

Information for foreign nationals

Education entry grant during unemployment

The education entry grant is a form of financial aid that you can receive over a period of one year if you are unemployed and need to complete an upper-secondary education in order to find work. You apply for the education entry grant from the municipality where you live.

Education programmes that entitle you to an education entry grant

The education programmes that entitle you to an education entry grant are

- programmes at compulsory and upper-secondary level within Komvux (not including SFI, commissioned education or education combined with trainee work)
- general courses at compulsory and upper-secondary level at a folk high school.

What are the qualifications to receive an education entry grant?

The following are a few of the qualifications that you need to meet in order to be entitled to an education entry grant:

- You are 25–56 years old (you are entitled to an education entry grant from the year you turn 25 until the year you turn 56).
- You have been unemployed for at least six months during the last twelve months. If you have been registered as participating in a labour market policy programme or in establishment activities, that also counts as unemployment.
- You have had a short education and are in great need of compulsory or upper-secondary education in order to find work. Your qualifications are assessed by your home municipality.
- You have not received student grants and loans in the past three years.
- You must study at least 50 per cent of full time for at least three weeks.

If you have student loans from before, you must not be behind on payments. Contact CSN if you have any questions about this.



Read more about the qualifications at [csn.se](https://www.csn.se)

As a foreign national, you must also satisfy the conditions for entitlement to Swedish student finance. If you have a permanent residence permit and live in Sweden, you are normally entitled to Swedish student finance. The same is true if you have received a temporary residence permit from the Swedish Migration Agency because of refugee status or similar. If you do not have a permanent residence permit or a status corresponding to that of refugee, there are different regulations depending on your citizenship.

For how long can you receive an education entry grant?

You can receive an education entry grant for 50 weeks at most, if you are doing full-time studies. The corresponding period for half-time studies is 100 weeks. If you have children in your custody, you can receive additional grant referred to as extra child allowance.



See applicable amounts on [csn.se](https://www.csn.se)

How do you apply?

You apply for an education entry grant from the municipality where you live. They receive a lump sum each year for education entry grants. This sum regulates how many individuals can receive such financial grant. You cannot apply directly to CSN.

A possible scenario:

1. Talk to your case officer at Arbetsförmedlingen or the municipality to find out who in your municipality can help you with the application.
2. Your home municipality can help you plan your studies and apply for an education entry grant. The municipality also investigates and decides whether you are included in the target group for this grant, for example because your earlier education has been short. They will then submit your application to CSN.
3. CSN investigates whether you meet the other qualifications to be entitled to an education entry grant and send you a decision. As a foreign national, you will receive two decisions: one on your right to Swedish student finance and one on your right to an education entry grant.

Important to keep in mind during the period of study

- If you fall ill, report it to Försäkringskassan. This allows you to keep your education entry grant and the requirements on your study results will be lowered.
- If you are at home for the care of a sick child (VAB), report this to CSN. This allows you to get the same benefits as during illness.
- If you interrupt a course or take fewer credits than planned, report this to CSN so that we can ensure that you are paid the correct amount. If you fail to do this, you may have to repay the grant.



Always report sickness absence, parental absence and any changes in your studies.

- You must pass a certain number of credits or courses in order to be entitled to a new education entry grant or student grants and loans. CSN will assess your study results each time you submit a new application. However, you do not have to pay back the education entry grant if you do not pass your courses.

What happens after the period with an education entry grant?

If you want to continue studying after the weeks you are entitled to an education entry grant, you can apply to CSN for regular student grants and loans. You are free to decide whether you wish to apply for the grant alone or whether you would also like to borrow money. Any money that you borrow must be paid back.

About CSN

The Swedish Board of Student Finance (CSN) is a government agency in Sweden that handles the education entry grant. We also handle other grants and loans for studies. Sweden has one of the most generous student finance systems in the world. The possibilities of student finance are intended to give everyone in Sweden the opportunity to study, regardless of social, financial or geographical background.



Do you have any questions? You can find many of the answers at csn.se. You can also ask your questions on the website, Facebook or via telephone on 0771-276 000