

Call for Applications

Beck Berlin

Scholarship Programme for Israeli Students and Doctoral Candidates

The new Beck Berlin scholarship programme offered by the Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich Studienwerk and the Beck'sche Stiftung supports Israeli students and doctoral candidates studying or pursuing their doctoral degrees at universities in Berlin. The scholarship is open to Israeli citizens starting their respective degree course or programme in Berlin.

The scholarship offers the opportunity for intensive academic, cultural, and religious exchange with other ELES scholarship holders as well as a network of renowned Jewish academics and public and cultural figures.

The intellectual support programme offers seminars, workshops, and evening events as spaces for academic and societal debate and as opportunities to reflect upon topics of particular relevance to the Jewish community in the German and wider European diaspora and in Israel. The fruitful academic and cultural exchange among scholarship holders within the intellectual infrastructure offered by ELES should help to strengthen relations between Israel and Germany. In addition to the intellectual support and inclusion in ELES' network of scholarship holders and academics, the scholarship offers monetary support irrespective of scholarship recipients' parental incomes.

The Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich Studienwerk

The Ernst Ludwig Ehrlich Studienwerk (ELES) is one of the thirteen scholarly funding bodies for gifted young academics supported by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). ELES supports especially gifted and needy Jewish students and doctoral candidates from all Jewish denominations in accordance with BMBF guidelines. Since its founding in 2009, ELES has stood for a pluralistic and confident Judaism and Jewish community conscious of its traditions and open to the world. Academic excellence and engagement for the Jewish community and society as a whole are united within ELES. With its targeted support for gifted Jewish students and doctoral candidates, ELES makes an important contribution to the education of a new Jewish intellectuality.

The Beck'sche Stiftung

The foundation was launched in 2001 by Hans-Oskar Beck. It represents the pinnacle of his life's work, the basis for which he received from his father and grandfather as co-owners of the Butter Beck grocery chain.



As a result of his own positive experiences at the Schloß Salem school, founded by Kurt Hahn, supporting children and young people in their educations was always important to Hans-Oskar Beck, and he was an advisor to his family on these topics throughout his life. Hans-Oskar Beck died on 3 December 2006. Before he died, he transferred leadership of the foundation to his nephew, Clemens Beck. The foundation has dedicated itself to supporting academia, research, education, early-childhood education, art, culture, religion, international understanding, development aid, and the protection of the environment, landscapes, and historical monuments.

What we offer – the Beck Berlin Scholarship Programme

The material and intellectual support of Israeli students and doctoral candidates aims to make it possible for the scholarship recipients to pursue their degree at a Berlin university while also helping them to become active and engaged in various areas of social life, civil society, and extra-curricular initiatives.

The Beck Berlin scholarship recipients join the group of ELES scholarship holders and are included in the activities of the Berlin regional group. They will have the opportunity to get to know modern Germany and its open, diverse capital city. They will take part in regional group meetings, seminars, and shared Shabbat celebrations. All ELES events taking place as part of the regularly-scheduled intellectual support programme are also open to the scholarship recipients. Participation in at least one intellectual support programme event per year is mandatory.

All scholarship holders receive individual advising from an experienced ELES officer for scholarly support. In addition, ELES advisors are also available in case of questions or problems.

The scholarships are first awarded for a 12-month period. Extensions are possible. Support for study or research stays abroad is not possible within the framework of the scholarship programme. All scholarship recipients have the opportunity to attend an accompanying German language course in Berlin once their scholarship period has begun.

Financial support for (non-PhD) students per month

- Up to 744.00 Euro basic scholarship (dependent on income)
- 300.00 Euro study costs allowance
- Up to 109.00 Euro supplementary support for health insurance

Financial support for doctoral candidates per month

- 1,350.00 Euro basic scholarship
- 100.00 Euro research costs allowance
- Up to 100.00 Euro supplementary support for health insurance



Application and Selection Process

The scholarship programme is primarily aimed at Jewish students and doctoral candidates from Israel / with Israeli citizenship. We invite engaged and in-need students and doctoral candidates with excellent academic performance to apply. A prerequisite for receiving the scholarship is a place at university at an academic institution in Berlin.

Application Requirements

- very good academic performance
- societal/civil society engagement
- Basic German language skills (at least CEFR level B1)
- Place at university/matriculation/acceptance to a Berlin university or proof of application
- At least 2 remaining semesters before degree completion
- Israeli citizenship (no EU citizenship)

Application Materials (Online Portal)

- Motivation letter (max. 2 pages)
- Short narrative format CV (max. 2 pages)
- Standard format CV
- University entrance qualification (Abitur, A-Levels, etc.)
- Enrolment certificate, acceptance letter, or proof of application to a university in Berlin
- Copy of your passport and proof of permanent address in Germany
- Proof of your societal engagement
- Two academic assessments/letters of recommendation
- One non-academic letter of recommendation
- Further university or professional certificates (if applicable)
- Further performance certifications (if applicable)
- Only for doctoral candidates: a short exposé of your research project

Application closes on 15. February 2021