

## STIBET I: Final Thesis and Project Scholarship

International students often face financial, personal, and organizational challenges that can jeopardize their academic success, particularly in the final phase of their studies. The STIBET I program addresses these challenges by providing targeted financial support to international master's students, enabling the timely and high-quality completion of master's theses or final projects. In addition, the program promotes equal opportunities by supporting students who face exceptional personal, social, or structural challenges. Through this dual approach, STIBET not only helps ensure academic success but also strengthens the diversity and international character of Merz Akademie, sending a clear signal about the importance of diversity and equal opportunities in higher education.

Eligible students are invited to apply for the Final Thesis and Project Scholarship. This scholarship is intended to provide international students of the master's program with the necessary financial flexibility during the decisive final phase of their studies. Especially at the end of the program, the workload increases significantly due to intensive research, artistic and academic development, and the completion of the final project. At the same time, international students are often only able to work to a limited extent alongside their studies due to legal regulations or the lack of family support structures in Germany. The scholarship is designed to prevent financial difficulties from jeopardizing or delaying graduation. In addition, the scholarship helps ensure the quality of the final thesis and enhance the international visibility of the university through outstanding Master's projects.

The scholarship provides €250 per month and is awarded for 5 months.

### Who is eligible?

- Students enrolled in the Master of Arts program who obtained bachelor's degree at a university abroad
- Students who do **not** hold German nationality
- Students who **are** registered for their master's thesis and project

If you meet all eligibility criteria, please submit your complete application by email to the Master's Program Coordinator at [halyna.tsymbalista@merz-akademie.de](mailto:halyna.tsymbalista@merz-akademie.de) by February for the Summer Semester (SS) and by August for the Winter Semester (WS). Exact deadlines are communicated via email. All documents must be combined into a single PDF file, arranged in the order listed below. Decisions will be announced in March for SS and September for WS.

### Required Documents

- Completed application form
- Letter of motivation (max. 300 words)
- Curriculum vitae (1-2 pages)
- Current transcript of records (please request at the Student Office)

Additionally:

- Evaluation form (please submit this form to your Program Head for evaluation. The completed form should then be sent by the Program Head to [halyna.tsymbalista@merz-akademie.de](mailto:halyna.tsymbalista@merz-akademie.de))

Selection criteria include academic performance and professional qualifications, a letter of motivation, a curriculum vitae, and a recommendation from the program leadership.

The selection committee consists of representatives of the Rectorate, the Dean's Office, and the International Office.

The procedure involves a review of submitted documents and does not require a personal interview. Additional proofs and documents may be requested if needed.

Further materials can be found in the master's section on CampusNet.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [halyna.tsymbalista@merz-akademie.de](mailto:halyna.tsymbalista@merz-akademie.de).