



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR INTERPRETATION

Interpretation Services Management and Professional Support
Talent Development

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS BURSARIES FOR CONFERENCE INTERPRETING STUDENTS ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026

The Directorate-General for Interpretation of the European Commission offers bursaries to students enrolled in master's/post-graduate courses in Conference Interpreting who are required to pay an enrolment fee.

The bursary amounts to the equivalent of the enrolment fee (tuition and/or administrative fee) for academic year 2025-2026, up to a maximum of EUR 3 000.

Deadline for applications: Friday 26 September 2025 at midnight (Brussels time)

Submit your application here: [SPIRIT platform](#)

1. Admissibility criteria

The Bursaries Evaluation Committee will only consider **admissible** applications. For applications to be admissible, they must:

- Be submitted by the deadline.
- Be submitted electronically via the SPIRIT platform. Applications sent via e-mail or in any other way will **not** be accepted.
- Include the documents listed under Section 3 “How to apply for a bursary” below. Only one reminder with a 2-day deadline will be sent to applicants in cases where only one document is missing.

Failure to comply with these requirements will lead to the automatic rejection of your application without the substance of the application being evaluated¹.

2. Eligibility criteria

Only after an application is considered admissible will the Bursaries Evaluation Committee assess it on its merits.

In order to be **eligible** to receive a bursary, you must fulfil **all of the five criteria below**:

1. You are a national of an EU Member State or of one of the candidate countries².
2. You already have a university degree or equivalent qualification or are in the final year of a course leading to a university degree or equivalent qualification.

¹ Corrections of clerical errors may be possible.

² For lists of candidate countries, please consult the official website of the European Commission: https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/eu-enlargement_en

3. You have applied or intend to apply for a full master's/post-graduate course in Conference Interpreting offered for the year 2025-2026 by a recognised university or university-level institution. For courses that last more than one year, only final year students will be eligible.
4. You need to pay or have paid an enrolment fee for academic year 2025-2026 (which should be the final year of your master's/post-graduate course). The enrolment fee can be a tuition fee and/or an administrative fee.
5. The language profile of your enrolment as stated in the bursary application is in line with the preferential profiles published [here](#).³

Applicants who follow or intend to follow a master's/post-graduate course in Conference Interpreting at a university established in a country that is subject to EU restrictive measures, adopted under Article 29 of the Treaty on the European Union (TEU) or Article 215 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU)⁴, are not eligible.

3. How to apply for a bursary

The deadline for submissions is Friday 26 September 2025 at midnight (Brussels time).

We strongly recommend not waiting until the last day to apply. DG Interpretation will be able to provide technical support to applicants within two business days (the response time may be longer during the summer break).

You will be able to upload documents even after submitting your application, but only until the deadline. The SPIRIT application will not be accessible after the deadline.

Please fill in the online application form⁵ for 2025-2026⁶ via the SPIRIT online application system [here](#) and upload all the documents listed below. If you do not submit all the documents, your application will be considered inadmissible, and it will be excluded automatically.

You should upload all the following documents in PDF format:

1. A detailed CV, in **French, German or English**, listing all your qualifications. The use of the [‘Europass’ template](#) is highly recommended.
2. A short motivation letter (between 250 and 500 words), **written in the A language of the language combination as indicated in your enrolment.**
3. A scanned copy of the completed [university information form](#). **The language combination indicated in the university information form must be the one indicated in your enrolment. The amount for the tuition and/or administrative fee indicated in this form is final and cannot be updated after the deadline for applications.**
4. A duly completed [identification form for natural persons](#) together with a legible copy of your identity document (front and back). Please carefully read the instructions given in the form, **fill**

³ If you have any additional languages which would bring your combination in line with ‘the preferential profiles’, these may also be taken into account if proof is provided that this language is at a sufficient level of proficiency to start interpretation practice, as tested (diploma or certificate) or confirmed by a qualified person/authority.

⁴ Please note that the EU Official Journal contains the official list of entities subject to restrictive measures and, in case of conflict, it prevails over the list of the EU Sanctions Map.

⁵ Personal information collected through the online application form is subject to a [privacy statement](#). By clicking on the link to the application form, your personal data will be processed as described.

⁶ Please note that the application form is only available in English and French.

out all the sections and do not forget to sign and date the document before uploading it. It is preferable to also attach a copy of **a recent bank statement**⁷.

4. Selection and award procedure

1. Only admissible applications will be considered by the Bursaries Evaluation Committee. The Committee will submit a list of potential beneficiaries to the Authorising Officer for an award decision. If applicants believe that the evaluation procedure was flawed, they can submit a complaint to: SCIC-Bursaries@ec.europa.eu
2. In granting study bursaries, preference will be given to applicants offering a language combination which is most suited to DG Interpretation's current and foreseeable needs. The selection will be based on the applicant's language combination and on the assessment of their potential.
3. The Bursaries Evaluation Committee will base their proposal on the language priorities for succession planning defined for 2025.
4. All applicants will be informed of the outcome of the award by mid-December 2025 and short-listed applicants will receive a bursary offer. All communication will be sent by e-mail or through the SPIRIT application platform.
5. The **bursary** will amount to the equivalent of the **enrolment fee** (tuition and/or administrative fee) **for academic year 2025-2026**, up to a **maximum of EUR 3 000**, and will consist of **one single payment**. If the enrolment fee is not paid in euros, the bursary amount will be calculated applying the currency exchange rate provided by [InforEuro](#). The currency conversion rate published in October 2025 will be the basis for the conversion.

5. Important information

1. DG Interpretation will not open your application before the deadline for the call and it will not be able to confirm that all the documents were submitted correctly – requests for such information sent via email will not be answered. If the status of your application in SPIRIT is “electronically complete”, it means you uploaded documents in all the necessary fields; however, there is no automatic check on the completeness of the documents at that stage.
2. A DG Interpretation bursary is intended as a contribution towards study expenses and will not necessarily cover all costs. It can be combined with additional funds provided by the university, by the Member State or by other public or private bodies.
3. DG Interpretation bursary holders may only benefit from this scheme once and may not benefit at the same time from other bursaries, allowances, salaries or revenues paid directly or indirectly by the European Union (including the Erasmus programme).
4. EU-accredited interpreters (ACI) and officials of an EU institution or body are not eligible to receive a bursary (including those on any type of leave).
5. Failing to attend the course on a regular basis, abandoning the course or dropping a language declared in the university information form as part of your language combination may make you liable to repay all or part of the bursary. Beneficiaries and their universities are required to inform DG Interpretation of any change in their language combination or if they abandon the course.

⁷ If you provide a bank statement, the stamp of the bank and the signature of the bank's representative are not required. Please note that the bank statement has to confirm all the information listed under 'Account name', 'Account number/IBAN' and 'Bank name'.

6. If the master's/post-graduate course has a duration of over one year, only final year students will be eligible.
7. Bursary beneficiaries commit themselves to applying for an [inter-institutional accreditation test](#) after completion of their master's/post-graduate course, and to sitting the test, if invited to do so, by the EU Institutions.

DG Interpretation reserves the right to ask for additional proof related to any element of your application, e.g. copy of your university degree, proof of payment of the enrolment fee (tuition and/or administrative fee, etc.), at any time, including after the award decision and for three years following the payment of the bursary.

In order to protect the EU's financial interests, the Commission may also carry out checks and audits to determine that the beneficiary is complying with the obligations under the Bursaries scheme. The European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) has the same rights as the Commission, particularly the right of access to documents, for the purpose of checks and investigations.

Under Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96⁸ and Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013⁹ OLAF may also carry out on-the-spot checks and inspections in accordance with the procedures laid down by Union law for the protection of the financial interests of the Union against *fraud* and other *irregularities*. The European Court of Auditors and the European Public Prosecutor's Office established by Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 ('the EPPO') have the same rights as the Commission, particularly the right of access to documents, for the purpose of checks, audits and investigations.

The beneficiary must provide any information, including information in electronic format, requested by the Commission or by any other outside body authorised by the Commission. Information and documents provided as part of checks or audits must be treated on a confidential basis.

Additional information on those checks and audits can be found in §Section 3 of the implementing decision of the bursaries programme.

The [DG Interpretation 2025 work programme](#) on financial support for training in conference interpreting and the [implementing decision](#) related to the study bursary programme may be consulted.

Questions and all correspondence relating to the bursaries scheme should be sent to this e-mail address: SCIC-Bursaries@ec.europa.eu. Please indicate your full name in every e-mail.

6. Working for DG Interpretation

If you want to work as an interpreter for DG Interpretation, you will be required to pass an **inter-institutional accreditation test**.

Please note that receipt of a bursary does not confer an automatic right to be invited to sit a test.

Further information about these tests can be found [here](#).

⁸ Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96 of 11 November 1996 concerning on-the-spot checks and inspections carried out by the Commission in order to protect the European Communities' financial interests against fraud and other irregularities.

⁹ Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 September 2013 concerning investigations conducted by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF).