



Rijksoverheid
Rijksdienst Caribisch Nederland
Studiefinanciering

Are you going to study in the Netherlands? Then you may qualify for a one-off Start-up Allowance of RCN-Study Grants. The Start-up Allowance is intended as an allowance for the costs you incur to start living in the Netherlands. For instance the costs for a ticket, a bicycle, a winter coat and the layout of your student room.

Study in the European Netherlands? Apply for a Start-up Allowance!

Education

The Start-up Allowance applies to fulltime senior secondary vocational education (mbo) at level 3 or 4, higher professional education (hbo) or university education in the European part of the Netherlands. Are you going to start senior secondary vocational education at level 1 and 2 in the European Netherlands? Then you do not qualify for a Start-up Allowance.

Age

To qualify for a Start-up Allowance you must be aged 30 or younger. Are you going to start senior secondary vocational education at level 3 or 4 in the 2019-2020 study year? Then you must be aged 18 or over before July 1, 2020. This minimum age does not apply to higher education.

Nationality

You must have the Dutch nationality. Do you not have the Dutch nationality? Then you must have lived in the Caribbean Netherlands for at least ten years to qualify for the Start-up Allowance.

Performance-related grant and loan

The Start-up Allowance consists of a one-off performance-related grant of \$ 2.635,73. Do you obtain your diploma within ten years? Then you do not have to repay this amount. Are you unable to do this? Then it is a loan you pay interest on. In addition, you can borrow a one-off maximum amount of \$ 5.271,46. You always have to repay this amount. You pay interest on the loan. The said interest is adjusted annually. In 2018 the interest is 0.0%.





Apply

To qualify for a Start-up Allowance you must live in the Caribbean Netherlands at the moment you apply. Hence, apply for the Start-up Allowance before the start of the education in the Netherlands. Are you applying for the Start-up Allowance when the education has already started? Then you are no longer entitled to the Start-up Allowance. You can apply with the (Dutch) form on the website of RCN-Study Grants (www.rijksdienstcn.com/startupallowance). Here you can also find an explanation of the form in your own language.

Counselling

When you go to the Netherlands you can receive free counselling in the first year via RCN-Study Grants. This service includes, inter alia, the organisation of a group flight to the Netherlands, a welcome at Schiphol and a supplementary package insurance. In addition, you receive counselling by a mentor throughout the year. Your mentor helps you with, inter alia, the registration with the municipality where you are going to live, the application for a Civil Service Number and the opening of a bank account. Apart from the counselling service, you can also rely on the housing service. This means that the counsellor makes every effort to find suitable accommodation for you in the Netherlands.

Study grant in the Netherlands

Apart from the Start-up Allowance you can also apply for a Dutch study grant for your education in the Netherlands with DUO.

Do you want more information about study grants in the Netherlands? Then go to www.duo.nl/antillen.

Also read the folder 'Student finance for students from Aruba, Curaçao, Sint Maarten and the Caribbean Netherlands'. You can download this from the site of DUO.

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