

GUIDE FOR INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS

arriving to study at higher education institutions of the Republic of Belarus

before arrival in the Republic of Belarus

1. Choose an educational institution and specialty.

You can search for and select a specialty at <http://studyinby.com/education-in-belarus/specialnosti/>.

2. Contact the university by phone or email – throughout the year.

Gather detailed information about admission requirements and study conditions, including required documents, educational programs and other information of interest. Obtain the necessary contacts and e-mail address for submitting documents.

For a list of official websites of educational institutions, visit: <http://studyinby.com/education-in-belarus/universities>

or consult the catalogues:

in Russian <https://nihe.by/images/2024/RU-24.04.2024.pdf>

in English <https://nihe.by/images/2024/EN-24.04.2024.pdf>

Note: Information about the procedure of applying for and receiving **grants** for foreign citizens to study in the Republic of Belarus is available at the following link: <http://www.studyinby.com/upload/training-grant.pdf>.

3. Prepare documents for receiving an invitation to study – no later than July:

- completed application form;
- copies of educational documents, including a transcript of the course units taken and the credits/grades gained (certificate of secondary education, diploma of higher education, diploma supplement, master's diploma, etc.), copies of other certificates of graduation from a preparatory department, Russian language courses, etc.;
- a copy of a medical report on the state of health, issued by an official health authority in the home country (the report must be issued within the last 6 months);
- a copy of the certificate of absence of HIV (the certificate must be issued within the last 6 months);
- copy of your valid for the period of study passport;
- copy of the birth certificate (for minors).

Note: All documents issued in a foreign language must be translated into Russian. The translation of all documents, except for the passport, must be notarized. Foreign applicants will need to make a notarized translation of their passport upon arrival in the Republic of Belarus.

Educational documents, extracts from credit and examination records, executed in foreign languages and requiring a notarized translation, are subject to legalization in the state of issue of the documents. On the documents issued by the states-participants of the Hague Convention of October 5, 1961, legalization is executed in the form of apostille. The list of States Parties and competent authorities is available at the link (<https://www.hcch.net/en/instruments/conventions/authorities1/?cid=41>).

Documents issued by states that have not acceded to the Hague Convention of October 5, 1961, must undergo the procedure of consular legalization, which includes affixing:

- 1) the stamp of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the state that issued the document;*
- 2) the stamp of the consulate of the Republic of Belarus in the state of issue of the document.*

4. Send the documents to the university by e-mail or postal address – during July.

5. Take a preliminary online interview – as agreed with the university, within 2 days of the university receiving the documents.

Foreign citizens arriving in the Republic of Belarus for education shall be interviewed orally in the language in which the educational process is carried out (Russian or foreign language (with indication of the language)). The interview may be conducted using distance education technologies.

Candidates are informed about the interview schedule by the university.

6. Receive an invitation to study from the university

7. Obtain a visa.

Check the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus <https://www.mfa.gov.by/> or contact the consular office of the Republic of Belarus in your country to determine whether you need a visa to enter Belarus.

If your country has a visa regime with Belarus, you should apply for a student visa at the Embassy of the Republic of Belarus in your country before arrival.

If there is no diplomatic mission or consulate of the Republic of Belarus in your country, you can obtain a visa upon arrival at Minsk National Airport.

To apply for a visa at the airport you need to provide:

- passport;*
- a visa application form of the Republic of Belarus (to be filled in personally upon arrival);*
- a completed interview form for arriving foreign citizens;*
- a copy of insurance certificate;*
- a 30x40 mm photo;*
- payment in cash (180 euros).*

8. Notify the university on the same day that you receive your visa.

9. Purchase a ticket and send a copy of it to the university. Find out who will meet you at the airport and exchange contact information with them.

10. Obtain medical insurance valid in the territory of the Republic of Belarus for a period of at least one year.

If necessary, a medical insurance certificate can be purchased at Minsk National Airport upon arrival (approximately 190-210 USD for 1 year of coverage).

11. Check with the airline for any specific requirements or additional conditions for passengers.

***Important:** In accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Belarus, representatives of the State Border Committee may require proof of sufficient funds upon entering the territory of Belarus. Foreign citizens must have funds equivalent to at least 50 basic units established in the Republic of Belarus on the day of entry for each month of stay. If entering for less than one month, at least 2 basic units per day are required. Proof of funds can be confirmed by presenting: Belarusian rubles, US dollars, Euro etc. A bank card intended for international use can serve as proof of funds only along with an account statement dated within the last 10 days. It is not recommended to present rare currencies as proof of payment means.*

12. Learn about the possibility of using bank cards.

Information about the requirements set by the banks of Belarus to foreign banknotes for the purpose of exchange for Belarusian roubles can be found at the links:

*<https://myfin.by/article/rynki/s-1-fevrala-banki-smagcat-pravila-po-priemu-inostrannyh-kupur-s-kakimi-defektami-primut> or
<https://abbanks.by/members/agreement/> or
https://belarusbank.by/ru/fizicheskim_licam/valuta*

13. Consider that when entering the Republic of Belarus, it is necessary to have the amount to cover tuition fees for one year,

as well as to provide for the costs of:

- medical insurance certificate (if necessary) ≈ 190-210 USD for 1 year;*
- transfer to the university (if necessary) – from 30 USD;*
- medical examination ≈ up to 60 USD;*
- registration of temporary stay ≈ 13 USD;*
- registration of temporary residence ≈ 40 USD;*
- translation of documents (if necessary) ≈ from 50 USD;*
- accommodation in a dormitory ≈ 50-70 USD per month;*
- exit visa ≈ 25 USD;*
- personal daily expenses ≈ 350 USD per month.*

The cost of education in Belarus for foreign citizens varies depending on the program of study, educational institution, specialty and typically ranges from 1100 to 5000 USD per academic year.

upon arrival in Belarus

14. Upon arrival in the Republic of Belarus go through border and passport control, if necessary – obtain a visa at the airport, proceed to your place of residence, accompanied by a university representative.

If you arrive in the Republic of Belarus independently, contact the university within 3 days of crossing the border.

It is necessary to obtain a permit to extend the period of temporary stay on the territory of the Republic of Belarus if your accommodation will be in a private apartment. Contact the university to obtain the permit.

15. Check into the dormitory and receive initial information about living and study conditions – on the day of arrival.

16. Provide the university with a set of documents in accordance with the requirements of the chosen educational institution – within 3 days of arrival:

- *your foreign passport with a Belarusian student visa;*
- *a notarized copy of the Russian translation of the foreign passport;*
- *original educational documents;*
- *notarized copies of the Russian translation of educational documents;*
- *6 photos (30x40 mm);*
- *a medical certificate;*
- *an insurance policy for compulsory medical insurance.*

17. Register on the Unified Portal of Electronic Services <https://e-pasluga.by/> – within 3 to 10 days of arrival.

This administrative procedure is free of charge and is available to foreigners who entered the country at checkpoints at the state border of the Republic of Belarus.

A foreigner can also be registered on the Portal by their representative (including an educational institution or intermediary).

Foreigners who entered Belarus through the state border with the Russian Federation must apply in person to the citizenship and migration department of the internal affairs body at their place of stay in Belarus for registration.

Note: *Foreign citizens arriving in the Republic of Belarus must register with the registration authority at the place of their actual temporary stay within 10 days after arrival. Failure to register is a violation of the legislation of the Republic of Belarus and a foreign citizen shall be punishable with administrative penalties or deportation.*

18. Complete an interview to assess your knowledge of the Russian language – within 5 days after arrival, as agreed with the university.

Note: The interview can also be conducted online before the arrival in Belarus at the stage of issuing an invitation. Universities will provide information about this during the preliminary process (refer to section 5).

19. Sign study and accommodation contracts – within 7 days of arrival, as arranged with the university.

20. Pay for tuition and accommodation in the dormitory – within 3 days of signing the contracts.

Payment should be made in Belarusian rubles, in accordance with the contract, at the exchange rate of the National Bank of the Republic of Belarus on the day of payment

21. Undergo a medical examination – within 10 days of signing the contract.

22. Formalize a temporary residence permit for the period of study at the territorial subdivisions of The Department of Citizenship and Migration – within 10 days of arrival.

To apply, submit the following documents to the university:

- *a completed application form;*
- *your foreign passport with a student visa;*
- *confirmation of registration of a foreign citizen;*
- *medical insurance;*
- *receipts for payment of the state duty for registration.*

23. Get your student ID card and begin your classes.