



## Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships

# Arts Scholarships

**Academic year:** 2022-2023  
**Country:** Latvia

**Opening of the call:** 15 August 2021  
**Submission deadline:** 12 November 2021

<b>Scholarship</b>	⇒	Swiss Government Excellence Arts Scholarships for foreign students
<b>Offered by</b>	⇒	The Swiss Government via the Federal Commission for Scholarships for Foreign Students FCS
<b>Objectives</b>	⇒	To enable selected applicants to undertake initial Master's studies at conservatories or art schools affiliated with universities of applied sciences.
<b>Universities of applied sciences</b>	⇒	<a href="#">University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland</a> / <a href="#">Bern University of the Arts</a> / <a href="#">University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland</a> / <a href="#">University of Applied Sciences Eastern Switzerland</a> / <a href="#">Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts</a> / <a href="#">University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland</a> / <a href="#">Conservatorio della Svizzera italiana</a> / <a href="#">Zurich University of the Arts</a>
<b>Validity</b>	⇒	The Scholarship is only valid to pursue the initial master's degree. The arts scholarships are granted at one of the above-mentioned universities of applied sciences in Switzerland. It is not valid for mixed programmes (part time in Switzerland and part time in another country).
<b>Target group</b>	⇒	Highly qualified young artists - from all artistic fields - wishing to pursue an initial master's degree. These scholarships are only offered to citizens of countries with which Switzerland has reciprocity agreements for art scholarships.
<b>Duration</b>	⇒	12 months (starting in September), prolongable up to 21 months at most depending on the Master programme chosen and the necessary ECTS credits.
<b>Amount and additional allowances</b>	⇒ ⇒ ⇒ ⇒ ⇒	The scholarship amounts to a monthly payment of CHF 1'920. There are no family allowances. For non-EU and non-EFTA grantees only: the FCS pays mandatory Swiss health insurance. Scholarship holders from non-EU and non-EFTA countries receive a flight allowance (lump sum) for a ticket back to their country of origin (provided at the end of the scholarship). Special CHF 300 housing allowance (paid once at the beginning of the scholarship).

	⇒	One-year half-fare public transportation card.
	⇒	Support services and various trips, dinners and sightseeing tours organised for Swiss Government Excellence Scholarship holders.
<b>Eligibility criteria and specific conditions</b>	⇒	Bachelor's degree or equivalent. Only valid to pursue an initial master course. Applicants for arts and music cannot apply for a second master's degree. Applicants holding a master's degree already are not eligible.
	⇒	Applicants must be born after <b>31 December 1986</b> .
	⇒	Applicants should start their scholarship no later than three years after graduating with their Bachelor's degree.
	⇒	Applicants who have been in Switzerland since more than one year at the beginning of the scholarship in September are not eligible. Reference document if applicable: residence permit to be added to the application documents.
	⇒	Applicants must be in command of the necessary language skills required for the Master's programme.
	⇒	Scholarship holders are expected to move to Switzerland during their grant period.
	⇒	The scholarship amount covers the living costs of one person only. Applicants who have already benefited from a Swiss Government Scholarship are not eligible to apply for a second scholarship.
	⇒	<b>PLEASE NOTE:</b> The application for a FCS Arts Scholarship and the application for admission by your chosen Swiss conservatory or art school (university of applied sciences) are two separate procedures.
	⇒	FCS applicants have to document that an institution has accepted them or that they are being considered for admission. This may be in the form of a conditional acceptance pending an entry exam or other specific requirements.
	⇒	Without such a document, the application will be rejected.
<b>Application timeframe</b>	⇒	Opening of the call: 15 August 2021
	⇒	Application deadline: 12 November 2021
	⇒	Beginning of the scholarship: <b>01 September 2022</b>
<b>Application procedure</b>	⇒	The application package can be obtained by email from the Education Development State Agency in Riga (see below).
<b>Application documents</b>	⇒	Please submit 2 sets (=1 original + 1 copy) of application documents in exact order given below: The 1 <sup>st</sup> set contains the original, <b>signed</b> documents plus the confidential letters of recommendation and, if applicable the attested translations in English. The other set is the copy of the 1 <sup>st</sup> set except for the confidential letters of recommendation (only 1 <sup>st</sup> set), no copies for 2 <sup>nd</sup> set.
	1)	<b>Signed FCS application form</b> (typed and printed) with photo.
	2)	A full CV with list of exhibitions, concerts, awards etc.
	3)	A motivation letter (max. 2 pages specifying your reasons to study in Switzerland, the importance of the choice for your future career as well as your professional projects at the end of the scholarship).
	⇒	The applicants for arts scholarships do not have to submit a research proposal.

	<p>⇒ The required application elements:</p> <p><b>For musicians:</b></p> <p>4a) High-quality file of three different styles of music if the music involves interpreters and directors (USB memory stick or CD/DVD labelled with name, surname and country; link or QR-Code). Composers have to submit their scores.</p> <p>4b) <b>For painters, graphic artists and sculptors:</b> Copies or photos of three pieces of their work, along with rough drafts (incl. their dates of creation; work labelled with name, surname and country).</p> <p>4c) <b>For other artists (e.g. dancers, actors, authors):</b> Pieces of their art (USB memory stick or CD/DVD labelled with name, surname and country; link or QR-Code).</p> <p>5) A proof for “admission is under consideration” at the intended Swiss arts or music school (conservatory). This may be in the form of a conditional acceptance pending an entry exam or other specific requirements. ⇒ If applicable, a copy of the letter from a professor confirming the supervision of the studies.</p> <p>6) Two confidential letters of recommendation from two different professors in the applicant’s field (use only the FCS reference form – originals in sealed envelopes only for the 1<sup>st</sup> set). No copies for 2<sup>nd</sup> set.</p> <p>7) Photocopies of certificates and grade sheets from previously attended universities/colleges and diplomas with grades, starting with the most recent. If not in English, French, Italian or German with attested certified translations in English. Do not submit the original certificates.</p> <p>8) <b>Signed</b> medical certificate (use only the FCS health certificate form).</p> <p>9) Two copies of the applicant’s passport (main page with personal data). Dual nationals add copies of both passports. Applicants already in Switzerland during the application procedure add a copy of the residence permit for Switzerland. ⇒ <b>Please do not put the documents into plastic or binders nor use paper clips or stapler.</b></p>
<p><b>Contact institution for the application</b></p>	<p>⇒ Questions and application documents should to be submitted to the following address – if not mentioned otherwise below*:</p> <p>⇒ Education Development State Agency in Riga Valnu iela 2 1050 Riga Latvia</p> <p>E-mail: marika.pira@viaa.gov.lv; riga@eda.admin.ch; Tel: 00371 67 81 43 31 Web: <a href="https://www.viaa.gov.lv">https://www.viaa.gov.lv</a> * -</p>