

PROVISIONS
OF THE SHAKHMARDAN YESSENOV FOUNDATION
“Academician Shakhmardan Yessenov Scholarship Competition 2026”

I. General Terms.

- 1.1. The Academician Shakhmardan Yessenov Scholarship Competition (hereinafter referred to as the “Competition”) is held and financed at the initiative of the **private foundation “Shakhmardan Yessenov Science and Education Foundation”** (hereinafter referred to as the “Foundation”), and is aimed to stimulate the academic, scientific, and social activities of the citizens of the Republic of Kazakhstan studying at Kazakhstani higher education institutions (HEIs), in order to perpetuate the memory of Shakhmardan Yessenov - an outstanding geoscientist, prominent statesman and public figure, academician of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Kazakhstan, doctor of geological and mineralogical sciences, professor, Lenin Prize laureate, laureate of the State Prize of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and Shokan Ualikhanov Prize laureate.
- 1.2. The Competition aims to promote the growth of professional and personal competencies, social responsibility, and leadership skills among the best undergraduate students at higher education institutions in the Republic of Kazakhstan.
- 1.3. In the Provisions, the term “Scholarship” refers to a monetary payment from the Foundation in the amount of seventy thousand (70,000) tenge per month or **eight hundred forty thousand (840,000) tenge per year**. The Scholarship is awarded by the Foundation to **no more than twenty (20) Scholarship holders (winners)** of the Competition for a period of twelve (12) months, **from May 2026 through April 2027**.
- 1.4. The Scholarship holders (winners) are selected by the Foundation through an open Competition. The Competition is held by the Foundation in the second semester of the current academic year. The Foundation awards named Scholarships based on the Competition results.
- 1.5. The Program provides for a mandatory quota of two (2) Scholarships for students of **Satbayev University (KazNRTU named after K. I. Satpayev)** where Academician Shakhmardan Yessenov studied and taught.

II. Requirements for applicants for the Academician Shakhmardan Yessenov Named Scholarship.

- 2.1. The Competition is open to citizens of the Republic of Kazakhstan over the age of eighteen (18) who are full-time students at Kazakhstani higher education institutions, whether on a state-funded or self-funded basis.
- 2.2. Applicants for the Scholarship Competition may be:
- a. undergraduate students, except those in the first and final years of study;
 - b. bachelor’s degree students at medical higher education institutions, except those in their first year of study, if an internship is mandatory;
- studying at Kazakhstani higher education institutions, according to the classifier of areas of training for personnel with higher and postgraduate education* as provided by the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan*, in the following areas:
- 6B05 natural sciences, mathematics and statistics;
 - 6B06 information and communication technologies;
 - 6B07 engineering, manufacturing and construction industries;
 - 6B10 healthcare.
- Twenty (20) Scholarship winners will be selected from among the applicants.
- 2.3 Applicants studying in a bachelor’s degree program must have academic performance of “good” or “excellent” (the average GPA must be at least 3.0). The GPA data of the applicants must be confirmed by a transcript.
- 2.4. The Scholarship applicant must declare and provide documentary evidence of active participation in the scientific and social life at their HEI.
- 2.5. Any Scholarship applicant who is a relative of a member of the HEI’s administration (such as the Rector, Vice-Rector, member of the Academic Council, Institute Director, Dean, or Head of Department)

where the applicant studies must disclose this familial relationship in their application for the Competition.

2.6. The awarding of the Scholarship does not affect the applicant's right to receive a state scholarship, including an increased scholarship.

2.7. The Competition is held annually. An applicant who has previously received the Scholarship also has the right to participate in the Competition in subsequent years on general terms.

III. Procedure for awarding the Scholarship.

3.1. The Scholarship is awarded to no more than twenty (20) students - winners of the Competition, studying in the specialties listed in paragraph 2.2 of the Provisions, from among those who submitted applications to participate in the Competition, in accordance with paragraph 3.6 of the Provisions.

3.2. An Expert Commission is established to conduct the Competition and selects the Scholarship holders (winners) based on the results of two (2) rounds of the Competition.

3.3. The decision of the Expert Commission is approved by an order of the Foundation in the form of an officially certified list of the Competition winners. The results of the rounds and the list of winners are published on the Foundation's website: **yessenovfoundation.org**.

3.4. The Scholarship is awarded by the Foundation once (1) a year.

3.5. To participate in the Competition, the applicant has to:

3.5.1. fill out an online application form on the Foundation's website: **yessenovfoundation.org**;

3.5.2. attach the following documents to the application:

Required documents:

a. scan of the identity card;

**Order of the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan as of October 13, 2018, No. 569 "On approval of the Classifier of areas of training of personnel with higher and postgraduate education" (registered in the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Kazakhstan on October 17, 2018, No. 17565)*

b. an essay on the topic "Is it easy to become a professional in the modern world? What hinders and what contributes to this?" The essay should not exceed 750 words (send only in an editable Microsoft Word document); and must be written in the language of the application form – Kazakh or Russian;

c. the student's transcript (the average GPA must be at least 3.0). **Applications with a GPA below 3.0 are not considered;**

d. a certificate of no criminal record/ criminal record.

Additional documents:

a. science certificates/diplomas – no more than two (2) certificates*;

b. social activities and volunteering certificates – no more than three (3) certificates*;

c. publications – no more than two (2) publications*;

d. recommendation letter from the scientific supervisor/head of department – no more than one (1) document.

**The Foundation considers a limited number of certificates. The candidate must independently choose the certificates that best showcase their achievements.*

3.6. Applications are accepted on the Foundation's website **yessenovfoundation.org** **from February 2 through March 3, 2026.**

The deadline for acceptance of applications is March 3, 2026, 3:00 P.M. (GMT+5).

Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

3.7. By submitting an application on the website **yessenovfoundation.org**, the candidate confirms that they have read and understood the terms of the Program, consents to them, and affirms their readiness to comply fully with these terms. By applying for participation in the Competition, the applicant automatically confirms to the Foundation their consent to the processing of their personal data by the Foundation.

- 3.8. The Scholarship is named and cannot be transferred from one student to another.
- 3.9. Submission of the documents for the Competition means that the applicant shares the goals of the Program and agrees with all the terms of the Competition procedure set out in these Provisions and is ready to fully comply with them.
- 3.10. An application can be submitted in two (2) languages: Kazakh or Russian.
- 3.11. The Foundation reserves the right not to provide explanations regarding the motives and reasons for its decisions concerning the applicants for the Scholarship Competition.
- 3.12. The Foundation provides no more than twenty (20) Scholarships, which are awarded based on the decision made by the Expert Commission of the Competition.

IV. Stages of competitive selection.

- 4.1. The Competition comprises two (2) rounds. The best applicants are revealed at the end of each round.
- 4.2. The first round of the Competition is held **from March 3 through March 18, 2026.**
- 4.2.1. All applications received are reviewed and assessed in absentia by independent experts according to the following criteria:
- a. high academic potential (including erudition in the specified area of interest; novelty of approaches; good academic results);
 - b. availability of scientific publications related to the speciality;
 - c. activity in student life;
 - d. volunteer experience;
 - e. other.
- 4.2.3. Applicants who advanced to the second round of the Competition receive an email letter. The list of those qualified for the second round of the Competition is also published on the Foundation's website **yessenovfoundation.org**. Upon completion of the first round of the Competition, no more than fifty (50) students will be selected. The results of the first qualifying round of the Competition will be announced **no later than March 20, 2026.**
- 4.3. The second round of the Competition is held **from March 26 through April 7, 2026.**
- 4.3.1. The applicants selected for the second round of the Competition are invited to an online selection, which is conducted as an individual interview and/or group case work. During this interview, the applicants' qualities are assessed through the observation of the following areas:
- a. general communication;
 - b. system of values and attitudes, motivation;
 - c. general activity;
 - d. emotional intelligence;
 - e. understanding of the demands of the modern world;
 - f. overall psychological maturity;
 - g. thinking;
 - h. willingness of applicants to post motivating content on social media.
- 4.3.2. The duration of the individual interview is up to forty (40) minutes, and group work is up to one hundred and twenty (120) minutes. If necessary, the Foundation may conduct additional testing of the applicants. At the end of the second round of the Competition, no more than twenty (20) winners will be selected.
- 4.3.3. The Foundation reserves the right not to comment on its decisions to the Competition participants.
- 4.4. The list of the Scholarship holders (winners) of the Competition is published on the Foundation's website **yessenovfoundation.org no later than April 8, 2026.**

V. Terms of receiving and payment procedure of the Scholarship.

- 5.1. The Foundation enters into a sponsorship agreement with the Scholarship holder (winner) of the Competition.

5.2. The recipient who has entered into a sponsorship agreement with the Foundation is obliged to comply with the terms of the agreement, including, but not limited to:

- 1) to study at a higher education institution in accordance with its rules and requirements;
- 2) to keep up with studies at a higher education institution in all disciplines getting “good” and “excellent” grades. As and when requested by the Foundation, academic performance data must be confirmed by a transcript that the Recipient provides within five (5) calendar days from the date of the request;
- 3) to actively participate in student scientific and practical conferences;
- 4) to be actively involved in social activities at the higher education institution;
- 5) to disseminate information about the Foundation in any appropriate form, including posts on their social media accounts, while maintaining and promoting a positive image of the Foundation, and to distribute informational and promotional materials provided by the Foundation;
- 6) to inform the Foundation of their achievements in professional activities and soft skills development;
- 7) to participate in blogs and other proposed activities upon the request of the Foundation;
- 8) to provide **any** information, including that related to participation in the competition and the implementation of the awarded grant (internship, scholarship, training, etc.), upon the Foundation’s request, no later than three (3) business days from the moment the request is received at the email address specified in the application;
- 9) as and when requested by the Foundation, provide assistance in its activities and programs;
- 10) to provide personal photos, text, and video materials (from places of study, work, internships, social events, etc.) upon request of the Foundation (**ensuring that individuals in the photos and videos appear neat and appropriately dressed for a secular environment**), and to participate in photo and video sessions during the Foundation’s events for the purpose of creating success stories for the Foundation’s platforms and other publications aimed at inspiring the youth of Kazakhstan;
- 11) in performing their obligations under the Agreement, the Program winner and the Foundation’s employees shall refrain from committing, and encouraging any actions that violate or contribute to the violation of the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan, including in the field of combating corruption. They shall not pay, offer to pay or authorize the payment of any money or valuables, directly or indirectly, to any persons to influence their actions or decisions in order to obtain any unlawful advantage or achieve other improper objectives.

5.2. The Scholarship is paid based on the agreement concluded between the Foundation and the Scholarship holder (winner) of the Competition, by transferring funds to the Scholarship holder’s (winner’s) bank account no later than the fifteenth (15th) day of the following month.

5.3. The Scholarship is paid monthly and only to active students at the higher education institutions in the Republic of Kazakhstan. The Scholarship payment to the recipient (winner) of the Competition is terminated by the Foundation if the student is on academic leave, etc., the sponsorship agreement between the specified parties is considered terminated unilaterally on the initiative of the Foundation.

5.4. The Foundation reserves the right to verify the information provided by applicants and/or winners of the Program by any legal means and to exclude any applicant from the Competition at any stage and/or from the Program in the event that such information is found to be inaccurate.

5.5. The Foundation reserves the right not to provide explanations regarding the motives or reasons for decisions made concerning grant applicants under the Program.

5.6. For all questions regarding the Competition and the Provisions, please contact the authorized representative of the Foundation:

- **Aigerim Aidarqyzy Sultan**: phone number +7 701 627 96 07; email address: **aigerim.s@yessenovfoundation.org**.