



## **CALL FOR SCHOLARSHIPS 2023 – 2024: INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FOR THE CERTIFICATE IN ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE PROGRAM (CESL) AT THE UNIVERSITY OF BELIZE (UB)**

### **OVERVIEW**

#### **The University of Belize ESL Scholarship Program Overview**

The University of Belize, in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Cultural Science and Technology, hereby announces its annual scholarship offer for an intensive certificate program in English as a Second Language. This ten-month certificate program is offered at the prestigious Regional Language Center of the University of Belize from January to December.

The university offers this program on behalf of the Government of Belize, which remains the scholarship program sponsor. The government of Belize covers all tuition, program fees, and required teaching materials and provides a monthly stipend to defray housing expenses. The Regional Language Center (RLC) of the University of Belize has a long history of providing individualized services and a learning environment that maximizes the learner's chances for cultural immersion, language practice, and personal development.

### **PURPOSE**

#### **The ESL Program at the RLC**

RLC is Belize's mechanism for bridging the language barriers in the region. The RLC offers many specialized foreign language courses in English and other languages to cater to the requirements of our national and international clients. The 10-month English as a Second Language Program is designed to advance the English competency of those who enter the program, regardless of their current proficiency. Interested individuals with basic to advanced competence in English may apply.

The ten-month CESL program focuses on strengthening learners' proficiency in

reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills in English. All RLC language instructors emphasize practice and design coursework to encourage a practical application of knowledge; this includes a mandatory 60-hour language internship program for eligible students.

During the first week of classes, all new students will be required to attend an orientation session on the expectations and methodology of the program. Each student will be assigned an academic advisor to offer advice and orientation throughout their studies. At the end of the ten-month program, students will receive a certificate of completion from the University of Belize after completing the course.

## **INTENDED BENEFICIARIES**

This scholarship offer is only available to MEXICO, CUBA, HONDURAS, EL SALVADOR, COLOMBIA, PANAMA, VENEZUELA, and ROC TAIWAN citizens.

## **Eligibility**

- Must be a México, Cuba, Honduras, El Salvador, Colombia, Panama, Venezuela, or ROC Taiwan citizen.
- Applicants must be 18 years old upon application.
- Must commit to 10 months of living in Belize from January 2024 to December 2024.
- Applicant must have a minimum of a High school certificate.
- Commit to studying full-time in Belize without the possibility of employment or part-time studies.

## **Entry Requirement**

1. Complete a UB/RLC application form and an application fee of US \$15.00 (this fee may be waived for some applicants; please inquire at [rlcinfo@ub.edu.bz](mailto:rlcinfo@ub.edu.bz) before submitting your application).
1. Basic to Intermediate competence in English as a Second Language.
2. Able to commit to the program.

## **Documentation requirements**

1. Completed UB/RLC application form.
2. Updated curriculum vitae, translated to English if it is in another language.
3. High school diploma or certificate apostilled and translated to English if in another language.

4. Two recommendation letters, either academic or from a previous or current employer (the letter can be in English, Spanish, or Mandarin).
5. Copy of the passport and birth certificate. (translated to English)
6. 6 passport-size pictures (these can be taken in the country upon arrival)

### **Program specific requirements**

CESL Students will be required to have an English dictionary in hard copy or digital format, and it is recommended to have a translator /translation dictionary, recording devices, headphones, and a laptop.

### **Stipend**

Each scholarship recipient is paid a monthly stipend of \$600.00 in Belize dollars (US\$300.00) to help defray living expenses. This stipend is a gift from the Government of Belize and is disbursed by the University of Belize to the students on the first Wednesday of each month. The first stipend in January will be disbursed after registration.

Students who accept the scholarship must do so with the full responsibility of having additional monthly income to supplement their stipend and meet other living expenses.

The stipend is enough to cover your rent and utility services. Scholarship recipients must know that if they spend beyond the stipend, the university cannot add to the students' monthly stipends or waive or reduce university costs. This stipend is only for students from outside of Belize; recipients living in Belize are not eligible for the monthly stipend, only tuition and program fees.

### **Transportation, Housing, and Student Life**

For detailed information about housing, student life, and transportation to Belize and within Belize, kindly visit our student services webpage below:

<https://studentservices.ub.edu.bz/>

To contact the student services office directly, visit the website below: <https://studentservices.ub.edu.bz/> and send us a direct message via our "Contact Us" form.

### **Cost of living**

**Housing:** Student housing can range from \$350 to \$500 BZE. Please contact the Office

of Student Affairs to assist you in securing housing and for any additional information or questions. Please send your queries to [froches@ub.edu.bz](mailto:froches@ub.edu.bz).

### **Average RLC Monthly expenses**

| <b>Sample Monthly RLC Student Budget (these are estimates and may vary depending on individual needs)</b> |                            |                      |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Expense</b>  | <b>Single Person (BZE)</b> | <b>Cost in (USD)</b> |
| Rent  | \$350                      | \$150                |
| Electricity (with a/c)  | \$75                       | \$35                 |
| Water   | \$25                       | \$13                 |
| Cooking Gas   | \$30                       | \$15                 |
| Internet  | \$60                       | \$30                 |
| Healthcare  | \$100                      | \$50                 |
| Groceries   | \$175                      | \$88                 |
| Entertainment   | \$100                      | \$50                 |
| Misc. / Incidentals   | \$50                       | \$25                 |
| <b>MONTHLY TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$890</b>               | <b>\$455</b>         |

### **Culture & Social Life**

During the year, the students will have many opportunities to display their countries' and cultures' unique character and beauty. As such, they should each bring a flag of their country, traditional attire, photos, brochures/pamphlets, and other souvenirs from their homelands.

#### **Remember to bring the following:**

- Any special medications needed and/or personal hygiene or beauty products
- Special condiments and ingredients from home that can be used to make traditional dishes (This may be required to prepare traditional food for presentations)
- Souvenirs for cultural displays

Please visit these websites for more information on Belize:

- [www.travelbelize.org](http://www.travelbelize.org)
- <https://belize.com/>
- <https://www.belize tourismboard.org/>

### **Immigration requirements**

For detailed information about immigration procedures and fees, visit our student

services webpage at  
<https://studentservices.ub.edu.bz/student-life/main-student-services/international-students/>.

To contact the student services office directly, visit the website below: <https://studentservices.ub.edu.bz/> and send us a direct message via our “Contact Us” form.

All students must cover the cost of a single entry visa of \$200.00 BZD and cover their student permit fees of \$200.00 BZD. The University of Belize student affairs office will guide you through this process.

### **Closing Ceremony and End of Academic Year**

The academic year ends in December, and the closing ceremony will be held on December 13, 2024. Students must take care of all university-related expenses not covered by the scholarship. These include graduation expenses at US \$75.00, and for students who wish to have an apostille stamp on their certificates, a fee of US \$25.00 must be paid.

### **Important Dates**

- Application: From September 1, 2023, to November 17, 2023
- Expected date of arrival: January 16, 2024
- Expected date of departure: December 16, 2024

### **Emergency Contact at UB**

At the University, your contact persons are:

#### **Mr. Lugie Cruz**

Director  
Regional Language Center  
University of Belize  
Tel. 822-3680 ext. 1520  
Email: [lcruz@ub.edu.bz](mailto:lcruz@ub.edu.bz).

#### **Ms. Franese Roches**

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