



## Grants/scholarships for doing a study or work placement abroad

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### Applying for a grant/scholarship

You want to spend some time abroad, study under an international celebrity, carry out research, do a work placement in a totally different culture, or go in search of the origins of your field of study. You can apply for grants/scholarships to fund that plan.

You can apply for some grants/scholarships yourself, while others must be submitted by the University. Grants for the Erasmus programme, for example, are handled by the University. However, you can apply to funds such as the *Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds*, the *VandenEnde Foundation* and the *Performing Arts Fund NL (Fonds Podiumkunsten)* without the involvement of the University. In that case, you send your application directly to these funds.

### Tips for writing your application

Almost all grants/scholarships have a detailed application form that you have to complete in full. Please note the following points when writing the substantive sections:

- **Provide a convincing motivation**

The power to convince lies in sincerity. Therefore, ask yourself a number of questions to begin with, in order to find out why you want to do that particular study programme or work placement in that country at this moment in time. Be as honest as possible and remember that any motive is allowed. In addition to his or her 'official' reasons, everyone has a few personal reasons that have less to do with the field of study. Why do you want to go abroad? Are you working on an international career? Would you like to escape from your life here? Are you looking for a new challenge? Would you like to study under a particular teacher? Do you think that experience abroad will improve your chance of finding work? Translate the answers into the motivation behind your plan, trip or project.

- **Formulate positively**

Regard the plan as a stage in your development. Describe what you have done and achieved up until now in your life – in your study programme and in your discipline – where you are at the moment and what your vision for the future is. Ensure your plan is a logical extension of that. Use positive wording, without focusing on frustrations. For example, don't write that your study programme failed to deliver in a particular area and that you now want to specialise further. Don't say that you just want a complete break for a while, but that you would like to broaden your horizons and increase your opportunities in the profession.

- **Make your objectives clear**

Describe what you want to learn and why that can best be done at the place you have chosen. Don't use generalisations to describe the educational level of your destination's school ('a very good study programme', 'the best teacher in this field'), but use terms from your discipline to indicate what makes that school unique: the technical sophistication, the dynamism, design, expressiveness, particular specialisations or rather their multidisciplinary approach, etc. Show that you know what you are talking about and that you are making a conscious decision. Avoid professional jargon that only specialists understand. Include additional arguments in your story too, so that you are completely honest, but also to lend extra support to your motivation. Here too you should choose wording that works to your advantage and make sure every element of your argument serves a purpose.



## Overview of grants

PLEASE NOTE: Most grants are for study/work placement periods in 2021/2022, but some concern 2020/2021. Check the websites of the funds for the precise conditions of the grants in question.

Study	Work placement	Grant/scholarship	Deadline
✓		<b>CV-beurzen (Cultural Agreement grants)</b> Cultural agreements between the Netherlands and another country. Study or work placement grants. <a href="http://www.wilweg.nl/cv">www.wilweg.nl/cv</a> (in Dutch)	Varies per country.
✓		<b>Duitslanddesk (Germany Desk) and DAAD</b> Various student grants for Germany. The <i>DIA-Stipendium</i> (DIA Scholarship) is for exchanges and a one-year Master's programme in Germany. DAAD also has its own scholarships. <a href="http://www.studereninduitsland.nl">www.studereninduitsland.nl</a>	See website, different dates for different scholarships.
✓	✓	<b>Erasmus grants</b> Study exchange in Europe for a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 12 months. Work placements from 2 months. Work placement following graduation from 2 months.  <b>Via your own study programme</b> Consult the internationalisation coordinator of your own study programme. Apply preferably at least 3 months before the start of the exchange to guarantee a Erasmus grant for your exchange. <a href="http://www.ahk.nl/en/facilities/student-affairs/studying-abroad/">www.ahk.nl/en/facilities/student-affairs/studying-abroad/</a>	For study: apply to the coordinator of your school before February . Placement: at least 3 months before start.
✓		<b>Performing Arts Fund NL (Fonds Podiumkunsten)</b> For follow-up studies and projects. <a href="http://www.fondspodiumkunsten.nl">www.fondspodiumkunsten.nl</a>	See website.
✓		<b>Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds</b> <b>Cultuurfondsbeurzen (Culture Fund scholarships)</b> - Scholarships for further study for graduates. - Scholarships for musicians. <a href="http://www.cultuurfonds.nl/cultuurfondsbeurzen">www.cultuurfonds.nl/cultuurfondsbeurzen</a>	Postgrad. study: check website. Usually around 1 April. Musicians: all year round.
✓	✓	<b>VandenEnde Foundation</b> Scholarships for further study in music, dance, theatre, film and television. You can apply to this fund in successive years as long as you satisfy the age requirements. <a href="http://www.vandenendefoundation.org">www.vandenendefoundation.org</a>	Check the website for the various dates. Some disciplines require an audition.
✓		<b>VSBfonds scholarships</b> Intended for postgraduate study. Between 3 and 24 months. The scholarship consists of a one-off payment. <a href="http://www.vsbfonds.nl/beurzen">www.vsbfonds.nl/beurzen</a> <b>Apply at your own school</b> Contact the internationalisation coordinator. The university selects which candidates to nominate. Read criteria for nationality carefully.	Annual deadline: 1 March



## More information

- Via [BeroepKunstenaar](#):
  - Various tips on *study and training and on going abroad*.
  - Texts about *grants/scholarships and fundraising*.
- *Wil Weg* campaign: [www.wilweg.nl](http://www.wilweg.nl) (in Dutch)
- *Beursopener*: [www.beursopener.nl](http://www.beursopener.nl) (in Dutch)
- Students at the Amsterdam University of the Arts can find more information about the AHK internationalisation fund at [www.ahk.nl/en/facilities/student-affairs/going-abroad/](http://www.ahk.nl/en/facilities/student-affairs/going-abroad/). You can apply for a short period abroad (minimum 2 weeks, maximum 1 year) to do a study or work placement. For more information, please contact the internationalisation coordinator of your own academy.  
Deadlines for the exchanges within period January-July 2021: deadline around 15 November 2020. For the period July-December 2021: deadline around 15 May 2021.