



Government of Belize 2026–2027 Scholarship: Study English as a Second Language at the University of Belize

OVERVIEW

The University of Belize ESL Scholarship Program Overview

The University of Belize (UB), in partnership with the Government of Belize through the Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Technology, invites applications for the 2026-2027 Certificate of English as a Second Language (CESL) Scholarship Programme. This ten-month intensive English language programme will be delivered at the Regional Language Center (RLC) from January to October 2027.

The scholarship covers all tuition, program fees, required teaching materials, and provides a monthly stipend of BZD \$600.00 to assist with living expenses.

PURPOSE

The ESL Program at the RLC

The CESL programme is designed to strengthen English proficiency in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. It emphasizes communicative competence, task-based learning, and practical application of language skills. A mandatory 60-hour language internship is required for eligible students.

INTENDED BENEFICIARIES

This scholarship is open to citizens of Mexico, Honduras, El Salvador, Colombia, Panama, Venezuela, and ROC Taiwan.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Must be a citizen of México, Venezuela, Honduras, El Salvador, Colombia,

Panama, or ROC Taiwan.

- Applicants must be **18** or older.
- Must commit to 10 months of living in Belize from January 2027 to October 2027.
- Applicants must have a minimum high school certificate.
- Commit to studying full-time in Belize **without the possibility of employment** or part-time studies.

Restrictions:

- Only one applicant per immediate family or household will be considered. Applications from couples or spouses are not allowed.
- Spouses of Belizean citizens, as well as applicants holding Belizean passports, nationality, or permanent residency, are not eligible to apply.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must submit the following documents:

- Completed **UB/RLC application form**.
- Updated curriculum vitae (CV) with a profile photo. **If the CV is in a language other than English, it must be translated into English.**
- Official transcript (s) - must be apostilled and translated into English if in another language.
- Copy of certificates or diplomas - must be apostilled and translated into English if in another language.
- One recommendation form – either academic or from a current or previous employer. Should be using the [UB recommendation form template](#)
- Copy of your passport (*biographic page*) - must be apostilled and valid for more than 6 months
- Copy of your birth certificate - must be apostilled or authenticated and translated into English if in another language.
- Proof of financial support - updated bank statement (s)
- Application fee of BZD \$30 - payment can be made [using a credit card](#)

SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

The CESL Scholarship covers all tuition and program costs, including teaching materials, and provides a monthly housing allowance of BZD \$600 (US\$300).

Recipients are responsible for any additional living expenses beyond the allowance, which covers rent and utilities only. The University cannot increase the allowance or waive fees for extra costs.

The scholarship benefits apply only to the recipient and do not cover dependents.

Transportation, Housing, and Student Life

Explore Student Life

Visit our [Student Life at UB](#) webpage to discover the wide range of activities and opportunities available to UB students. It's the best way to get a feel for our vibrant campus community.

Transportation Support

Transportation to our main campus will be provided for incoming students under certain conditions. Keep an eye on your email for further details on how we can support your journey.

Housing Options

Browse our housing catalog for a detailed look at available accommodations and associated costs. We'll also provide support to help you secure your initial housing arrangements. (note: housing is covered by student) Student services will contact all successful scholarship applicants for further support.

Cost of Living

Estimated monthly expenses (BZD):

- Rent: 600
- Utilities: 130
- Groceries: 200
- Miscellaneous: 305
- Total: 1,235

The stipend is not sufficient to cover all expenses. Students must have additional financial support.

CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT & STUDENT LIFE

All Regional Language Center (RLC) students are required to participate in the annual Multicultural Fair, where scholarship recipients showcase the unique culture of their home countries. Students should bring items such as a national flag, traditional attire, photos, brochures, and cultural artifacts.

Students are also encouraged to bring:

- Personal medications and essential hygiene products
- Special condiments or ingredients for preparing traditional dishes
- Souvenirs or items for cultural displays

IMMIGRATION REQUIREMENTS (MANDATORY)

All selected scholarship recipients must comply with Belize's immigration regulations.
Required Documents (to submit after scholarship acceptance)

1. Passport – biographical page and all pages
2. Apostilled passport
3. Apostilled academic records
4. Travel itinerary – arrival and departure dates
5. Financial statement of support, including supporting documents:
 - a. Most recent bank statement (monthly statement if self-funded)
 - b. Job letter (if employed)
 - c. If supported by parents or guardians:
 - i. Copy of your birth certificate to show kinship
 - ii. Copy of all pages of parents' or guardians' identification (passport preferred)
 - iii. Parent/guardian bank statement
6. Police record

Visa and Entry Process

The visa process may involve two or three steps, depending on nationality:

1. Visitor/Tourist Visa:
 - Issued upon entry to Belize at any border.
 - Valid for 30 days.
 - Allows initial entry for scholarship recipients.
2. Belize Visa:
 - Required for students (except Mexicans) to legally remain in Belize for the duration of studies.
 - Application is processed through the Department of Student Affairs, Student Services Unit, after scholarship acceptance.

Visa Options:

- Single-Entry Visa – valid for the duration of studies; does not allow travel across borders. Cost: BZD \$200.
- Multiple-Entry Visa – valid for the duration of studies and allows travel across borders. Cost: BZD \$300.
 - **Note:** An entry fee of BZD \$40 applies per re-entry.

Nationality-Specific Notes:

- Venezuelans: Must obtain a visa before boarding; airlines will not allow boarding without it.
- Mexicans (air travel): Must present documentation upon entry by air; does not apply for entry by land.
- Colombians (land entry): Additional documentation required at border points.

Student Permit

- All students must apply for a Student Permit.
- Mexican nationals: Permit applied for shortly after arrival.
- Other nationalities: Permit applied for after Belize Visa issuance.
- Cost: BZD \$200 total (BZD \$100 per semester).

Important: Students are responsible for all Visa and Student Permit costs. These are not included in the scholarship. The University of Belize cannot guarantee visa approval or processing times, which are determined solely by the Belize Immigration Department.

Important Dates

- Application Opens: April 20, 2026
- Application Deadline: July 31, 2026
- Expected date of arrival: January 11, 2027
- Programme Duration: January – October 2027

FOR INQUIRIES OR EMERGENCY CONTACT

For any questions or urgent matters related to the scholarship or your stay at the University of Belize, please contact:

Mr. Lugie Cruz
Director, Regional Language Center
University of Belize
Tel: 822-3680 ext. 1526
Email: rlcinfo@ub.edu.bz

Ms. Erlinda Smith
Student Services Coordinator, Department of Student Affairs
University of Belize
Tel: 822-3680 ext. 1555
Email: erlinda.smith@ub.edu.bz