

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION
IN THE POLONISTA NAWA PROGRAMME
No. 8/2026 of 10 February 2026**

I. SCOPE OF THE CALL

Pursuant to Article 19(1) of the Act on the National Agency for Academic Exchange of 7 July 2017 (i.e. Journal of Laws of 2025, item 1643), The Director of the National Agency for Academic Exchange announces a call for applications for participation in the Scholarship Programme for Students and Researchers - Polonista NAWA - call for researchers (hereinafter referred to as the "Programme").

II. PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

2.1. Objective of the Programme

The objective of the Programme is to promote the Polish language, popularise Polish studies and research around the world, and strengthen and support the development of foreign and Polish academic centres that conduct such studies and research. The Programme supports the mobility of academic staff - researchers and academic teachers, specialists in the field of the Polish language, Polish culture, literature, history and art.

2.2. Eligible Applicants

Incoming offer

Applicants who meet all of the following criteria are eligible to apply for a scholarship from the National Agency for Academic Exchange:

- 1) they are researchers whose field of research is the Polish language, Polish literature, art, culture or history;
- 2) at the time of submitting the application, they hold at least a doctoral degree or an equivalent degree obtained abroad;
- 3) are employed in a foreign university or in a foreign research centre;
- 4) have a certificate/invitation from the host centre, which is an institution of the Polish science and higher education system belonging to one of the following categories:
 - a) universities referred to in Article 7(1)(1) of the Act of 20 July 2018 on Higher Education and Science;
 - b) scientific institutes of the Polish Academy of Sciences, operating on the basis of the Act of 30 April 2010 on the Polish Academy of Sciences;
 - c) research institutes operating on the basis of the Act of 30 April 2010 on research institutes;
 - d) the Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences,
- 5) can demonstrate at least one of the following achievements:
 - a) authorship or co-authorship of a scientific article published in the last 5 years (counting from the beginning of 2021) in a reputable international scientific journal,
 - b) authorship or co-authorship of a scientific article published in the last 5 years (counting from the beginning of 2021) in peer-reviewed materials from an international conference,
 - c) authorship or co-authorship of a scientific monograph or chapter in a scientific monograph published within the last 10 years (counting from the beginning of 2016),
- 6) are foreign nationals (do not have Polish citizenship and have not applied for Polish citizenship) or have Polish citizenship but conduct their scientific and teaching activities outside Poland and have been employed at a foreign university or research centre for at least 3 years from the date of the end of the recruitment process,
- 7) have not been recipients of the NAWA Polish Language Scholar programme within two years of the recruitment deadline.

Overseas offer

Applicants who meet all of the following criteria are eligible to apply for a scholarship from the National Agency for Academic Exchange:

- 1) are researchers or academic teachers whose field of research or teaching is Polish language, Polish literature, art, culture or history;
- 2) at the time of submitting the application, they hold at least a doctoral degree or an equivalent degree obtained abroad;

3)	their primary place of employment (at the time of application) is a Polish or foreign higher education and research institution conducting research or teaching in the field of Polish language, culture, art, literature and history;
4)	have an invitation from the host centre, which may be a foreign university conducting studies in Polish language or Polish studies;
5)	can demonstrate at least one of the following achievements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) authorship or co-authorship of a scientific article published in the last 5 years (counting from the beginning of 2021) in a reputable international scientific journal, b) authorship or co-authorship of a scientific article published within the last 5 years (counting from the beginning of 2021) in peer-reviewed materials from an international conference, c) authorship or co-authorship of a scientific monograph or chapter in a scientific monograph published within the last 10 years (counting from the beginning of 2016),
6)	hold Polish citizenship;
7)	have not been recipients of the NAWA Polish Studies Programme scholarship within two years of the application deadline.

2.3. Deadline and other conditions for submitting an application

Application deadline	Applications will be accepted until 3 April 2026, 3:00 p.m. local time (Warsaw).
How to submit an application	Only in electronic form via the Agency's ICT system. FILL IN THE APPLICATION
Language in which the application should be written	Polish or English
Maximum number of applications that may be submitted by the applicant	The National Agency for Academic Exchange emphasises that before preparing the application and the required attachments, the applicant is required to familiarise themselves with the recruitment documents, in particular with the criteria for substantive evaluation in the programme. It is the applicant's responsibility to present the project (scientific achievements, host institution and description of planned research) in such a way as to enable both the evaluation team and the reviewers to adequately assess the application.

2.4. Thematic scope of activities carried out under the Programme

1. Incoming offer	The Programme enables researchers from foreign academic and research centres to undertake mobility periods lasting from 3 to 12 months, during which they can carry out research or research and teaching projects at Polish universities and research institutions. The following activities, among others, are possible within the framework of mobility: conducting scientific research (including in cooperation with Polish scientists), obtaining research materials, preparing scientific publications, completing a postdoctoral internship, teaching classes at the host centre, and intensive Polish language learning. The Polish Studies Programme scholarship is available to applicants who, as part of their mobility, will carry out research projects on topics related to the Polish language, Polish language teaching, literary studies, comparative studies, Polish culture, art or history. During the recruitment process, applicants must submit a certificate from the host institution confirming its readiness to accept the NAWA scholarship holder.
2. Outgoing offer	The programme also enables Polish researchers and academic teachers to participate in mobility programmes, under which they can conduct research and teaching projects or work together on grant applications at foreign academic centres that offer Polish language, Polish studies or Slavic studies programmes at least at the bachelor's level. Applicants may apply for a scholarship for projects lasting from 3 to 12 months. The Programme supports projects aimed at strengthening and expanding the activities of academic centres offering Polish language, Polish studies and Slavic studies programmes with Polish as the language of instruction.

2.5. Programme implementation timeframe

Programme implementation period	From 1 September 2026 to 31 December 2027. The mobility period must end by 30 September 2027.
Project implementation period (contract period)	The Programme implementation period covers the mobility implementation period (declared length of stay at the host institution – until 30 September 2027 at the latest) plus 3 months. The project must be implemented during the Programme implementation period. NOTE: Projects cannot start in January.
Duration of mobility	From 3 to 12 months. Mobility must be completed during the project implementation period (contract period).

Implementation of mobility	<p>1) Implementation must take place in on a continuous mode, with the exceptions specified in points 2) and 3).</p> <p>2) A period of stay outside the host institution of no more than 10% of the total duration of the stay is permitted. The period of stay outside the host institution may not be used at the beginning or end of the mobility period (it may not be used to shorten the mobility period).</p> <p>3) It is permissible to suspend mobility for a total period not exceeding 3 months, subject to the consent of the host institution and the Agency prior to the suspension, whereby the suspension is only possible during the term of the agreement.</p> <p>No funding is available during the period of suspension of mobility.</p>
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2.6. List of information and attachments required in the application

<p>List of attachments to the application:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the applicant's academic CV, no longer than 3 pages (A4 size, font size at least 11 pt), including, among other things: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) education, course of studies/academic career and scientific career, taking into account the applicant's successive places of employment; b) information on internships, awards, membership in scientific societies and organisations, and other important achievements; c) information on completed and ongoing research projects, with an indication of international projects. 2) A scan of the doctoral diploma or confirmation of obtaining a doctoral degree, together with an officially certified translation into English if the original language is other than Polish, English or Latin; 3) a scan of confirmation of employment issued no earlier than 3 months prior to the date of the announcement of recruitment to the Programme; 4) a list of publications including up to 10 of the most important works published or accepted for publication in the last 10 years (counting from the beginning of 2016); 5) scans of two scientific publications selected by the Applicant, in the case of monographs, a file containing information about its review, title page, editorial page, table of contents and a selection of excerpts containing the author's most important theses should be attached; publications in a language other than Polish or English should be accompanied by a translation; 6) a scan of the invitation (Appendix 5) from the host institution, confirming its willingness to accept the NAWA scholarship holder for the requested period. The invitation should be issued no earlier than 3 months before the announcement of the call for applications and signed by the academic supervisor and another person holding a managerial position at the host institution (e.g. dean, rector) in accordance with the rules in force at the institution (the document should be signed by two persons). The document should contain the following information: the applicant's details, contact details of the host institution, details of the organisational unit where the project is to be carried out, details of the academic supervisor, period of stay, indicative plan of activities and scope of support from the host institution; 7) a scan of a document confirming citizenship, e.g. a passport. <p>PLEASE NOTE!</p> <p>Attachments in a language other than Polish or English must be translated into Polish or English (a translation certified by a sworn translator or a translation certified by a Polish diplomatic mission or the host centre is acceptable).</p> <p>When attaching a scan of a document, the photo must be covered, and attaching a document with a photo means consenting to the processing of personal data in this regard.</p>

2.7. Procedure for the evaluation and selection of applications for funding

General principles	Applications are subject to formal and substantive evaluation.
Formal assessment	The purpose of the formal assessment is to verify that applications meet the formal criteria specified in this Announcement and in the NAWA Programme Regulations for Natural Persons
Substantive assessment	<p>The purpose of the substantive evaluation is to verify that applications meet the quality criteria specified in this Announcement.</p> <p>The substantive evaluation of researchers' applications consists of three stages:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) pre-selection – preliminary assessment of applications by the Evaluation Team in terms of compliance with the Programme's objectives and the quality of the projects presented. After reviewing the applications, the Evaluation Team recommends selected applications for further substantive evaluation. Applicants whose applications are not recommended for the next stage of evaluation receive a decision refusing to grant funding; 2) evaluation of applications by two reviewers from the NAWA expert database; 3) evaluation by the Evaluation Team. <p>In justified cases, the Evaluation Team may recommend a reduction in the amount of funding requested and a shortening of the duration of the scholarship, e.g. if the length of stay proposed in the application is unjustified.</p> <p>An application that receives a score of zero in any of the substantive evaluation criteria from the Evaluation Team cannot be eligible for funding.</p>

	Applications that receive less than 60 points in the final evaluation receive a negative substantive evaluation.
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	Criterion	Reviewers	Team assessment	Possible number of points
1.	Applicant's scientific, organisational or teaching achievements and the course of scientific and academic activity in relation to the career stage and objectives of the Programme	0-10	0-20	0-30
2.	Justification for the choice of the host institution and the benefits of the applicant's stay for the host institution (including the impact of the project on the development of Polish studies and Polish studies at the host institution)	0-5	0-10	0-15
3.	The scientific level of the research or tasks planned for implementation within the project, including, among others, their scientific value and innovativeness, impact on the development of the scientific discipline, new research or teaching methods, planned results and the manner of their publication, adequacy of the duration of the scholarship to the planned activities, the feasibility and usefulness of the project,	0-20	0-20	0-40
4.	Expected impact of the visit to a Polish research institution or trip to a foreign university on the applicant's research career	0-5	0-10	0-15
	TOTAL	40	60	100

2.8. Project budget

When preparing the application, the applicant shall take into account the following when calculating the amount of funding:

1. A scholarship of PLN 7,500 for each month of the Scholarship Holder's stay at the Host Centre. The length of stay is specified by the Applicant in the application.

The rules for settling scholarships are specified in the Regulations of the National Agency for Academic Exchange Programmes for individuals – in Chapter V.

2. Lump sum for living and accommodation costs:

	Group of countries	Countries	Monthly rate in PLN
I	Countries with lower living and accommodation costs	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Egypt, Georgia, India, Lithuania, Latvia, Morocco, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Ukraine, Vietnam and other countries worldwide ³ .	4,000
II	Countries with average living and accommodation costs	Andorra, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Cyprus, France, Greece, Spain, Indonesia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, North Macedonia, Germany, Malta, Netherlands, Portugal, Monaco, Vatican City, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Thailand, Turkey, Hungary, Italy, Uzbekistan,	6,000
III	Countries with higher living and accommodation costs	Saudi Arabia, Australia, Bahrain, Brunei, China, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Hong Kong, Japan, Canada, Qatar, South Korea, North Korea, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Macau, Mexico, Norway, New Zealand, Oman, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Faroe Islands, United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates	8,000
IV	Countries with the highest cost of living and accommodation	United States	12,000

The rules for settling lump sums for living and accommodation costs are set out in the Regulations of the National Agency for Academic Exchange Programmes for Individuals – in Chapter V.

3. Lump sum for travel expenses according to the table below:

Country	Rate in PLN
Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Cyprus, Egypt, Georgia, Spain, Iraq, Iran, Iceland, Israel, Jordan, Qatar, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Portugal, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan	3000
Afghanistan, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, India, Yemen, Cameroon, Kenya,	4,500

Kyrgyzstan, Congo, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Central African Republic, Cape Verde, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Togo, Uganda, Ivory Coast, São Tomé and Príncipe, United Arab Emirates	
Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei, Chile, China, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eswatini, Fiji, Philippines, Grenada, Guyana, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Jamaica, Japan, Cambodia, Canada, Kiribati, Colombia, Comoros, South Korea, North Korea, Costa Rica, Cuba, Laos, Lesotho, Madagascar, Macau, Malawi, Maldives, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Myanmar, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nicaragua, New Zealand, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, South Africa, Saint Kitts Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, El Salvador, Samoa, Seychelles, Singapore, Sri Lanka, United States, Suriname, Thailand, Taiwan, Tanzania, East Timor, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Vietnam, Solomon Islands, Marshall Islands, Zambia, Zimbabwe	6500
Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Cyprus, Egypt, Georgia, Spain, Iraq, Iran, Iceland, Israel, Jordan, Qatar, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Portugal, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan	3000
Afghanistan, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, India, Yemen, Cameroon, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Congo, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Central African Republic, Cape Verde, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Togo, Uganda, Ivory Coast, São Tomé and Príncipe, United Arab Emirates	4,500
Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei, Chile, China, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eswatini, Fiji, Philippines, Grenada, Guyana, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Jamaica, Japan, Cambodia, Canada, Kiribati, Colombia, Comoros, South Korea, North Korea, Costa Rica, Cuba, Laos, Lesotho, Madagascar, Macau, Malawi, Maldives, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Myanmar, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nicaragua, New Zealand, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, South Africa, Saint Kitts Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, El Salvador, Samoa, Seychelles, Singapore, Sri Lanka, United States, Suriname, Thailand, Taiwan, Tanzania, East Timor, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Vietnam, Solomon Islands, Marshall Islands, Zambia, Zimbabwe	6500

The above lump sum is the total amount for a return trip.

4. Monthly support in the amount of PLN 2,000 is provided for scholarship holders who, on the date of submitting the application, have a minor child or children to support. The allowance is payable to the scholarship holder for the period of the children's stay with the scholarship holder in the country where the scholarship is being carried out. The birth of a child after the application has been submitted does not entitle the scholarship holder to apply for an increase in funding.

5. If the scholarship holder has a certificate of significant or moderate disability, the lump sum for living and accommodation costs may be increased by PLN 2,000 per month at the scholarship holder's request.

6. The full monthly scholarship rate, lump sum for living and accommodation costs, and support for a child/children is payable if the applicant's (or children's) stay, according to the final report, is 15 days or more. For stays shorter than 15 days, half the rate applies.

Example calculation of the amount of funding due, calculated as part of the final report verification:

1) if the applicant planned a 7-month stay in the application and the actual stay lasted 6 months and 14 days, they will receive the amount for 6.5 months,

2) if the applicant planned a 7-month stay in the application and the actual stay lasted 6 months and 17 days, they will receive the amount for 7 full months of stay,

3) if the applicant planned a 7-month stay in the application and the actual stay lasted 7 months and 2 days, they will receive the amount for 7 full months of stay, i.e. the maximum amount indicated in the application.

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

8. The financial resources under the Programme shall be understood as the resources referred to in Article 18(2)(1) of the Act on the National Agency for Education. Pursuant to Article 21(1)(39a) of the Act of 26 July 1991 on personal income tax, the above-mentioned resources are exempt from income tax.

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

2.9. Payment schedules

Payments will be transferred to the scholarship holder's bank account held at a bank operating in the Republic of Poland and made as follows:

Payment schedule B in accordance with the Regulations of the National Agency for Academic Exchange, Programmes for natural persons:

a) advance payment – in the amount of 90% of the total funding amount, transferred to the scholarship holder's bank account after it has been indicated, within 30 days from the date of submission of a correct confirmation of the start of the Project;

b) balancing payment – up to 10% of the total amount of funding, transferred within 30 days of the date of approval of the final report by the Agency.

2.10. Documenting expenses

The funding awarded, which is a summary of lump sums, will be treated as an expense incurred. Within the lump sums, the scholarship holder is not required to collect and submit accounting evidence to confirm expenses.

In order to confirm the mobility, the scholarship holder is required to keep documents confirming travel to and from the host centre and to attach scans of these documents to the final report.

The scholarship holder is required to keep documents confirming travel to and from the location of the host centre for accompanying children and to make them available upon request.

NAWA.

In addition, at the request of NAWA, the scholarship holder is required to submit documentation confirming the implementation of activities and the achievement of the planned results and products in accordance with the approved Application, under pain of the Scholarship being deemed ineligible.

2.11. Submission and verification of reports

1. The scholarship holder is required to submit a report on the implementation of the project via the Agency's ICT system and to provide confirmation of the commencement of activities at the host centre:

- 1) Confirmation of the commencement of mobility by the scholarship holder, issued within 14 days of the commencement of the project, signed by a representative of the host institution and the scholarship holder's supervisor.
- 2) The final report shall be submitted to the Agency's ICT system within 30 days of the end of the mobility, in accordance with the report template.

2. A correctly prepared report is subject to verification by the Agency and approval in terms of the compliance of the Project with the Agreement.

The Agency may decide to submit the report for evaluation by a team of experts. The information contained in the report is used to assess the reliability and correctness of the implementation of the activities planned in the project and the financial resources spent, as well as the legitimacy of any changes made during the mobility.

3. In the final report, the scholarship holder shall take into account any deviations that occurred during the mobility period and which affect the amount of funding awarded, in particular those related to the shortening of the mobility period.

4. Funds that have not been used or have been used incorrectly shall be deducted from the balance payment or returned to the Agency's bank account within 14 days of the request for their return, if their amount exceeds the balance payment.

2.12. Rights and obligations of the programme scholarship holder

The scholarship holder is obliged to:

- 1) forwarding the decision of the Director of NAWA on the award of the scholarship to the host centre within 30 days of receiving it in the NAWA System;
- 2) providing NAWA with confirmation of the commencement of tasks under the awarded scholarship at the host institution within 14 days of the project start date (the confirmation must be signed by the scholarship holder's supervisor, a representative of the host institution, and contain basic information about the project – project title, duration, location);
- 3) have at least basic health insurance covering the period of travel and stay at the host institution, including in particular insurance for medical expenses and transport to hospital. Scholarship holders who are citizens of one of the Member States of the European Union, provided that they are insured there, are required to have at least a European Health Insurance Card;
- 4) timely submission of the final report in the Agency's ICT system;
- 5) achieving the project results planned in the application;
- 6) promptly informing NAWA of any changes in the implementation of the scholarship;
- 7) informing NAWA about their scientific or teaching successes – both during the scholarship payment period and at the reporting and evaluation stage;
- 8) properly performing the scholarship agreement, in particular settling accounts for the funds awarded;
- 9) carrying out mobility; the scholarship holder authorises the Agency to disseminate information about their activities, including the results achieved, for example by recording podcasts, giving interviews, etc.

The scholarship holder may also be employed at the host institution if required by its regulations. The scholarship holder is obliged to immediately inform the Agency of any problems or irregularities that threaten or may threaten the proper implementation of the project, including any disputes with the host institution.

2.13. Amount of funds available in the Call

The total allocation for the call is PLN 1,400,000, with the Agency reserving the right to change the allocation of funds.

2.14. Planned date of announcement of the results of the Call

4 July 2026

2.15. Source of funding for the Programme

National funds

III. APPENDICES

- 1) Application form
- 2) Regulations of the National Agency for Academic Exchange Programmes Programmes for individuals
- 3) Sample agreement
- 4) Report template
- 5) Sample invitation from the host institution

IV. CONTACT THE AGENCY

For further information, please contact us (on working days, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.):

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