

GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION

Please read carefully through the guidelines. Most questions you have about the application process will be answered in the information below.

The course is one-year full time study, or 60 European credits (60 ECTS). The goal is to give students without previous knowledge of Norwegian the proficiency they need to be able to study at a college or a university in Norway. The course runs from mid-August to mid-June. It is not possible to join during the year.

To be admitted to the course the students must meet the basic requirements for entrance to a Norwegian college or university.

1. Family name.

Please use consistently the same family name as shown in your passport.

2. Residence permit

If you have a residence permit in Norway, you must enclose a photocopy of your passport showing identification and the permit. You cannot apply for a student status if you are a tourist in Norway. You must receive the residence permit (student status) before you leave for Norway.

3. Financing

We regret the fact that we have no available grants or scholarship within the «Norwegian quota programs» for the academic year 2013-2014.

a) Student eligible for Norwegian government student loans and grants:

Foreign students who have already been granted a permanent residence in Norway are eligible for financial assistance (loans and grants) from the Norwegian State Educational Loan Fund (www.lanekassen.no).

Applicants for political asylum awaiting a decision regarding residence permits are not entitled to loans and grants. These applicants will not be accepted as students at the NUS programme at Volda University College.

b) Private funds

If you are not eligible for Norwegian government student loans or funds, you have to finance your stay in Norway from private funds. In order to get a residence permit as a foreign student in Norway you must guarantee that you have NOK 92.500,-, in a Norwegian bank in your name. This sum is to cover expenses for room and board, books, supplies and personal expenses. We will send you instructions on how to do this if you are accepted to the programme.

4. Planned studies after completing the Norwegian course

The Norwegian course is basically intended for students who plan further studies at Volda University College. It is essential to note that foreign students will not be granted a

residency visa for study purposes in Norway on the basis of attendance at a language course only. As part of your visa application to the Immigration Department you will be required to show that you have been accepted to attend a professional degree program at a Norwegian university or college for the year 2014/2015.

5. Motivation letter

Describe your reasons for choosing this background and the education goals you want to achieve in Norway on a separate piece of paper. Please limit your answers to 600 words. Please attach the motivation letter to your application.

6. Remember to enclose certified documentation of your education (diploma, transcripts etc)

Copy of original documents and copy of original translation, stamped with "correct copy" and signed.

7. English language requirements

Although the language of instruction at Volda University College is in Norwegian, the initial lectures of the course are given in English and some of the required reading is also in English. It is therefore necessary with good knowledge of the language.

8. Educational background

List all institutions attended, beginning with upper secondary school, including any education in progress. Certified copies of all documentation of your education must be enclosed. Translations of all documentation into English or Norwegian must be enclosed. Your university or college background must be from an accredited university or college.

9. Translation

Documents have to be translated into English by an authorized translator. A certified copy of the original document in the original language must accompany the certified copy of the translation.

10. Enclosures

Remember to enclose certified documentation of all your educational documents (diplomas/degrees and transcripts/mark sheets). Your application will not be considered complete until we have received all necessary documentation. Certified copies are photocopies which are attested by a notary public, the administrator of the issuing institution, or a Norwegian Embassy/Consulate, and bear the name, signature, stamp and address of the certifying official.

11. Proof of English proficiency

When looking at each country's educational system, the level of English is a special consideration. For each country, the GSU list indicates if there is an English language

skills requirement, along with a number indicating which categories of applicants from a particular country may be exempted.

Applicants who do not meet the English proficiency requirements may take one of the following tests/courses:

- English basic course from upper secondary school in Norway with mark 2 or better
- TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) with a minimum score of 500 points on the paper-based test or 60 points on the Internet-based test
- IELTS (International English Language Testing System) with a minimum score of 5.0
- University of Cambridge examinations:
 - First Certificate in English
 - Certificate in Advanced English
 - Certificate of Proficiency in English

In addition, applicants will have proof of sufficient English proficiency if they have:

- Completed one year at university in an English-speaking country (Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, United Kingdom, USA), provided that the language of instruction was English.
- Completed university education where the subject English comprised the main component of the course of study.

In exceptional cases applicants may provide proof of English proficiency in other ways.

Download the GSU-list and language requirements here: <http://nokut.no/en/Foreign-education/General-recognition/Applicant/NOKUTs-administrative-procedure/GSU-list/>