



**ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAMME
No. 11/2026 of 10 March 2026**

I. SCOPE OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Pursuant to Article 19 section 1 of the Act on the National Agency for Academic Exchange (hereinafter referred to as the 'Agency') of 7 July 2017, the Director of the National Agency for Academic Exchange announces a call for applications for participation in the Zawacka NAWA Programme – incoming offer for the 2026/2027 academic year (hereinafter referred to as the 'Programme').

Within the framework of this Call, it is possible to submit an application for:

- a stay at a Polish institution of higher education and science with the scholarship from the Director of the National Agency for Academic Exchange (hereinafter referred to as the "NAWA Director's scholarship");
- a stay at a Polish institution of the higher education and science with a scholarship of the sending party to (hereinafter: scholarship of the sending party).

II. PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

2.1 Aim of the Programme

The aim of the Programme is to deepen international academic cooperation through the **arrival** of students, doctoral students, academic teachers and researchers to Polish higher education and science institutions, on the basis of bilateral agreements concluded between Poland and the partner countries indicated in the announcement. In addition, the visits will allow for the improvement of the competences of the participating representatives of the academic community.

The Programme is implemented in cooperation with institutions from selected countries covered by the agreements, hereinafter referred to as partner institutions.

The list of countries with which cooperation is carried out, along with a description of the available forms of stays in Poland, information about the country paying the scholarship and contact details for the partner institution, is attached as Appendix 1 to the Announcement.



2.2 Eligible Applicants

Participation in the Programme is open to¹:

- 1) secondary school graduate who, at the time of starting their education in Poland, hold a school leaving certificate entitling them to undertake studies in the country where the certificate was issued, in any field and at any type of university;
or
- 2) student
or
- 3) university graduate;
or
- 4) a person with doctoral student status in accordance with the rules of the higher education and science system of their country;
or
- 5) an academic teacher conducting research or teaching in a country participating in the Programme, who is not employed by a Polish higher education and science institution.

2.3 Thematic scope of activities implemented under the Programme

Type of possible scholarship stays should be checked in the offer of a given country, as attached in the Appendix 1 to the Announcement.

Visits are eligible under the Programme for the following purposes::

- a) **completing full or part-time studies²** t universities under the supervision of the Minister of Science and Higher Education. Studies may be preceded by a one-year preparatory course of the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange (if provided for in the country's offer).
- b) **education at a doctoral school;**
- c) **research stay**, i.e.: a scientific internship, a study visit (i.e. a short study stay), teaching at the host institution, other forms of scientific or academic activity related to the pursuit of studies, lectures, preparation of a doctoral thesis or scientific work, research projects.

¹ With the exception of individuals who are citizens of the Russian Federation

² If the provisions of a given agreement provide for admission to a full cycle of education for first-cycle studies, second-cycle studies, uniform master's studies or for education at a doctoral school in Poland, then the duration of the Scholarship Holder Programme is the statutory duration of the undertaken education cycle in Poland. Studies may be preceded by a one-year preparatory course in Polish.

The Programme is open to students, doctoral students and employees of universities and research institutes in all fields of science, except where specific international agreements provide otherwise.

The available forms of activities to be implemented under the Programme are listed in Appendix 1 to the Announcement.

2.4 Deadlines and other conditions for submitting an application

1) Persons interested in participating in the Programme submit applications to the partner institutions in their countries in accordance with their rules and deadlines.³

The list of countries from which participants may come under the Programme, together with a description of the available forms of stay in Poland, information about the country paying the scholarship and contact details for the partner institution, is attached as Appendix 1 to the Announcement.

2) The foreign partner institutions shall submit the lists of recommended candidates to the Agency(hereinafter referred to as “the applicant”) by the deadline specified in the offer of the given country.

The list of applicants from a given country should contain the following data::

- a) name;
- b) surname;
- c) gender;
- d) date of birth;
- e) applicant's e-mail address;
- f) the hosting center in Poland where the applicant intends to stay⁴;
- g) the type of residence for which the applicant is applying;
- h) the length of the planned stay.

3) After receiving the lists from the foreign partner institutions, the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange will inform the applicants about the method and date of registration (submitting an application) in the Agency's IT System at the e-mail addresses indicated by the foreign partner institutions

Information on how to register for people interested in coming from Germany:

³ The rules described in point 2.4, subsections 1.-3. do not apply to candidates from Germany.

⁴ Does not apply to applicants - recommended candidates for a full education cycle, preceded by a NAWA's preparatory course.



Those interested in coming from Germany should apply by 30 May 2026, individually to the Agency, by e-mail, to the following address: wymiana@nawa.gov.pl. The Agency will invite Applicants to register in the Agency's ICT system within the time limit specified in the e-mail.

The Agency will undertake a formal and merits-based assessment of the applications submitted in accordance with point 2.7 of the Announcement.⁵

4) Recruitment of participants for selected forms of stay

Applicants applying for a **full First and Second Cycle Studies; Long Cycle Master's Studies and doctoral education (studies or doctoral education may be preceded by a one-year preparatory course of the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange⁶)** take part in the recruitment process at the university of their choice. Universities in Poland use an electronic candidate registration system. Persons applying to study on scholarship terms should register in the university's online systems within the deadlines required by the university, in accordance with the rules applicable to foreigners. During the admission process, they will be required to submit documents certifying their knowledge of the language of study at a minimum level of B2.⁷

In addition, individual information from the Director of NAWA for countries where this is required:

- about foreign certificates entitling you to apply for admission to first-cycle or long-cycle studies are issued after a complete set of documents has been sent via the SYRENA system – detailed information can be found on the website [Secondary school certificate](#);
- about foreign diplomas confirming completion of higher education are issued after a complete set of documents has been sent via the SYRENA system – detailed information can be found on the website [Diploma of higher education](#).

The Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange does not take part in the recruitment of applicants for university studies. Applicants participate individually and independently in the recruitment process at the chosen university, regardless of the application submitted to the

⁵ In accordance with the provisions of the cooperation agreement between the Agency and DAAD

⁶ Scholarship holders take the preparatory course of the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange at a NAWA-accredited center

⁷ In accordance with the Regulation of the Minister of Science and Higher Education of 30 July 2025 on the types of documents certifying knowledge of the language in which education is provided at university level.



Programme.

If the preparatory course of the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange **precedes the studies or doctoral education**, the applicants will complete the course at a centre designated by the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange. Assignment to a centre offering a preparatory course depends in particular on the field of study planned and the availability of places in the centre.

During the preparatory course of the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange, the scholarship holders will take part in the recruitment for the studies or doctoral education on the dates indicated by the chosen university or doctoral school.

The Applicants coming for the **research stays** or **part-time studies** contact hosting centers themselves to confirm the possibility of implementing the selected form of stay.

The final decision on accepting the applicant for a given form of stay is made by the hosting centers (does not apply to the preparatory course of the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange).

Application submission deadline	Applicants nominated by a foreign partner institution shall register and submit their applications in the Agency's ICT system within the deadline specified in the Agency's electronic message sent to the Applicant , but no later than 30 September 2026, 15:00:00 local time (Warsaw). ⁸
Form of submitting an application	Only in electronic form in the Agency's IT system, https://programs.nawa.gov.pl , //COMPLETE THE APPLICATION//
Language in which the application must be developed	The application must be completed in Polish or English. Appendices should be submitted in Polish or in English. Other language versions must be translated into one of the above mention languages. It is allowed to submit a copy of a doctoral diploma in Latin.
Maximum number of applications an applicant can submit	An applicant may submit only one application in a given call under the Programme. If more than one application are submitted, the application submitted last in the recruitment process will be assessed by the date indicated for the applicant (see the point: Application submission deadline), according to the time of submission to the System.

⁸ NAWA indicates in the e-mail the date for submission of the application for the country concerned

2.5 Implementation time frame

<p>Start date and project implementation period</p>	<p>he offer under the Programme applies to arrivals starting in the academic year 2026/2027. The permissible length of stay in Poland is specified in Appendix 1 to the Announcement.</p> <p>Realizacja przyjazdu powinna odbywać się w trybie ciągłym, liczonym od pierwszego do ostatniego dnia pobytu w ośrodku goszczącym. Dopuszczalny jest okres przebywania poza Ośrodkiem goszczącym nie dłuższy niż 10% ogólnego wymiaru przyjazdu. Okres przebywania poza Ośrodkiem goszczącym nie może być wykorzystany na początku lub końcu okresu realizacji przyjazdu (nie może służyć skróceniu okresu realizacji przyjazdu)⁹.</p>
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2.6 Submitting the application

<p>In particular, the application should describe:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) completion of studies: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) justification of the intention to come and description of the expected impact of the participation on the further academic or professional career. 2) part of the study programme: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) justification of the intention to come and description of the expected impact of the participation on the further academic or professional career; b) a plan for the stay - the scope of the tasks to be carried out, together with a justification for the choice of the hosting center. 3) doctoral school education: research plan describing the activities planned to be carried out at the Polish host institution, including justification for its choice. 4) research stay: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) the candidate's academic or scientific career history and achievements to date, including, in particular, publications, participation in research projects, and foreign internships. b) a research plan describing the activities planned to be carried out at the Polish host institution, including justification for its choice. <p>When submitting the application, the applicant is also required to confirm their knowledge of Polish or a foreign language at a level sufficient to communicate with the host institution in Poland and carry out the planned activities.</p> <p>Those starting their studies in Poland will be required to present a document certifying their knowledge of the language of instruction at a minimum level of B2 during the admission</p>

⁹ Applies to persons arriving for part of their studies or research stays.

process.

List of required attachments to the application

The application must be accompanied by documents in the form of scanned documents or documents signed with a qualified electronic signature.

The following documents must be included in the application:

1) Completion of studies:

- a) A school-leaving certificate entitling the holder to undertake first-level studies at any institution and in any subject in the country of its issuance. Applicants in their final year of secondary school must provide a transcript of their grades for the last semester of study;
or
- b) a diploma certifying completion of studies entitling the holder to undertake studies in Poland. In the case of persons who, at the time of application, are in their final year of first-cycle studies – a transcript of grades from their studies to date;
or
- c) a certificate issued by the university containing information about the stage of studies at the time of submitting the application and the planned date of completion of studies (applies to persons continuing their studies on the basis of annual applications).

2) completion of part of the studies:

- a) diploma or transcript of grades from the course of study to date;
- b) Applicant's CV, including specific achievements (max. 2 pages; if the CV is longer, only the first 2 pages will be considered);
- c) document confirming admission to part of the studies by the Polish host institution (or invitation).

3) doctoral school education:

- a) diploma confirming the highest academic/professional degree/title held;
- b) Applicant's CV, including publications, research projects, internships abroad and special achievements of the Applicant – max. 3 pages (in the case of a longer CV, only the first 3 pages will be taken into account);
- c) confirmation of acceptance for the type of visit for which the applicant is applying (or invitation) issued by the Polish host institution (does not apply to applicants planning to study at a doctoral school who are starting their visit by participating in a NAWA preparatory course).

4) research stay:

- a) diploma confirming the highest academic/professional degree/title held;
- b) the applicant's CV, including publications, research projects, internships abroad

and special achievements of the applicant – max. 3 pages (in the case of a longer CV, only the first 3 pages will be taken into account);

c) confirmation of acceptance for the type of visit for which the applicant is applying (or an invitation) issued by the Polish host institution.

2.7 Procedure for evaluating and selecting applications for funding

General assumptions	Applications submitted via the NAWA ICT system are subject to formal assessment.						
Formal assessment	<p>Formal evaluation criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nomination of the Applicant by a foreign partner institution from a country listed in Annex 1 to the Call for Proposals;¹⁰ 2. Compliance of the application with the offer for the country nominating the Applicant, in accordance with Annex 1 to the Call for Proposals; 3. Registration – submission of the application¹¹ with all the required attachments described in point 2.6. <p>The purpose of the formal assessment is to verify that the applications meet the formal criteria specified in this Call for Applications.</p> <p>Applications are verified in terms of the limits on places, types and lengths of stays indicated in Annex 1.</p>						
Substantive assessment	<p>Applies to applications from candidates from Germany.</p> <p>The purpose of the substantive assessment is to verify that applications meet the quality criteria specified in this Announcement.</p> <p>The substantive assessment is carried out by Assessment Teams based on the criteria below.</p> <p>Criteria for students</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 80%;">Criterion</th> <th style="width: 20%;">Possible number of points</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. Reason for arrival.</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0-40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Arrival plan – scope of tasks planned for</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0-40</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Criterion	Possible number of points	1. Reason for arrival.	0-40	2. Arrival plan – scope of tasks planned for	0-40
Criterion	Possible number of points						
1. Reason for arrival.	0-40						
2. Arrival plan – scope of tasks planned for	0-40						

¹⁰ Does not apply to applicants from Germany

¹¹ In the Agency's ICT system

	implementation, together with justification for the choice of host institution.	
	3. The impact of the visit on further scientific or academic career.	0-20
	Total:	0-100
	Maximum number of points:	100
Criteria for doctoral students, academic teachers and researchers:		
	Criterion	Possible number of points
	1. The candidate's academic or scientific career to date and achievements, including, in particular, publications, participation in research projects, and internships abroad.	0-40
	2. Research plan describing the activities planned to be carried out at the Polish host institution, together with the reasons for its selection.	0-40
	3. The impact of the visit on further scientific or academic career.	0-20
	Total:	0-100
	Maximum number of points:	100
Substantive assessment rules		
In order to receive a positive substantive assessment, a total of at least 60 points must be obtained.		
Applicants who obtain less than 60 points will receive a negative substantive assessment and will not be eligible for funding under the NAWA Director's scholarship.		

2.8 Project budget

The source of funding (host country/sending country) depends on the provisions of the agreement on which bilateral international cooperation is based.

1) NAWA Director's Scholarship:

If the agreement provides for the payment of funds by the Agency (host party), the NAWA Director's Scholarship is paid in the amount specified in the table below:

SCHOLARSHIP RATES

NAWA Director's scholarship holders:	Monthly rate in PLN
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> participants of the NAWA preparatory course 	2,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> students: for studies, research stays 	2,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> doctoral students enrolled in doctoral programmes 	<p>In accordance with the amount of scholarships in doctoral schools resulting from Article 209 of the Act on Higher Education and Science of 20 July 2018 (hereinafter referred to as the Act) and the Regulation of the Minister of Science of 15 February 2024 amending the regulation on the minimum monthly basic salary for professors at public universities. As of 10 February 2026, the scholarship amounts to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - up to the month in which the mid-term evaluation was conducted – PLN 3,467; - after the month in which the mid-term evaluation was carried out – PLN 5,341;
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> doctoral students, academic teachers and other university employees with a master's degree for research stays 	3,300
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> persons with a doctoral degree 	4,500
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> doctoral students, academic teachers and other university staff with a master's degree, and persons with a doctoral degree for short research stays of 3 to 7 days 	<p>daily rate: 3 days - PLN 1,050, 4 days - PLN 1,400, from 5 days to 7 days - PLN 1,750</p>



The NAWA Director's Scholarship is paid through the university where the scholarship holder is studying/conducting research.

Participants of the NAWA preparatory course, students

In the case of students, the NAWA Director's Scholarship also covers exemption from tuition fees for the NAWA preparatory course or at public universities supervised by the Minister of Science and Higher Education.

For participants in the NAWA preparatory course for full-time studies and for students of first-cycle, second-cycle and long-cycle Master's programmes, the scholarship is paid **for a maximum of 10 months per academic year, depending on the length of stay**, starting from the first month of classes on the NAWA preparatory course or at the university.

If the education begins in the summer semester or ends in the winter semester, the scholarship is paid for a maximum of 5 months in the academic year.

The scholarship is paid during the statutory period of education for a given course (full-time studies) or during the period of education in Poland for part of the course.

The costs of education on the NAWA preparatory course are covered by the Polish side.

Education at a doctoral school

In the case of doctoral students studying at a doctoral school, the scholarship is paid for a maximum of 12 months during the academic year.

Research stays

The full monthly scholarship rate is payable if, according to the final report, the Scholarship Holder's stay lasts 15 days or more. If the stay is shorter than 15 days, half the rate is applied¹².

An example calculation of the scholarship amount due, calculated as part of the final report verification:

- a. if the scholarship holder planned a 4-month stay in the application, and the actual stay lasted 3 months and 14 days, they will receive the amount for 3.5 months,
- b. if the applicant planned a 4-month stay in the application, and the actual stay lasted 3 months and 17 days, they will receive the amount for 4 full months of stay,
- c. if the applicant planned a 4-month stay in the application, but the actual stay lasted 4 months and 2 days, they will receive the amount for 4 full months of stay,

¹² A full month is defined in accordance with Article 112 of the Civil Code: "A period specified in weeks, months or years shall end with the expiry of the day which corresponds in name or date to the initial day of the period, and if there is no such day in the last month, on the last day of that month."

i.e. the maximum amount indicated in the application.

The costs of insurance and visas (if required) shall be borne by the Scholarship Holder.

The funds under the Programme are understood as the funds referred to in Article 18(2)(1) of the Act on the National Science Centre. Pursuant to Article 21(1)(39a) of the Act of 26 July 1991 on personal income tax, the above-mentioned funds are exempt from income tax.

The Programme does not provide for funds for institutions (indirect costs) or research costs (e.g. materials, reagents or participation in conferences). Research costs and other expenses must be covered from other sources.

In the event of a change in the status of the Scholarship Holder (e.g. obtaining a doctoral degree), the scholarship shall be implemented in accordance with the rules specified in the application.

The Programme cannot be combined with funding from the EU Erasmus+ scholarship programme.

2) Scholarship from the sending party:

If an international agreement provides for the payment of a scholarship by a foreign partner, the scholarship is paid by and according to the rules of the sending party.

Students and candidates for studies from the sending party are entitled to exemption from tuition fees for the NAWA preparatory course or studies at public universities supervised by the Minister of Science and Higher Education.

Scholarship holders from the sending party (persons who are not awarded funds by the Agency under the Programme) are not covered by Chapters IV, V, VI of the Regulations of the National Agency for Academic Exchange Programmes - Programmes for individuals undertaking education and research stays in Poland of 10 March 2025 and Appendix 2 to the REGULATIONS OF THE NATIONAL AGENCY FOR ACADEMIC EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES - Programmes for individuals undertaking education and research stays in Poland of 10 March 2025 – Model agreement.

2.9 Amount of funds available in the Call for Proposals

The total allocation for the call for proposals is PLN 2.50 million, with the Agency reserving the right to change the allocation of funds.

2.10 Additional information – applies to the NAWA Director's scholarship

Scholarship agreement

A scholarship agreement with a scholarship holder **to whom the Agency pays the scholarship** is concluded after the formal evaluation of the application has been completed successfully or, in the case of candidates from Germany, after the substantive evaluation has been completed and the candidate has been accepted by the Polish host institution, and after the Director of the Agency has issued a decision on the allocation of funds. The scholarship agreement is signed in the Agency's ICT system. The scholarship holder has 30 days to sign it from the date the agreement is made available in the Agency's ICT system. In the case of applicants to whom the Agency does not pay funds, the agreement is not concluded and the payment is made on the terms and conditions specified by the sending party.

Reporting

In the case of **visits shorter than one academic year**, the scholarship holder is required to submit a final report.

In the case of **visits longer than one academic year**, the scholarship holder is required to submit an annual and final report.

The final report shall be submitted by the Scholarship Holder via the Agency's ICT system **within 30 days of the end of the visit**. The final report shall be accompanied by a certificate from the host institution confirming the completion of the visit. The certificate must be issued in Polish or English and contain information about the start and end dates of the visit.

Scholarship holders shall submit their **annual reports** via the Agency's ICT system **by 31 October each year**. The first report shall be submitted after completion of the NAWA preparatory course. Scholarship holders who do not participate in the NAWA preparatory course shall submit their first report after completing the first year of their studies, doctoral school education or research stay. For scholarship holders starting their studies or doctoral school education in the summer semester, the first report will be a semester report.

2.11 Planned date of announcement of the results of the recruitment process

The results of the recruitment process will be announced by 31 December 2026.

2.12 Source of funding for the Programme

State budget



III. APPENDICES

- 1) Offer for the 2026/2027 academic year – List of countries with which cooperation is conducted, together with a description of the available forms of arrival;
- 2) Sample statement – consent of the parents/guardian of a minor child to undertake studies in Poland;
- 3) REGULATIONS OF THE NATIONAL AGENCY FOR ACADEMIC EXCHANGE Programmes for individuals undertaking education and research stays in Poland of 10 March 2025.

IV. CONTACTING THE AGENCY

**Programme Coordinator at the National Agency for Academic Exchange
Student Programmes Office
Bilateral Programmes Team**

For further information, please contact us (working days, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.):

e-mail: wymiana@nawa.gov.pl

telephone:

+48 451 058 639

+48 518 035 100

National Agency for Academic Exchange

Polna Street no 40

00-635 Warsaw

telephone:

22 390 35 00

www.nawa.gov.pl