

## ICELANDIC GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS for the academic year 2010-2011



### *Scholarships in Icelandic Studies for Foreign Students available from the Icelandic Ministry of Education, Science and Culture*

The Icelandic Ministry of Education, Science and Culture awards annually a number of scholarships for studies in Icelandic for Foreign Students at the University of Iceland, Reykjavík. Approximately 15 scholarships are available for the period from September 1st 2010 to April 30th 2011.

***The scholarships are intended for students of language and literature. Students who have completed at least one or two academic years of university study and with some prior knowledge of Icelandic or other Nordic language will be given priority. Preference will, as a rule, be given to a candidate under 35 years of age.***

Icelandic for foreign students is comprised of both theoretical and practical fields of study. On the one hand it is a language course, where students are trained in speaking, reading and writing modern Icelandic. On the other hand it delves into the more academic aspects of the Icelandic language, literature and history of Iceland.

Subjects covered include morphology, syntax and phonetics of modern Icelandic. The students read both old and modern literature and learn about the history of Iceland from settlement to modern times. Additionally, students are introduced to translations.

Nationals of the following countries are eligible:

• Austria	• Finland	• Norway
• Bulgaria	• France	• Poland
• Canada	• Germany	• Russia
• China	• Holland	• Slovakia
• Croatia	• Hungary	• Spain
• Czech Republic	• Italy	• Sweden
• Denmark	• Japan	• Switzerland
• Estonia	• Latvia	• United Kingdom
• Faeroe Islands	• Lithuania	• United States of America

### **How to apply**

Students from these countries, with exception of students from USA<sup>1</sup> and Canada<sup>2</sup>, can apply directly to the Icelandic Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, Sölvhólgata 4, 150 Reykjavík, Iceland.

Application must be made on a special application form which is available on the Ministry's website <http://www.menntamalaraduneyti.is/afgreidsla/sjodir-og-eydublod/menntamal/nr/1827>

<sup>1</sup> Students from the United States of America apply through: U.S.I.A. Fulbright, U.S. Student Programs, Institute of International Education, 809 United Nations Plaza, New York NY 10017 – 3580 (Tel: (212) 984-5330, Fax: (212) 984-5325. Website: [www.iie.org](http://www.iie.org))

<sup>2</sup> A scholarship for a student from Canada is offered through the Icelandic National League in Canada (103 94 1st Avenue, R0C 1B1 Gimli, Manitoba) that also select a candidate.

Application should include the following documents (the university transcript may be in English, others in Icelandic):

- CV
- university transcripts / copies of diplomas
- two letters of recommendation
- language certificate (Icelandic or English)

The applications must reach the Icelandic Ministry of Education, Science and Culture by **April 1, 2010**.

A special committee in Iceland evaluates the applications and its decision will be announced to the candidates by June 2010.

If a scholarship recipient wishes to extend the scholarship for an additional year he/she has to apply to the Icelandic Ministry **before March 1**. No one will be granted a scholarship for more than three times.

### **The Scholarship**

The scholarship covers registration fees at the University and a monthly stipend of ISK 120.000 – that should cover room and board for one person, payable at the beginning of each month, September to April. A room will be available for rent in one of the University dormitory.

It is important that grant recipients arrive timely in Iceland. The autumn term begins in the first days of September. An introductory session with new students will be held before the beginning of the academic year where the organisation and requirements for the study programme will be presented. A special introductory session for those who want to take the admission tests will be held at the end of August.

### **Icelandic for Foreign Students, at the University of Iceland, School of Humanities**

Icelandic for Foreign Students is divided into two separate programmes: ***B.A.-programme and practical language programme.***

Information on the current programmes of study and examination procedures is available at the University's website (the programme may be subject to change): <http://www.islmenn.hi.is>

As a rule, foreign students holding the Icelandic Ministry of Education, Science and Culture scholarship are expected to follow the programme in line with their previous knowledge of Icelandic, whether they intend to complete the BA-degree or not.

The first-year in Icelandic for Foreign Students, B.A. programme, is designed for students with some prior knowledge in the language. ***The candidates must have a working knowledge of English, since the course is taught in English in the beginning of the first year, but from then on all teaching is conducted in Icelandic.***

Students that begin their studies in autumn are required to pass exams at the end of the term. The student must pass these exams to be able to continue their studies for the spring term of the programme and it is expected that students pursue their studies diligently to the end of spring term.

***Students with considerable prior knowledge of Icelandic may move directly into the second year by passing examinations held in August.***