

# Higher Education Scholarships for Armenian Students in Developing Countries



CALOUSTE GULBENKIAN  
FOUNDATION

Requirements, Criteria  
and Conditions 2026

## Introduction

The Armenian Communities Department of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation encourages students of Armenian origin residing in countries in crisis in the Middle East (Lebanon, Syria) to obtain higher education degrees in any field at a recognized university in their own country of residence. This scholarship category is also open to students in Armenia studying the social sciences. A limited number of applications may be considered to study abroad. Up to 50 new scholarships will be provided per year for a maximum of three years. Each scholarship will be for a fixed sum of 4000 EUR (less in cases of countries where tuition fees are low). Degrees in the social sciences are privileged.

This scholarship category is principally for undergraduate students. Up to seven master's students may also be considered.

## Requirements, Criteria and Conditions

### ARTICLE 1.

#### **Requirements for Eligibility**

Candidates wishing to apply for a Calouste Gulbenkian Higher Education Scholarship must meet the following requirements:

1. Be of Armenian origin.
2. Be a resident of Lebanon or another developing country in the Middle East.
3. Be no more than 25 years old at the time of the application.
4. Have outstanding examination and/or school results.
5. Be enrolled or accepted in a higher education institution, duly recognized by the local national authorities.
6. Be experiencing financial hardship.
7. Candidates must declare to the Foundation if they receive other scholarships to obtain their degrees.

If you do not meet these requirements, then you are unlikely to be successful in your application

### ARTICLE 2.

#### **Selection Criteria**

The students will be selected by the staff of the Armenian Communities Department through a competitive process, based on merit and financial need. The selection committee or agents representing the committee, may interview applicants. The Foundation may seek the opinion of the applicant's institution in the evaluation of the application.

### ARTICLE 3.

#### **Conditions for Maintaining the Scholarship**

This scholarship is awarded for one academic year paid in a single instalment. With certain universities, particularly in Lebanon, the Foundation will transfer the scholarship amount directly to the awardee's university to be used towards his or her tuition fees. Students must apply for the renewal of the scholarship — if the letter of agreement so stipulates — on a yearly basis, for a maximum period of three academic years, if satisfactory progress is made in the chosen studies. Students must submit transcripts and/or reports of progress attesting to the advancement of their studies.

The scholarship may be terminated for the breach of the terms of the agreement to be signed by the successful applicants with the Foundation. In this case the candidate must reimburse the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation the amount received.

#### ARTICLE 4.

##### **Application Documents**

1. A copy of the candidate's passport (main page with personal data) – it is legally required to provide the following data: complete name, date of birth, identification number, fiscal number and permanent address.
2. Birth or baptism certificate, or an equivalent document attesting to the Armenian heritage, translated into English, if the original is not in English, French or Portuguese.
3. Attested copies of academic certificates obtained and grade-sheets (last available two semesters), translated into English, if originals are not in English, French or Portuguese.
4. A motivation letter (max. one page), including why the applicant chose his/her respective field of study.
5. A brief curriculum vitae.
6. A statement outlining the applicant's commitment to contribute to the Armenian community during his/her studies and/or upon graduation.
7. An explanation (max. one page) of the financial circumstances of the applicant.
8. Other documentation relevant to candidate's application such as:
  - a) Details of any scholarship(s) awarded.
  - b) Evidence of any benefits received.
  - c) Pay slips (if any).
  - d) Bank account statements (for last three months).
  - e) Reference/attestations.
  - f) Other.

#### ARTICLE 5.

##### **Application**

Applications must be submitted online. The application process for the 2026-2027 academic year will open on 1 May 2026 and the deadline for applications is 30 June 2026 (23h59, Lisbon time).

We strongly advise candidates not to wait until the last few days before applying. Applicants will be informed of the decision during the month of July 2026.

Questions should be submitted to the following email address: [carmenias@gulbenkian.pt](mailto:carmenias@gulbenkian.pt).

Data Protection (this section is included as per European legal requirements)

All personal data provided in the application process or during the execution of the scholarship shall be processed by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, as the data controller, for the purposes of managing and execution the scholarship process based on the acceptance of the data subject of the terms and conditions of the scholarship (pre-contractual diligence and subsequent contractual execution).

Based on the Foundations legitimate interest on executing the scholarship, the Foundation may communicate the personal data of the applicant to the University where he/she is enrolled for the purpose of transferring the funds allocated to the applicant.

The personal data shall be kept for the period of time necessary for the management and grant of the scholarship, except in cases where another period is required by applicable law. Some data (i.e., the name of the data subject, date of application, terms and duration of the scholarship and personal data potentially included in the works and final publications) will be kept indefinitely by the Foundation for the purpose of archiving relevant information in the context of its cultural activity.

The data subject may exercise the right of access, rectification, erasure, opposition, limitation and portability, according to the applicable legislation, through email directed to [privacidade@gulbenkian.pt](mailto:privacidade@gulbenkian.pt)

The Foundation implements all security measures necessary and adequate for the protection of the personal data of the subjects, either when the data is processed directly by them or when the data is processed by entities subcontracted by it.

The Foundation may process the data directly and/or through processors for the purpose of managing the scholarship. In such cases, appropriate contracts shall be entered into with such processors, in accordance with the applicable legislation.

For the purposes of disseminating the activity of the Foundation, based on its legitimate interest in promoting its initiatives, the Foundation may communicate the data of the subject to partner entities for publications and institutional communications. These entities may be located within the territory of the European Union or abroad, and in the latter case, appropriate mechanisms under the applicable legislation to safeguard the security of personal data processed shall be used at all times.

Data subjects may file a complaint to the Portuguese National Authority (“Comissão Nacional de Proteção de Dados”) if they believe that there is a breach of data protection incurred by the Foundation.

For more information visit our [website](#)

To be able to process applications for scholarships and support, the Foundation will necessarily process the personal data requested from Users at the time of application, as well as during the monitoring, by the Foundation, of a scholarship or support granted by it. Collection of this data is necessary for the Foundation to be able to review your application and award the scholarship or support. The Foundation processes this data for purposes of pre-contractual diligence and subsequent contractual execution. For the purposes of submitting the application, it will be necessary to create an account as described in the preceding point.

**Information and contacts**

Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation

Armenian Communities Department

[carmenias@gulbenkian.pt](mailto:carmenias@gulbenkian.pt)

January 2026