

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE GERMANY SCHOLARSHIP AT LEUPHANA UNIVERSITY LÜNEBURG

APPLICATION FOR THE SUMMER SEMESTER 2026

The Germany Scholarship from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) is a scholarship programme that provides meaningful support and encouragement to high-achieving and socially committed students on their academic path in a joint project involving politics, business and science. Starting in the summer semester of 2026, Leuphana University Lüneburg is expected to be able to offer 35 scholarships for students in all degree programmes as part of this scholarship programme.

The aim of the scholarship programme is to improve the study and living conditions of particularly talented and high-achieving students and to create a network between sponsors, scholarship holders and the university at an early stage. Social commitment and special social circumstances are also taken into account when selecting scholarship holders.

Support from the Germany Scholarship is not means-tested and can be combined with BAföG funding. Double funding through other performance-based, material benefits from the scholarship organisations is legally excluded (for exceptions, see StipG §4). There is no legal entitlement to the scholarship. The scholarships will be paid for two semesters, beginning with the summer semester of 2026.

Bachelor's students enrolled at Leuphana University Lüneburg in the College, Master's students in the Graduate School and Bachelor's or Master's students in the Professional School are eligible to apply.

The scholarships are awarded in accordance with the "Guidelines of the Presidium of Leuphana University Lüneburg for the Award of the Germany Scholarship". Applications must specify the degree programme in which the applicant is enrolled or has applied for enrolment.

Selection criteria

The selection criteria of Leuphana University Lüneburg are based on the official selection criteria of the German Federal Government's Scholarship Programme Act (cf. § 2 StipV).

This means

- for first-year students, the average grade of the university entrance qualification, with special consideration given to the individual grades relevant to the chosen subject or the special qualification that entitles the student to study at this university
- for students already enrolled, the academic achievements to date, in particular the average grade and the CPs achieved. For students in a Master's programme, the final grade of the previous programme is also taken into account.

The following are also taken into account when assessing the overall potential of applicants:

- special achievements, awards and prizes,

- previous or current professional activity (with a minimum duration of 6 months) or extracurricular internships (with a minimum duration of 6 weeks),
- extracurricular or non-academic activities (to a significant extent) such as voluntary work, social, university political or political engagement, or participation in religious communities, associations or clubs, as well as other voluntary work.
- special personal or family circumstances (such as proven illnesses and disabilities, proven care of own children, especially as a single parent or close relative in need of care, working in the family business (to a significant extent), gainful employment alongside studies (to a significant extent), a migrant or refugee background) or status as a first-generation academic.

The Germany Scholarship grants are initially awarded for a period of two semesters at a monthly rate of €300, with 50% of the sum being provided by private sponsors (companies, foundations, private individuals) and the other 50% by the federal government. The funding is unilateral and does not require any consideration in return. The funding period begins on 1 April of each year.

The maximum funding period is generally based on the standard period of study and can only be extended beyond the standard period of study in justified cases of hardship. An extension of the maximum funding period must be applied for in writing, stating the reasons.

Online application

Applications must be submitted electronically using the online application form at
<https://awards.leuphana.de/datenabfrage/deutschlandstipendium2026>

Application documents

After completing the online application form, the application documents can be uploaded as labelled below. Please also label the files with your surname (e.g. CV_Smith) so that all documents can be clearly assigned to you.

1. Signed application agreement,
2. Certificate of enrolment, stating the current semester and the (individual) standard period of study, or, if applicable, letter of admission for first-year students
3. First-year Bachelor's students: Certificate of university entrance qualification (for foreign certificates, a translation/conversion into the German grading system that is transferable to the German system)
4. Higher semesters: Proof of academic achievements and examinations completed to date with average grade and number of CPs earned to date (transcript of records),
5. tabular curriculum vitae,

And, if applicable – in accordance with the information provided in your application – certificates or proof of:

6. A successfully completed previous degree
7. Special awards, achievements and prizes
8. Previous internship and work certificates
9. Extracurricular or non-academic activities

10. Special personal or family circumstances: Chronic illnesses and disabilities; caring for your own children or relatives in need of care; Migration background (in accordance with §6 of the Migration Background Survey Ordinance) or refugee background (refugee backgrounds must not date back more than 60 months from arrival in Germany), work in the family business or part-time work alongside studies (to a significant extent); status as a first-generation academic.

If the application documents are not written in German or English, an officially certified translation into German must be enclosed.

Important information

- Only complete applications uploaded by the deadline will be considered. Please do not submit any documents after the application deadline, as we will not be able to consider them.
- All documents MUST be attached in PDF format; other formats cannot be considered for evaluation. All supporting documents must be submitted in electronic form and only via the online form. Paper documents will not be accepted. All documents must be structured as described above and uploaded to the application server in the specified order.
- Please do not send any enquiries about the Germany Scholarship to the faculties or schools. Please also do not request references from professors for your application, as such references will not be included in the selection process.
- The simultaneous receipt of another scholarship will be checked when the Germany Scholarship is approved. Parallel scholarship funding is theoretically possible and depends on the type of funding. As a general rule, anyone who already receives talent- and performance-based financial support averaging 30 euros or more per month is not eligible for a Germany Scholarship. An overview of the eligibility of receiving several scholarships at the same time as the Germany Scholarship can be found on the BMBF website¹. During the scholarship, there is a legal obligation to provide information. The Federal Ministry of Education and Research carries out random checks to avoid double funding. Leuphana University Lüneburg is obliged to provide the necessary data for this purpose (cf. §4 StipG).
- Please refrain from enquiring about the status of your application. All applicants will be notified in writing once the selection process has been completed.

Application deadline

The application period begins on 1 February 2026 and ends on 15 February 2026.

The selection will be made by the Presidium of Leuphana University Lüneburg on the basis of the recommendation of the scholarship selection committee.

We thank you for your interest in the Germany Scholarship at Leuphana University Lüneburg and wish you every success with your application.

Current information on the application process can be found at the following link:
www.leuphana.de/deutschlandstipendium

¹ https://www.deutschlandstipendium.de/files/2018_12_06DStip_Uebersicht_Doppelfoerderung.pdf