

According to Article 7 of the Act of conversion of the public institution "Ad futura, Science and Education Foundation of the Republic of Slovenia, the Public Fund" into Slovene Human Resources and Scholarship Fund (issued in Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 139/06) Slovene Human Resources and Scholarship Fund (hereafter scholarship fund) is calling for the applications for

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR DOCTORATE STUDIES OF FOREIGN CITIZENS IN SLOVENIA IN ACADEMIC YEAR 2007/2008

1. The subject of the call for applications

The subject of this call for applications are scholarships offered to foreign citizens pursuing doctoral studies in natural sciences or technology at Slovene higher education institutions in the 2007/2008 academic year, specifically for:

- **tuition**; the highest granted amount of annual scholarship for tuition for a specific year of study equals according to this call for applications 100% of tuition but not more than 2.500 EUR for doctoral studies, for which the tuition is paid for individual year, or 100% of tuition cost for two-year research doctoral studies after completion of masters degree programme, which is paid after concluded phases of the doctoral studies,

and

- **living expenses**, in the amount of 625 EUR monthly for living and study costs for the period of 12 months (together annually 7.500 EUR)

2. Conditions of the call for applications

The candidate must meet the following criteria:

- He/she is not a citizen of Republic of Slovenia,
- He/she has not completed his/her undergraduate studies in the Republic of Slovenia,
- He/she has been accepted or has enrolled in publicly valid (accredited) doctoral studies in natural sciences or technology in the 2007/2008 academic year at a publicly valid (accredited) Slovene educational institution,
- He/she will be awarded a publicly valid diploma upon completion of his/her studies,
- He/she will live in the Republic of Slovenia for the whole period of his/her studies,
- He/she will not have the status of young researcher or hold employment in the Republic of Slovenia during the duration of his/her studies.

3. Documentation

All candidates should submit **a completed and signed application form** together with the **documentation proving the fulfilment of the conditions and selection criteria**:

1. a citizenship certificate which is no older than 12 months or a photocopy of a valid passport;
2. an authorisation form (power of attorney) to a person with permanent residence in the Republic of Slovenia, who will represent the applicant in relation to the procedure of obtaining a scholarship with respect to provisions of paragraph 6 of this **call for applications**
3. a photocopy of a residence permit for purpose of study in the Republic of Slovenia or proof of submitted application for obtaining such permit,
4. an enrolment certificate issued by a Slovenian educational institution for the 2007/2008 academic year, if the candidate is enrolling for doctoral studies after being granted direct transfer from postgraduate to doctoral level or if he is enrolling into four-year doctoral studies after completion of undergraduate studies,
5. a confirmation on status of doctoral student, in particular:
 - a) if the candidate already holds a master's degree and is enrolling into research doctoral studies – confirmation from educational institution that it has accepted the students' theme of doctoral thesis or a confirmation that the candidate has submitted the application for approval of the theme of doctoral thesis,
 - b) if the candidate is enrolled in postgraduate study in the 2006/2007 academic year and will not complete this study with a master's degree and was already granted a direct transfer to doctoral

- studies in the 2007/2008 academic year – confirmation from educational institution that the student has been granted a direct transfer from master's to doctoral studies after completion of the first or second year of postgraduate studies,
- c) if the candidate is enrolling for four-year doctoral degree program after completed undergraduate studies at an independent institution of higher education – confirmation of educational institution about implementation of programs of four-year doctoral studies,
6. a photocopy of the obtained diploma of undergraduate studies,
 7. a photocopy of the obtained diploma of last completed postgraduate education, if applicable (the master's or doctorate diploma),
 8. a transcript of the records of all the grades achieved by the candidate during the last completed level of education; if the candidate completed these studies outside Slovenia, he/she has to submit the official grade scale issued by the educational institution where the studies were completed
 9. a written confirmation of the annual tuition fee and duration of the studies including the name of the candidate, issued by the Slovenian educational institution,
 10. proof issued by an educational or research institution that the studies and research work will be carried out fully in Slovenia,
 11. proofs of published scientific articles and contributions:
 - a) for publications: a list of bibliographical units from a joint database (if one exists in the applicant's country) or a photocopy of the first pages of the articles, tables of contents and publications, from which the authors and catalogue record about publication, with ISBN number, are clear (with translation into Slovene or English),
 - b) for active participation at a scientific conference: a photocopy of title page and table of contents of brochure with contributions at the conference, from which authors and catalogue record about publication, with ISBN numbers, are clear (with translation into Slovene or English),
 12. photocopies of proof of other financial sources from legal entities, other than scholarship fund (a photocopy of the contract for co-financing studies or some other appropriate document).

4. Selection criteria

The maximum number of points available is 100. Points are awarded on the basis of the following two criteria:

a) Published scientific articles – 50 points

Only those scientific contributions of the candidate in scientific periodicals or independent publications will be considered that are not a product of study obligations for the candidate.

	maximum number of points = 50
Publication of a scientific achievement in a domestic or foreign scientific periodical or independent publication	each publication – 15 points
Active participation on scientific conference (lecture or poster presentation)	each active participation – 5 points

b) Success in studies – 50 points

Average grade is calculated by considering all grades of the last completed study, which was graded.

- grade point average from including 6,0 to 7,0	0 points
- grade point average from including 7,0 to 7,8	5 points
- grade point average from including 7,8 to 8,5	15 points
- grade point average from including 8,5 to 9,0	30 points
- grade point average from including 9,0 and higher	50 points

5. Deciding criterion

If a number of applicants have the same number of points, they will be additionally ranked on their average grade for studies, for which the candidate received points for success in studies.

6. Authorisation

In order to ease communication and the handing in of official mail, applicants who live abroad during the procedure related to this call for applications must appoint an authorised person with permanent residence

in the Republic of Slovenia to represent them. If the candidate does not appoint such person, an authorised person will be appointed for him/her by the scholarship fund.

The authorisation forms can be obtained from the web site or at the office of the scholarship fund.

7. Consideration of applications and duration of scholarship

The Director of the scholarship fund will issue all the applicants with decisions relating to the outcome of the call for applications. The selected candidates who submitted confirmation that they submitted an application for approval of the theme of doctoral degree must submit confirmation of the educational institution that the theme of doctoral degree has been approved and a proof of having enrolled for doctoral studies. All selected candidates must submit a photocopy of a valid residence permit for the Republic of Slovenia in the 2007/2008 academic year. After the required documentation has been submitted, the scholarship fund will conclude a contract with the selected candidates regarding scholarship. Based on this contract, the recipient will also receive a scholarship for further years of the doctoral studies up until its completion, provided they fulfil the prescribed conditions for continuation of scholarship.

8. Transfer of scholarship

After the contract has been signed, the scholarship fund will transfer the scholarship in the following manner:

- **for tuition fees**, on the basis of a correctly issued invoice, to the business account of the institution in question. If a scholarship recipient has, for objective reasons, already paid the fees himself or herself, the scholarship fund will, on the basis of proof of payment, reimburse him or her;
- **for living expenses**, in a single amount to the recipient's personal account opened at a commercial bank in the Republic of Slovenia.

9. Accessibility of documentation

The call for applications, the application and the authorisation form can be obtained from the web site or at the scholarship fund office during office hours, Monday to Friday between noon and 3.00 pm.

10. Deadline and submission of applications

Applicants should submit a completed and signed application form together with the documentation proving the fulfilment of the conditions and selection criteria by the **20. September 2007**, either in person, via their authorised person or by post, addressed to: Slovene Human Resources and Scholarship Fund, Kotnikova 34, 1000 Ljubljana (**adding: for 36th Call for Applications**).

The period of collecting applications starts on the day the call for applications is published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia and continues until the expiry of the deadline.

The documentation will be deemed to have been submitted in time if it is delivered to the scholarship fund office at abovementioned address in one of the following ways:

- it is sent by ordinary post so that it is delivered at the latest on the day of the deadline,
- it is sent by registered mail at the latest on the day of the deadline (according to the postmark),
- it is handed, during office hours (from 12.00 to 3.00 pm), to an official person at the scholarship fund office on the day of the deadline at the latest.

Slovene Human Resources and Scholarship Fund

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