

Protocol for SSPF Scholarships

Status as on January 1, 2021

Eligible Candidates & Programs

- SSPF provides partial scholarships to candidates from the target groups listed below, provided that they submit a timely and complete application file, and meet the admission criteria of the intended education programme:
 - o Primary target group: young professionals of the space sector in the Netherlands.
 - o Secondary target group: advanced (PhD, masters) students of space-related education programmes at Dutch educational institutions.
 - o Dutch young professionals and Dutch advanced (PhD, masters) students who work or study abroad in the space sector may also apply.
- Candidates can be granted a SSPF scholarship only once.
- This protocol is primarily focused on applications for the Space Studies Program (SSP) of the International Space University (ISU). Other international space education programs can be considered by the SSPF Board on request.

Application

- The application for SSPF scholarships is separate from the application to ISU; both applications can be submitted in parallel.
- SSPF uses the same application deadlines as ISU (www.isunet.edu).
- SSPF applies the same application criteria as ISU.
- Applicants from ESA Member countries must request an ESA scholarship in the ISU application process.
- An interview may form part of the selection process.
- Candidates should submit their application for SSPF scholarships as soon as they intend to participate in the upcoming edition of the Space Studies Program (SSP), and at the latest in parallel to their formal ISU application process. The following documents are required initially:
 - o Application form (https://www.sspf.nl/uploads/1/1/3/7/113782937/sspf_-_application_form.pdf)
 - o CV
 - o Motivation letter

As soon as possible followed by:

- o ISU confirmation letter as result of the ISU academic acceptance process showing that the candidate fulfils the ISU acceptance criteria
- o ISU decision letter with respect to eventual ESA scholarship
- o Information about (potential) other co-sponsorships (employer, other sources, own) and approval to stream these finances via SSPF towards ISU.

SSPF Decision Process and Co-financing Rules

- Based on the above-mentioned information, the number of applicants and available budget, SSPF will decide case-by-case about the additional scholarship applications.
- Each applicant who is a student or not currently employed is requested to make a personal contribution of €2,000. This obligation may be reduced or waived in exceptional cases and on cause shown.

- An employer whose staff applies for a scholarship will be requested for co-financing of the remaining fee after deduction of the ESA co-financing, if applicable. In this case, the participant is not required to make a personal contribution, and invoices are addressed to the employer.
- Depending on the financial resources available to SSPF, the maximum co-financing by SSPF per participant is €6,000. Participants who are not eligible for ESA co-financing may need to solicit additional external financial support (e.g. from their government / ministries / funds, ISU, personal loans) to facilitate their participation.

In return for SSPF scholarships

- Participants may be asked to participate in a meeting with the SSPF Board to discuss what they can do to assist future work of the SSPF (e.g. serving as an ambassador for future SSP participants from the Netherlands, writing an article, or finding new sponsors).