



South African Translators' Institute

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Bursaries for translation or interpreting studies Information for prospective applicants

Background

The South African Translators' Institute (SATI) is a body that was established in 1956 with the aim of promoting the interests of the translation profession in South Africa. In the context of contemporary South Africa with its 11 official languages, SATI is now also working towards the establishment of a culture of multilingualism and the development of a tradition of translation and interpreting in the South African languages.

Giving practical expression to the idea of multilingualism, however, requires the use of competent and properly trained language workers such as translators and interpreters. Because SATI is concerned about the inadequate numbers of trained language workers in South Africa, it was decided in 1993 to set up a Development Committee. The brief of this committee is to collect funds and make assistance available to deserving translation and/or interpreting students, particularly in the previously marginalised languages.

Language and professional organisations such as Prolingua (formerly TERMSA) and the ATKV have in the past made generous contributions to the SATI Development Fund. One hundred and six bursaries have been awarded since 1994.

The ATKV (Afrikaanse Taal- en Kultuurvereniging – www.atkv.co.za) in 2014 generously made sponsorship available to fund bursaries for two students with Afrikaans as one of their working languages. We hope they will do the same for 2015. These SATI/ATKV bursaries supplement the other SATI bursaries and attest to the ATKV's promotion of the Afrikaans language and culture.



Who is eligible for a SATI bursary?

For formal academic courses in language practice, applicants must –

- be enrolled at a tertiary institution for formal training in translation, interpreting and/or other aspects of language practice or intend to enrol for such a course;
- be South African citizens; and
- work in combinations of the official languages [in the case of the SATI/ATKV bursaries, one of the languages must be Afrikaans].

Note that should an award be made, the bursary will be paid out only once proof of registration for the course concerned for that year has been submitted.

For short courses or other training, applicants must –

- be enrolled for an informal training course in translation, interpreting and/or other aspects of language practice approved by SATI or intend to enrol for such a course;
- be South African citizens; and
- work in combinations of the official languages.

The funds available for bursaries are extremely limited and SATI is not in a position to offer bursaries to cover the full costs of a course of study. Awards are typically between R3 000 and R5 500. Students who do not have additional sources of funding for their studies should be aware that an award from SATI will in all likelihood not put them in a position to undertake those studies.

The bursaries are not merit bursaries, but are intended to assist students in financial need.

Application procedure

1. In the case of registration for a formal academic course in language practice at a tertiary institution, applications are considered in February. Applications must be submitted to the SATI Development Fund by 10 February 2015 for the 2015 academic year.
2. In the case of a short course or other training in translation/interpreting, applications must be submitted to the SATI Development Fund at least one month before the start of the course.
3. Application forms are available from mid-November on the Institute's website (www.translators.org.za > The Institute > Bursaries) or can be requested from Mrs Marion Boers at 011 803 2681 or office@translators.org.za.