

## **Guidelines for awarding of STIBET I scholarship grants for foreign students at the University of Siegen in 2024 (unofficial translation)**

### **Preamble**

The STIBET I scholarship and support program from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), supported through funds from the German Foreign Ministry, allows the University of Siegen to award scholarships to international students affected by the war in Ukraine and are thus in financial need. The overarching goal is to provide financial support to help qualified foreign students focus on their studies.

### **1. Scholarships**

Scholarships are available for students affected by the war in Ukraine, i.e., exclusively for citizens of Russia, Ukraine or Belarus, as well as citizens of third countries who were demonstrably residing in Ukraine until 2022 or 2023 or 2024 and were thus forced to end their stay.

The scholarship presumes strong prior academic performance by the candidate and a personal history upended by the current political situation in Ukraine.

### **2. Scope and Duration of the Scholarship, Other Sources of Income**

The scholarship will run for four months (probably October 2024 to January 2025). The scholarship provides 450 euros per month.

Other sources of income up to 934 euros (gross) per month are permissible.

If the students are already receiving a partial scholarship from public funds, then a supplemental grant up to the total of a full scholarship (934 euro/month) is permissible. In addition, other income up to 520 euro/month (gross) is permissible.

Any income / scholarships in excess of these sums will lead to a corresponding cut to the STIBET grant.

The scholarship will end prematurely if the recipient's studies end prior to January 2024 through the completion of the final examination or submission of the final degree project.

### **3. Eligibility requirements**

The following eligibility conditions apply:

- Candidate must be foreign nationals with university entry qualifications from abroad
- Must be enrolled at the University of Siegen as full-time students (not counting semesters on leave)

- Must have current documentation of their academic performance and of the circumstances related to the Ukraine war (such as proof of nationality or Ukrainian residence permit for 2022 or 2023 or 2024), proof of financial need

#### 4. Application

The application should include the following documents in German or English:

- A hand-signed copy of the completed application form
- Proof of enrollment (*Immatrikulationsbescheinigung*)
- A curriculum vitae
- A current list of achievements
- Proof of nationality and/or residence permit (see point 3).
- Motivation letter in which the need is presented (no more than 500 words; Longer cover letters will not be considered!)
- Bank statements for the last three months for all existing accounts
- Where applicable: documentation of other scholarships (duration and amount of funding)
- Where applicable: other evidence that confirms eligibility (e.g., proof of current financial status, proof of social engagement, or similar).

The application, including all documents specified above, must be submitted by post or in person to the International Student Affairs office. Only complete applications will be considered.

Universität Siegen  
International Student Affairs  
Eva Grottschreiber  
Sandstraße 16-18  
57072 Siegen

#### 5. Selection committee and awarding of grants

The applications will be assessed by a selection committee comprised of the following members:

- 1 representatives of a faculty
- 1 representative of AStA
- 1 representative of the International Student Affairs office

The committee will review the incoming applications for completeness and plausibility based on the personal and social background, taking into account the requirements specified in § 1.

Applicants should not infer any entitlement to receive the scholarship.

## 6. Other Stipulations

- The scholarship recipient is not obligated to any specific service in return, nor to working in an employment relationship. The scholarship does not establish an employment relationship, nor is it subject to social insurance obligations, as it is not remuneration as defined in § 14 SGB IV. The scholarship is tax-free according to the requirements of §3 (44) EStG.
- As a result, the awarding of the scholarship does not obligate the university to make contributions to health or accident insurance. The same applies for private liability insurance. Insurance policies of these types are to be arranged by the scholarship recipient on their own.
- In receiving the financial support, the scholarship recipient agrees to inform the International Student Affairs office, unprompted and without delay, about any changes relevant to the grant.
- In accordance with transaction reporting regulations, the university is obligated to inform the responsible financial authorities about the payment of the scholarship.
- The scholarship is valid until revoked. Revocation and, where necessary, a claim of repayment can be issued if it is determined that
  - The information in the application documents was untrue,
  - It becomes clear that the scholarship recipient is not putting the reasonable and/or necessary time and effort into achieving the goal of the financial support,
  - The funds for provision of the grant are canceled or otherwise unavailable, or
  - The scholarship recipient fails to fulfill the mandatory reporting or notification obligations.