

## Information for applicants:

# Research Residency Period in Germany

## Scholarships Grants for Displaced Persons

The DBU awards scholarships to highly qualified college and university graduates from the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, with the goal of advanced professional qualification toward the solution of problems in environmental and nature protection in their native countries. In addition the DBU has a new funding programme and offers 10 scholarship grants in 2016 for displaced university graduates living in Germany.

### **Scholarship Exchange Programme for Central and Eastern European Countries:**

Following the scholarship programme's successful start in Poland 1998, the following countries are included today: Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Estonia, Croatia, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Montenegro, Kaliningrad oblast, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, the Czech Republic and Hungary.

The DBU scholarship makes it possible for the graduate students to spend a research period in German institutions (universities, research institutes, environmental and nature protection agencies and administrative entities, companies, associations etc.). A scholarship should last for at least six months. The maximum grant period is 12 months.

In addition to advanced professional training, the DBU scholarship exchange programme is intended to serve the breakdown of barriers and the growth of contacts in the form of a Europe-wide network of experts, in which experience and information are facilitated and exchanged. The DBU awards about 60 scholarships each year in the countries named.

## Scholarship grants for displaced persons:

### Eligible persons

The application process is open to displaced university graduates (e. g. from Syria) living in Germany.

The degree program (Master, Magister, Diplom) must have been completed with above-average exam results not more than three years previously (fleeing related exceptions are possible). The applicants must have applied for asylum in Germany. Citizens from safe third countries cannot apply.

All applicants must have adequate knowledge of the German or English language and submit their proofs (certificates of language schools, assessment of a language teacher). Online-applications can be submitted either in English or in German language.

The scholarship is not intended for persons who wish to earn a doctorate (duration 24 to 36 months) or carry out a studies program at a German university. Every application must include a detailed description of a project idea in environmental and nature protection. The DBU welcomes applications from natural scientists, engineers, agronomists, economists, legal practitioners, educators and others, to the extent that they involve a substantial contribution to the protection of the environment and nature in the home country or in the European Union.

## **Submission of applications**

Applications are to be made in an online procedure. Please inform yourself on the DBU website [https://www.dbu.de/scholarship\\_displaced](https://www.dbu.de/scholarship_displaced)

In the online process you must provide the following documents:

personal data sheet

- Project proposal
- Complete Diploma copy (Master- or Magister certificate) incl. German or English translation
- Statement from academic supervisor or other adequate person (internship advisor, teacher in Germany etc.) in German or English
- Confirmation of German and/or English language capability

## **Close of application submission period/dates**

Start of online-applications: May 20, 2016.

Closing-date: July 20, 2016.

Selection interview: September 2016

Start of scholarship: November 2016

Inquiries, for example, by e-mail are possible at all times.

## **Information and contact**

Current information on the MOE scholarship exchange program and contact data for the relevant contact persons can be found on the internet under

[https://www.dbu.de/scholarship\\_displaced](https://www.dbu.de/scholarship_displaced)

Inquiries via e-mail should be directed to:

- Christiane Grimm [c.grimm@dbu.de](mailto:c.grimm@dbu.de)
- Dr. Nicole Freyer-Wille [n.freyer@dbu.de](mailto:n.freyer@dbu.de)

## **Scholarship awards**

All scholarship applications are decided upon by a jury. Following an internal pre-selection phase, applicants who receive a positive evaluation are invited to a selection interview in Osnabrück. Dates are made known to all applicants well in advance.

## **Financial support**

The amount of the stipendium is € 1,060 per month. This scholarship award is free of taxes and social security deductions. The scholarship also includes a health-, accident- and liability insurance. Furthermore, the DBU organizes and supports a German language course before the beginning of the scholarship period.

Please note that the DBU does not provide additional family allowances in this programme.

## **Obligations of the scholarship recipients**

By accepting the scholarship, the recipient obligates herself or himself to concentrate her or his work on the project described in the scholarship application or work plan, and not to accept other professional employment or additional scholarships. If the project or traineeship is interrupted, altered or ended earlier than was foreseen, the DBU must be immediately informed. The DBU reserves the right to retract the scholarship and require return payment of the previously issued scholarship funds, if a scholarship recipient is found to have provided inaccurate information or failed to disclose significant facts or changes which would nullify a precondition for the granting of the scholarship, and when it is obvious that a scholarship recipient is not engaged with his or her subject at the work location, or has violated the instructions of the program supervisor.

## **Residency/internship in Germany**

The internship location in Germany is, as a rule, organized by the DBU in cooperation with the scholarship recipient and the host institution in Germany. The scholarship recipients may share their ideas about this with the DBU. The DBU also appreciates the individual initiative of applicants who arrange their internship location themselves.

The scholarship begins with a multi-day introductory seminar for all new scholarship recipients in Osnabrück, at which important organizational matters of the research stay/internship are explained. The German hosts provide the workplace and guarantee professional supervision. The DBU and the professional supervisor at the internship location accompany and supervise the scholarship recipient over the entire scholarship period.

During the scholarship period the DBU organizes closing- and status seminars at which the scholarship recipients can present their research topics and early results. Beyond this, the DBU supports individual initiatives such as self-organized events and seminars. Also worthy of mention are opportunities for participation in the DBU Summer Academy in St. Marienthal/Ostritz, and in the presentation of the German Environmental Award.

No work permit must be issued by the authorities for the performance of the internship in Germany. A positive decision of the asylum application should be available when the scholarship starts.

If you are interested in examples of scholarships please look at our brochure on the Scholarship Exchange Programme for CEE Countries  
<https://www.dbu.de/2433publikation1046.html>