Open Doors Scholarship Russia 2027

Russian Government Scholarship – Bachelor's, Master's, PhD and Postdoctoral

1. Overview

The Open Doors Scholarship, offered by the Russian government, allows international students to study at universities in Russia. It is one of the most prestigious scholarships in Russia. Many scholarships demand IELTS, an application fee or a bank statement, but this one does not, which makes it easier to apply, especially if you do not yet have an English test score. You can also select up to six universities in a single application, increasing your chances of admission.

Country	Russia
Programs	Bachelor's, Master's, PhD and Postdoctoral
IELTS	Not required
Application fee	None (free to apply)
Bank statement	Not required
Universities	Select up to 6 in one application
Language of teaching	Russian + English

2. About the Scholarship

Russian universities provide programs in both Russian and English. If you choose a Russian-taught program, you do not need a Russian language certificate. Under this scholarship you receive a free one-year Russian language course to help you prepare. You can study in the language most comfortable for you while still learning a new language.

3. Who Can Apply (Eligibility)

Level	Education required	Age
Bachelor's	12 years of prior education (finished school/college)	16 to 23 years
Master's	16 years of study (typically a completed bachelor's degree)	20 to 34 years
PhD	18 years of previous education (typically a completed master's degree)	22 to 35 years
Postdoctoral	Candidate of Sciences, Doctor of Science or PhD degree as of the registration opening date	24 to 39 years

4. Scholarship Benefits

- **No application fee:** you can apply for free.
- **No tuition fee:** your tuition is covered, usually the biggest cost of studying abroad.

- **Monthly stipend:** a monthly allowance to help with living expenses.
- **Free one-year Russian language course** to help you prepare.

Note: the exact stipend amount is not stated in the source; check the official website for the current figure.

5. Documents You Need

The document list is short, which makes this scholarship easier to prepare for than most.

1. **Passport:** a valid passport is needed to apply. If you do not have one, get it first because it can take time.

2. **Education documents:** certificates and transcripts that prove you meet the education requirement for your chosen level.

3. **Motivational letter:** explain why you want to study in Russia, why you chose your field and what you plan to do with your degree. Be specific and honest; avoid generic statements.

6. Programs and Subject Areas

The official website lists all available programs and universities. Compare programs, check which are taught in English, and choose the universities that best match your field and goals.

Subject areas:

- Applied Mathematics and Artificial Intelligence
- Biology and Biotechnology
- Business and Management
- Chemistry and Materials Science
- Clinical Medicine and Public Health
- Computer and Data Science
- Earth and Environmental Sciences for Sustainability
- Economics and Econometrics
- Education and Psychology
- Engineering and Technology
- Physical Sciences and Technology
- Politics and International Studies
- Russian Language and Culture
- Urbanism and Civil Engineering

Choose the subject area that matches your previous degree and future goals, because the Stage 2 test is based on your field.

7. How to Apply

The application is done through the official portal and has up to three stages.

Stage	Details
Stage 1: Online application and general test	Apply on only one portal; do not create multiple applications on different sites. At the end of the application you take a general test.
Stage 2: Subject test	A second test related to your chosen field. It is more difficult than the general test, so review the basics of your subject.
Stage 3: Interview	Only for PhD and postdoctoral applicants. Be ready to talk about your research interests and background.

8. Deadline

According to the source page, the last date to apply was **1 November 2026**. The page advised not to wait until the last day because the process includes tests; applying early gives time to resolve problems such as a missing document or a slow internet connection. **Please verify the current status and any later rounds on the official website.**

9. Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Is IELTS required?

No. You do not need to submit an IELTS score.

Q. Is there an application fee?

No. The application is completely free.

Q. Do I need a bank statement?

No. A bank statement is not required.

Q. How many universities can I select?

Up to 6 universities in one application. Choose them wisely based on your field and the programs offered.

Q. Is the Russian language test compulsory for Russian-taught programs?

Not necessarily. Programs are taught in both Russian and English, and a 1-year Russian language course is provided free.

Q. Is there an interview?

Only PhD and postdoctoral applicants have an interview (Stage 3).

Q. Can I apply on more than one portal?

No. Apply on only one portal.

Q. Is a single name in the passport a problem?

No. According to the site admin, a single name is not an issue.

Q. Are thesis-based MS programs available?

Yes. According to the site admin, many universities offer them.

Source: gsscholarships.com/open-doors-scholarship-russia-2027-bachelors-masters-phd-scholarship/ (published October 6, 2026; page saved November 18, 2026). Always confirm details on the official Open Doors website.