



Are you doing a course or even some longere-term study? Investigate your right to a Ríkismennt grant!

Ríkismennt SGS is a development and further education fund for public servants in the countryside who are members of the trade unions within the federation of Genaral and Special Workers (SGS). The fund formally began operating 1. June 2005.

Roles

The fund has two departments which look after their own roles as follows:

The developmental And institutional department

- Allocates grants to educational projects of those institutions and employers who pay into the fund
- Allocates grants to educational projects for those trade unions which support the fund
- Finance projects organised by the board of directors

The work and further education department

- Provides grants to intivituals, members of associatad traid unions, in order to give them the chance to study or take a course while working without any significant cost.

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Starfsgreinasamband Íslands



Ríkismennt

tel: 599 1450 • fax: 599 1401
www.rikismennt.is
rikismennt@rikismennt.is

Your gateway to education!



Ríkismennt



Overall requirements an individual's application for a grant:

1. A member who has worked full-time and paid into a Ríkismennt union for at least 6 of the past 12 months is entitled to support for vocational training grant.
2. The amount to be paid depends on paid membership fees for the last 12 months. Fees from minimum salary in 100% job capacity or more amount to a full grant allowance.
3. An application form needs to be filled out and submitted along with invoices/receipt. An application needs to come through the respective trade union within 12 months of the end of the course.
4. The entitlements of a member within Ríkismennt, Landsmennt, Sveitamennt, Sjómennt and/or Starfsafl remain the same regardless of a transfer between associated trade unions.
5. Member who has been absent from work due to a illness, domestic situation or other valid reason, maintains the same rights to funding, in accordance with rules, even if s/he returns to work after an absence.
6. Parents on maternity, paternity or parental leave can use their entitlements under paragraph 1 if they choose to pay union fees while on leave.
7. Members looking for work maintain the same entitlements as when they stopped work if they choose to pay union fees from their unemployment benefits.

Funding for each member shall never be more than 60,000 kr. In all per calendar year except when it is a grant for specialised driving licence whereby a special grant is awarded. All things being equal, the proportion of the total cost which is funded is dependant on relevant the studies are to the line of work, also taking into account the approach of the institution that the person works for. In making that evaluation the following guidelines apply:

- When it's a course, directly related to the work in question, which an individual member decides to do on their own initiative, the fund can award a grant for up to 90% of the cost of the course.
- If it's a general or standard course which lays the foundation for another work-related, such as a course with mature age study centre or an approved educational institution (for language study, computer studies or another general course), the fund can provide support for up to 75% of the cost of the studies.
- Members have right to a grant for specialised driving licence for up to 100,000 kr. Each individual can only be awarded this grant once.
- Individual grants are given for leisure/recreational courses and reimbursement can be up to 50% of the cost but never more than 18,000 kr. per annum, and is also subtracted from the total individual amount.



Grants for purchase of equipment to aid reading and writing

Union members can apply for a grant of up to 90% to help them purchase reading and writing aids. The total grant is set to match the maximum amount of funding disbursed according to the Fund's rules, or 60,000 kr.



Increased study grant

Members who have not used their rights over the past three years are entitled to a grant of up to 180,000 kr. for one continuous study course according to the rules of the fund.

Grants to members on sick pay

Members who are on sick pay maintain the same right to funding as when they stopped working for up to 6 months.

Grant for Icelandic courses

Members whose mother language is not Icelandic can apply for up to 90% rebate for a 150-hour Icelandic course after three month's membership.



Rewiew

If a member believes s/he has the right to funding, but is denied funding from a relevant union, the member may pass their application directly to the Ríkismennt SGS board for consideration.

How does one apply for a grant?

Individuals apply for grants using an application form from the appropriate union who process the application on behalf of Ríkismennt.

Trade unions, institutions and other employers apply to the board by sending a letter which includes the main information about the educational project in question.