ICELANDIC GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS
for the academic year 2019-2020

Scholarships in Icelandic as a second language
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 as a second language at the University of Iceland, Reykjavik. The scholarship program is administrated by the Árni Magnússon Institute for Icelandic Studies. Approximately 15 scholarships are available for the period from September 1st 2019 to April 30th 2020.

The scholarships are intended for students of modern Icelandic. Students must have completed at least one year of University study. Students must also have prior knowledge of Icelandic according to the requirements for BA study in Icelandic as a second language (Icelandic knowledge on the level with the courses Icelandic Online 1 and 2). Preference will, as a rule, be given to a candidate under 35 years of age.

Icelandic as a second language 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 translation.

Nationals of the following countries are eligible:

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

How to apply
Students from these countries, with exception of students from USA¹ can apply directly to the Árni Magnússon Institute for Icelandic Studies, Sigurður Nordal Office, Box 1220, 121 Reykjavik, Iceland.

Application must be made on a special application form, which is available on the Institute’s website: www.arnastofnun.is/page/studentastyrkor_memntamalaraduneytis_en

Application should include the following documents (the university transcript may be in English, Icelandic or other Scandinavian languages):
- curriculum vitae (CV)
- university transcript of latest diplomas with grades.
- two letters of recommendation from academic supervisors at current University
- language certificate (English and/or Icelandic)

The application must reach the Árni Magnússon Institute for Icelandic Studies by post by December 1, 2018. Email applications are not accepted. Please notice that applicants need to apply separately to the University of Iceland.

A special committee in Iceland evaluates the applications and its’ decision will be announced to the candidates by Januar 2019.

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

The Scholarship
The scholarship covers registration fees at the University and a monthly stipend 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 the University dormitory, Gamli Garður.

Icelandic as a second language, at the University of Iceland, School of Humanities

It is important that grant recipients arrive timely in Iceland. The autumn term begins in the latter part of August. 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.

Information on the current programmes of study and examination procedures is available at the University’s website (the programme may be subject to change):
www.english.hi.is/school_of_humanities/faculty_of_icelandic_and_comparative_cultural_studies/icelandic_second_language

The first-year in Icelandic as a second language, BA programme, is designed for students with some prior knowledge in the language. The candidates must have a working knowledge of English, since English will serve as a second language in teaching.

The admission exam for the BA programme will be held online in the second week in June.

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

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.

Students that begin their studies in autumn are required to pass exams at the end of the term to be able to continue their studies for the spring term of the programme. The scholarship holders have to pass examinations in the end of the fall term to be eligible for the scholarship in the spring.