

Best of South-East Stipends 2014/15* – Call for Applications

**Call is subject to final decision by the relevant committees*

Steiermärkische Sparkasse Bank in cooperation with Graz University of Technology again announces the program “Best of South-East”, aiming at the advancement and further education for talented and dedicated graduates and students in and from Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (F.Y.R.O.M.). The program's aim is to provide the target groups mentioned above with international work experience as well as training and further education opportunities.

General Information:

The one-year program is divided into a 10-month study period (language courses in September; academic period from October to June) at Graz University of Technology followed by a 2-month internship (July to August).

Students participating in the “Best of South-East” program are in the last third of their studies and will be given the opportunity of completing their studies at their home university during the one-year stay in Graz. The 2-month internship in the summer after the end of the academic year gets the participants strongly involved in the daily business of a company in Graz or its surrounding areas.

Discussion and information events as well as special events make sure that the participants are integrated into the economic, cultural and academic life of Styria. In addition, participants can take language courses in order to broaden or improve their language skills.

The total amount of financial aid per year and participant is a maximum of EUR 10,000 and specifically consists of the following services:

- Monthly stipend of EUR 750,-
- Registration at Graz University of Technology
- Tuition fee waiver for Graz University of Technology
- Social and cultural activities

Selection Criteria:

Applicants will be selected on the basis of their personal statement, their academic performance and their references. The selection procedure includes both representatives of the Steiermärkische Sparkasse Bank and the Graz University of Technology. In the personal statement, special attention is paid to the applicants' focuses of interest as well as their personal motivation for applying to the internship program.

Students from and living in Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (F.Y.R.O.M.) and Students of Electrical Engineering / Audio Engineering are given preference in selection process.

Application requirements:

- Very good command of English and good command of German
- Native tongue: Slovenian, Bosnian, Croatian, Serbian, Montenegrin or Macedonian
- Students from and living in Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (F.Y.R.O.M.) are given preference in selection process
- Students of Electrical Engineering / Audio Engineering are given preference in selection process
- Outstanding record of achievement
- Minimum of 3 semesters in a study field (Bachelor, Master or PhD) offered at Graz University of Technology
- PhD students need a confirmation from the supervisor of your doctoral thesis at Graz University of Technology (please note that it's the applicant's own responsibility to find a supervisor)
- Dedication, strong communications skills, flexibility, analytical and practical economic thinking

Application Documents:

Applying for the program is a two-step process:

Step 1: Online application

- To receive the Code for the Online application please contact kathrin.manninger@tugraz.at and in your email provide the following information:
- First and last name (according to your passport)
- Name of home university in national language and in English
- Level and area of study you are currently enrolled in; for alumni: last degree completed
- In case you have already studied at an Austrian university in the past, mention when and at which university and also provide your student ID number (Matrikelnummer)

Step 2: Sending the documents via mail

- "Application form" incl. applicant's original signature
- "Study confirmation" incl. original signature of coordinator at home university
- Personal statement in essay form (no longer than 2 pages) with a special focus on the description of the applicant's particular interests and motivation
- Transcript/Diploma (if original in a language other than German or English, a translation into English or German confirmed by the home university has to be included)
 - a. for bachelor level: transcripts of all bachelor courses taken so far
 - b. for master's level: bachelor diploma, transcripts of both bachelor and master's courses taken so far, confirmation from admissions office of home university that you are currently enrolled on master level or fulfill all requirements to be enrolled on master level.
 - c. for doctoral level: bachelor's and master's diploma as well as transcripts of bachelor and

master program and transcript of all doctoral courses taken so far; confirmation from admissions office of home university that you are currently enrolled on doctoral level or fulfill all requirements to be enrolled on doctoral level.

- 2 letters of recommendation: At least one of them has to be issued by an academic person who is or has been significantly involved in the student's current or past studies, one letter by an executive, if available.
- Curriculum Vitae / Resume in tabular form (in English or German)
- Copy of identity page of your passport
- Proof of German language proficiency (at least B2)*; only official certificates of ÖSD, Goetheinstitut or Universities will be accepted. Language certificates must not be older than one year.
- Proof of English language proficiency (at least C1); only official certificates will be accepted*.

*Further information about language requirements can be found here:

http://portal.tugraz.at/portal/page/portal/Internationale_Beziehungen/Incomings/IncomingExchangeStudents/Bewerbung/Sprachnachweis_Erasmus

Application Deadline:

Please send us your applications for the academic year 2014/15 by **March 14th, 2014**.

Contact:

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