International School of Estonia

ISE Scholarship and Bursary Policy

Scholarship and Bursary Policy

Rationale

We hope that scholarships and bursaries at ISE will:

- Raise the profile and awareness of the school within the local community by expanding access to an ISE education for qualified students who may face financial or individual barriers to enrolment
- Increase the opportunities for qualified students from a range of circumstances to contribute to ISE's international learning community and encourage international mindedness
- Attract academically strong students who may enhance our current IB MYP and Diploma programme
- Help to continue a culture of excellence and high expectations within the school and promote better student performance
- Align with the procedures of many other IB schools around the world that offer scholarships to students.
- Provide greater opportunities for collaboration and group work within increased class sizes.
- Increase revenue and school numbers by enrolling students who would not normally be able to afford full tuition fees.
- Scholarships and bursaries are awarded using published criteria based on individual academic merit or documented need and are not awarded for the purpose of achieving demographic representation.

Scholarships and Bursaries

- Should a recipient's fees become overdue, Scholarships and Bursaries become null and void.
- The school will not accept applications from families who already have an outstanding debt to the school.
- All scholarships and bursaries must be recommended by the Scholarship and Bursary Committee and approved by the Board. No individual agreements will be recognised.
- Scholarships apply only to the recipient/s named in the application and are not transferable.
- Scholarships and bursaries will be granted for a finite period of time and recipients notified of that time frame in an acceptance letter.
- Following a review of academic attainment, behaviour, teacher reports and community engagement, scholarships or bursaries may be renewed.
- ISE has a limited number of scholarships and bursaries available each year.
- All matters relevant to scholarships and bursaries are confidential and should remain private between the school, the student and parents/caregivers of the applicant.
- All scholarship and bursary applicants must meet ISE's normal admissions criteria, including if necessary, an admissions test.

The Scholarship/Bursary Committee

- The committee will comprise at least three board members, of which at least two may not be recipients of a scholarship or bursary.
- The committee will under normal circumstances make their recommendations to the March meeting of the School Board for ratification.

- The Director of the School, the Office Manager or any other relevant party may be called on to advise on matters relating to scholarship or bursary applications, or applicants.
- The committee will convene as required.

Types of Scholarships and Bursaries

Different types of scholarships and bursaries are offered based on individual merit and need.
- **Scholarships** are awards given that are based on academic excellence.
- **Bursaries** are awarded for reasons other than academic excellence, to enable a student to study at ISE.

Master Scholarship:

- This is a merit based scholarship for students who excel academically in school and/or have won national academic competitions such as an Olympiad or equivalent prizes or awards.
- It is awarded at the discretion of the Management Board, on proposal of the Scholarship Committee, that also has discretion as to the amount (%) of the scholarship, not to exceed 60%.
- The scholarship will be reviewed annually to ensure that the student remains in high academic standing.

International Futures Scholarship:

- This is also a merit-based scholarship. To be eligible a student must have been enrolled for the past three years in a school licensed by the Estonian Ministry of Education – üldhariduskool (general education school – grades 1-12) and offering the Estonian National Curriculum.
- An Estonian student returning from overseas education may also be considered for this scholarship.
- The scholarship will be reviewed annually to ensure that the student remains in high academic standing.
- The International Futures Scholarship is a scholarship of up to 50% of the tuition fee.

All Scholarship students must maintain a grade of at least 5 in all their subjects and meet the behavioural and Learner Profile expectations for ISE students.

Innovation Outreach Bursary:

- This needs-based bursary may be offered to children with a parent whose job may be connected to science and/or technology fields or is able to create corporate or university partnerships with ISE.
- A cooperation plan must be presented by the parent, laying out in which manner the partnership will be a benefit to ISE. The scholarship is granted for the duration of the position of the parent and is contingent on an ongoing partnership between the school and the family.
- Requirement: family pays a minimum of 10% of their net income per child

Unique Needs Bursary

- A unique needs bursary may be selectively given to children who, due to their unique circumstances, will have their needs better met at International School of Estonia.
- In order for the application to be considered, these circumstances must be documented through the provision of accurate information that is of a high standard.
- Examples may include documented displacement, significant educational disruption, safety concerns, serious family circumstances, or other circumstances in which the student's educational needs would be better met at ISE

Bursary for Children of Teachers in Estonia:

To qualify for this bursary the following conditions must be met:

- At least one parent must be employed full-time as teacher of grades 1-12
- The parent's/ employment must be concurrent with the period of enrolment at ISE. Recipients must promptly notify ISE of any change in employment status and have Bursary reassessed.
- The school of employment must be licensed by the Estonian Ministry of Education and Research.
- There is a limit of 2 children per family.
- The scholarship has limited space and does not to exceed 2 per year with any exceptions subject to Board approval.
- The students must meet ISE's normal admissions standards.

Unless a bursary student is accepted with established special educational needs, they must maintain a Grade of 4 in all their subjects and meet the behavioural and Learner Profile expectations for ISE students.

Scholarship and Bursary Benefits

Name of Scholarship/Bursary			Possible Benefits **Yes**-means it may be covered in the Scholarship or Bursary **No**-means applicant must pay			
	Type	**Financial Details Required**	**Registration Fee** €600	**Capital Assessment Fee** €3000 one time only	**Tuition Fees**	**IB Diploma Fees**
Master Scholarship	Merit	**No**	**No**	**Yes** Percentage paid decided by Committee	**Yes** Up to 60% reduction	**No**
International Futures Scholarship	Merit	**No**	**No**	**Yes** Percentage paid decided by Committee	**Yes** Up to 50% reduction	**No**
Innovation Outreach Bursary	Needs	**Yes**	**No**	**Yes** Percentage paid decided by Committee	**Yes** At least 10% of family income	**No**
Unique Needs Bursary	Needs	**Yes**	**No**	**Yes** On application	**Yes** Up to 60% reduction	**No**
Children of Teachers in Estonia Bursary	Needs	**No**	**No**	**Yes**	**Yes** 99% deduction	**No**

Further Information

- Unless the Board decides otherwise, the maximum number of scholarship and bursary students vs full-fee paying students per classroom may not exceed 50%.

Last updated: 03 November, 2026

- All financial documents presented will be analysed thoroughly by the Scholarship and Bursary Committee, which at their discretion, may also undertake additional research or request additional documentation.
- Scholarships and some bursaries may include a reduction of the capital assessment fee.
- Scholarships and bursaries are not granted for students in Preschool grades.
- Except for the “Teachers in Estonia” bursary, the value of a scholarship may not exceed 60% of full fees.

Academic Probation

- Students on a scholarship or bursary in the MYP & Diploma, who end any semester with grades lower than what is required, or who are not meeting behavioural or Learner Profile values, may be placed on academic probation. This will require a parent/caregiver meeting, a warning and a signed agreement for improvement.
- A student who does not meet academic or behavioural expectations will have their eligibility for a scholarship or bursary reviewed by the Committee.