European Union, Principality of Liechtenstein, Kingdom of Norway, Republic of Iceland or the Swiss Confederation) also need to present to the Police a **certificate confirming that the applicant has no criminal convictions** issued by the authorities of the passport holder's own country and country of permanent residence. It is strongly recommended that scholarship holders obtain the non-criminal record while they are still in their home countries seeing that the procedure of getting the document and having it translated can take a while (a month or more) depending on the country and the service available.

The scholarship holders are strongly advised to be in regular contact with their Croatian host institutions and inform the host institutions and the Agency if any changes occur. Also, scholarship holders should arrange and cover the costs of health care by themselves if they come from a country that doesn't have a signed bilateral health care agreement with Croatia and they do not have the right to the European Health Insurance Card (EU nationals). Scholarship holders should request an **OIB** (Personal Identification Number – Croatian Tax Number) from the Tax Office after coming to Croatia and then open bank account (**IBAN**) at any bank and send by e-mail a scan or photo of the documents containing the OIB and IBAN to the Agency. The support can only be paid to a Croatian bank account opened by the scholarship holder.

Each scholarship holder is obligated to stay in Croatia throughout the scholarship programme (except in cases of virtual or blended mobility) and be engaged solely in the programme which has been approved by the Ministry and the Agency. Shorter periods of absence (e.g., 7 days) are acceptable. In case the scholarship holder needs to be absent for a longer period, he/she should inform the host institution and the Agency. Absence is justified for three (3) consecutive months (during summer) only for full degree studies. If the scholarship holder leaves Croatia without a valid reason and without notifying the Agency, the Bilateral Scholarship can be suspended/terminated and the grant can be reclaimed.

The scholarship holders who plan to stay in the student residence halls in Zagreb and Rijeka are required to bring the filled-in **Health Certificate** after undergoing health examination in their home countries by their doctors. The Bilateral Scholarship can be revoked due to poor academic performance. Finally, scholarship holders should observe the Croatian legislation in force during the entire mobility period in Croatia. They must also comply with the Agency's instructions, regulations concerning the residence for foreigners in Croatia (Aliens Act) and with the host institution regulations.

11. VISA, ENTERING CROATIA AND TRAVEL EXPENSES

11.1. Visa

Third-country nationals who are subject to the visa requirement are obliged to apply for a visa prior to their entry into Croatia. The visa serves as approval for either transit through the international area of an airport transit through the territory of the Republic of Croatia or for the stay in the territory of the Republic of Croatia for a maximum period of 90 days in any 180-day period. Therefore, the types of visas are an airport transit visa (A visa) and a short-term visa (C visa). Nationals of the Member States of the European Economic Area (European Union, Principality of Liechtenstein, Kingdom of Norway, Republic of Iceland) do not need a visa to enter the Republic of Croatia. All foreign nationals who are holders of valid [Schengen](#) documents (residence permits and visas for two or more entries). Students coming for the purpose of studies are [exempt from paying the visa fee](#).

For the most current information regarding entry and visa regulations between a certain country and Croatia, the applicants should enquire at the Croatian Embassy in their home country or at the national ministry of foreign affairs. Visas are issued by [diplomatic missions or consular offices](#) of the Republic of Croatia. Foreigners who need a visa for Croatia can also fill in a visa application form via the link crovisa.mvep.hr. After completing the online application, it is necessary to submit it to the competent Croatian embassy/consulate, visa centre or agency of the accredited travel agency, accompanied [by other prescribed documentation](#). If there is no Croatian diplomatic mission or consular office in the applicant's country, a visa application may be submitted to the nearest Croatian diplomatic mission or consular office. Visa applications are submitted by filling in the required form, no more than 3 months before the start of the intended visit but 15 days prior to the trip at the latest. Visa applicants should be able to prove that they have valid travel medical insurance and means of support during their stay in Croatia (e.g., letter of guarantee, bank statement, proof of Bilateral Scholarship award). A visa cannot be used as a work permit.

11.2. Entering Croatia

Croatia fully applies the Schengen regime from 2023. Third-country nationals are subject to thorough checks upon entry and exit. Seeing that Croatia is part of the EES - Entry / Exit System, third country nationals must provide personal and document data together with fingerprints and photograph. More information can be found on the official [website](#) of the Ministry of the Interior. The Call is addressed to all countries but the scholarships will be awarded subject to the rules in force and various other conditions such as the health situation, visa procedures, opening of borders and operating of higher education institutions and institutes. The [website of the Ministry of the Interior](#) contains the latest information in connection with entering Croatia.

Physical mobility remains the goal of the programme. Before travelling, scholarship holders are advised to check if there are any restrictions to travelling set in force by their home countries or/and Croatia that would prevent them from leaving their home country or from entering Croatia.

11.3. 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. However, applicants are strongly advised to contact the sending institutions in their home countries who will nominate them for the Bilateral Scholarships and check if there are possibilities to cover their travel expenses to Croatia. In the Bilateral Programmes it is common that the sending country covers the travel expenses of its citizens and the receiving country pays the monthly financial support during mobility.

12. STUDENT EMPLOYMENT DURING MOBILITY IN CROATIA

Both home and international students residing in Croatia can work using the Student Service Centres. Only Bilateral Scholarship Holders who are enrolled as full-time students in partial BA and MA studies (scholarship type A2) or full degree BA and MA studies (scholarship type B) can work in Croatia. Scholarship holders type A1, C1, C2, D, E and F cannot be employed as students through the Student Service Centres.

The Student Service Centres have subsidiaries in all university towns. International students attending various study programmes (exchange students, guest students) must check with the higher education institution to which they are applying whether they are allowed occasional student work via the student service centre and under which conditions. The salary is calculated per hour and the minimum amount for the year 2026 is 6,56 EUR/hour (net amount).

13. HEALTH CARE DURING MOBILITY IN CROATIA

According to the Aliens Act, foreign residents must have health care during their stay in Croatia. For both EU/Swiss and non-EU citizens health insurance is also necessary for the approval of temporary stay. Regulated health care is the prerequisite for being granted a temporary residence permit.

13.1. EU Nationals

Scholarship types: A1, A2, C2, D, E and F

EU countries residents are obligated to obtain the European Health Insurance Card ([EHIC](#)) in their home countries prior to their arrival to Croatia. The EHIC is issued by the national health insurance provider.

Scholarship types: B and C1

Scholarship holders who are awarded a Scholarship for full degree mobility in Croatia can, in accordance with the Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the coordination of social security systems, transfer their health care from their home countries to Croatia and have complete health care during their mobility in Croatia. This applies only to EU nationals who are awarded a Scholarship for full degree BA, MA or PhD studies (Scholarship types B and C1) in Croatia and who can provide proof of having health care in their home countries.

13.2. Nationals of countries with Health Care Agreements with Croatia

Croatia regulates health care with North Macedonia, Montenegro and Turkey through agreements on social security signed with the named countries (more information: [Croatian Health Care Fund](#)). Citizens of these countries should contact their public health insurance provider before arriving to Croatia to obtain the patient's certificate which enables them to have health care during their mobility in Croatia.

13.3. Nationals of countries without Health Care Agreements with Croatia

Scholarship holders coming to Croatia on mobility from countries that do not have bilateral health care agreements with Croatia or do not use the European Health Insurance Card are obligated to organise and cover the costs of health care services during their mobility in Croatia by themselves. The Agency covers the health insurance expenses for scholarship holders from countries which do not have social security agreements with Croatia only if foreseen in a valid/effective bilateral educational co-operation programme.

14. 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 Scholarships. More detailed information on processing of personal information is available in the Notice on Processing of Personal Data published at the [website of the Agency](#). Provision of data is voluntary but necessary for application and to participate in the implementation of the Scholarships. By submitting an application 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 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 institutions and research institutes and/or other partners relevant to the implementation of the Scholarships. The data will be used for conducting the Call for Applications and evaluation of applications, selection of the beneficiaries and execution of scholarship agreements. This will be performed 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 regarding the processing of personal data and of the free movement of such data and repealing directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation).

15. CONTACT INFORMATION OF THE AGENCY

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