**Scholarship holders**

If you come to Sweden with a scholarship, special rules may apply. You will find information about the general rules for scholarship holders under each headline. Please contact our International Coordinator for more detailed information and if you have any questions.

Scholarship conditions

A fellowship differs from being employed in several aspects. In the table below you will find an overview of the conditions for scholarship holders compared to the conditions for employees.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Scholarship** | **Employment** |
| No taxes | Pay taxes |
| No sick or full parental pay (PhD students can apply for compensation for sick or parental leave from Kammarkollegiets Insurance for doctoral students with stipends) | Sick and parental pay |
| No work injury insurance | Work injury insurance |
| No pension rights | Pension rights |
| No holiday pay | Holiday pay |
| Not covered by collective agreement | Covered by collective agreement |
| Covered by the Work Environment Act | Covered by the Work Environment Act |
| No performance review | Performance review |
| No unemployment benefits | Unemployment benefits |
| Eligible for wellness allowance and computer glasses | Eligible for wellness allowance and computer glasses |

The scholarship is tax-free for you, and the foundation/organization you are receiving the scholarship from doesn’t pay any employer´s contribution or payroll taxes either, which has some effects. This leads, among other things, to you not earning any pension rights.

Scholarship holders are not covered by collective agreements\* and are often not eligible the host university such preventive health care, daily allowance when traveling or other benefits. They are not covered by the occupational injury insurance but are generally covered by the [Insurance for Foreign visitors](https://www.kammarkollegiet.se/engelska/start/all-services/insurance-for-foreign-visitors/individual-insurance/insurance-for-foreign-visitors/terms-and-conditions-insurance-for-foreign-visitors-2021?page=2). Scholarship holders at SLU are eligible for wellness allowance and computer glasses. Since Scholarship holders are not employed, the Annual Leave Act is not applicable. However, Scholarship holders at SLU are encouraged to take vacation to the same extent as our employees.

Each scholarship holder should be aware of their own insurances, needs and requirements!

*\* A Collective agreement is a voluntary agreement on the conditions and rights at the workplace, between employers and the trade union that organizes employees at the workplace. It regulates many of the conditions for employees.*

Social security and registering as a resident

**Personal identity number**

If you move to Sweden and intend to live here for a year or more, it is important that you register as a resident at the nearest office of the Swedish Tax Agency (Skatteverket). This also applies for Scholarship recipients who stay in Sweden for more than a year. The Swedish Tax Agency will record details such as your name, address, date of birth and civil status. Once you are registered as resident in Sweden, you will receive a unique 10-digit Swedish personal identity number (personnummer).

A personal identity number will simplify a whole range of transactions in the Swedish society, such as acquiring an identity card and thus an e-ID (electronic identity), getting a mobile subscription, opening a bank account and healthcare services.

Read about moving to Sweden and how to prepare for the visit at Skatteverket, where you apply for the personal identity number, [Skatteverket website](https://www.skatteverket.se/servicelankar/otherlanguages/inenglishengelska/individualsandemployees/movingtosweden.4.7be5268414bea064694c40c.html).

**ID card**

Once you have received your personal identity number, you can apply for a Swedish ID at the Swedish Tax Agency (Skatteverket). Your ID card can be used to confirm your age and to prove your identity, for example when collecting prescription medication at a pharmacy, paying by card in a shop or banking. You can find information about how to apply for an ID card on [Skatteverket website](https://www.skatteverket.se/servicelankar/otherlanguages/inenglishengelska/individualsandemployees/livinginsweden/idcard.4.7be5268414bea064694c420.html).

**Healthcare and Social security**

***Staying in Sweden one year or more***

With a Swedish personal identity number, you are entitled any medical treatment at the same rates as Swedish residents.

***Stay in Sweden for a shorter period than one year***

**- Scholarship recipients from EU / EEA or Switzerland** must have a valid European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) to be covered by subsidized emergency and other types of necessary health care in Sweden.

**- Scholarship recipients from outside of EU / EEA or Switzerland** and staying at one of the Swedish state universities, are usually covered by the Insurance for foreign visitors via Kammarkollegiet.

**Social security**

Social insurance is an important part of the Swedish social security system. Swedish social insurance covers most people who live or work in Sweden. The social insurance system is administered by the Swedish Social Insurance Agency (Försäkringskassan). The purpose of the social insurance system is to provide financial security during the various stages of life. It provides financial protection for families and children – for example, for people with disabilities, illnesses, work injuries, and for old people.

To be eligible for social insurance benefits, you must, as a rule; either formally reside in Sweden or be employed and work here. To clarify, your scholarship is not a salary and you do not work in Sweden, but keep in mind that you might still be entitled to some national health benefits just like every individual with a Swedish personal number and a valid visa/resident status living in Sweden.

More information on which benefits you may be entitled to by being a resident in Sweden see <https://www.forsakringskassan.se/english/moving-to-working-studying-or-newly-arrived-in-sweden/social-insurance-system/insured-in-sweden>

Försäkringskassan needs to investigate your right to social benefits and therefore you can start by filling in the form [5456 Information when moving to or working in Sweden](https://www.forsakringskassan.se/english/moving-to-working-studying-or-newly-arrived-in-sweden/move-to-sweden). At the bottom of the form, you can fill in other information and there you can apply for an EU card, EHIC.  [Read more about EHIC card](https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=559&langId=en).

Migration

**Permits for entering Sweden**

Depending on your nationality, different entry conditions may apply, such as the need to have an entry visa, a residence permit or work permit. **If so, please contact the International Coordinator who will guide you to the correct permit.** Your supervisor will assist you by providing necessary documents. You can read more about entry conditions here: <https://www.euraxess.se/sweden/information-and-assistance/entry-conditions-and-visas>

Insurances

Make sure that you´re fully insured during your entire stay in Sweden, check what insurances you´re covered by via your supervisor. If your family accompanies you, all family members must also have sufficient insurance. Check this before you arrive to Sweden.

Read more about insurances here:

<https://www.euraxess.se/sweden/information-and-assistance/insurance>

**Insurance for foreign visitors**

Scholarship holders are generally covered by the [Insurance for foreign visitors.](https://www.kammarkollegiet.se/engelska/start/all-services/insurance/insurance-for-students-and-foreign-visitors/insurance-for-foreign-visitors) In general, the insurance includes basic accident cover as well as emergency medical and dental care cover. The insurance may also cover accompanying family members.

Please note that insurance for foreign visitors does not cover regular check-ups or medication for illnesses that occurred before the trip.

Insurance for foreign visitors also applies to travel within the Schengen area if you have a valid Schengen visa (90 days).

**Unemployment insurance.**

Are not available for scholarship holders.

**Insurance for business trips**

Scholarship holders are in general covered by [business travel insurance](https://www.kammarkollegiet.se/engelska/start/all-services/insurance/insurance-for-business-trips-and-work-abroad/swedish-state-business-travel-insurance) for all domestic and foreign business trips carried out on behalf of your host university.

**Insurance for doctoral students with stipends**

This is an insurance for stipend-funded doctoral students. It provides compensation when doctoral students stipends are reduced due to absence from studies in the case of illness, parantal leave or temporary parental leave. You can read more about the Terms and Conditions here: <https://www.kammarkollegiet.se/engelska/start/all-services/insurance/insurance-for-students-and-foreign-visitors/insurance-for-doctoral-students-with-stipends/terms-and-conditions-health-and-parental-insurance-for-doctoral-students-with-stipends-2016>

Bank account

In order to receive scholarship, you need a bank account. If you intend to stay in Sweden for a long time, you are recommended to open a Swedish bank account. Ask the **International Coordinator** for guidance to open a bank account upon arrival.

For shorter stays, a payment to a foreign account is more appropriate.

Please read this information about opening a bank account in Sweden carefully to be well prepared:

<https://www.euraxess.se/sweden/information-and-assistance/banking>

Work environment for scholars

**What does “work environment” mean?**

Work environment includes both *physical work environment* as well as *social and* *organizational work environment*.

Physical work environment is what most people think of first when speaking about work environment. The chair you sit on, the temperature in the room, risk for injuries when working with machines or chemicals are examples of factors affecting your physical work environment.

Organizational work environment refers to e.g. your work load, the time you have for recovery from work, leadership, how communication is organized, if there are equal opportunities at the workplace etc.

In short, work environment concerns physical, organizational, and social factors that affect how we feel and perform at work.

**How is work environment regulated?**

To regulate work environment there is a Work Environment Act and many regulations in place with the purpose of preventing ill-health and accidents at work. The law also states that everyone has a responsibility to work for a good environment where everyone feels included and safe. This means that the organization you are conducting your fellowship at is obliged to:

1. See that the work can be carried out without risk of ill health or accidents.
2. Ensure that the person who will carry out a job receives sufficient instruction and really learns the work.

**How can I contribute?**

Scholars don’t have a formal responsibility but need to participate by

1. Reporting risks, incidents, illness and accidents, suggesting measures.
2. Follow routines/safety instructions.

As members of a community, we all have a responsibility to respect our own and our colleagues' work environment and actively contribute to the work environment work.

Please check with your supervisor/Head of the department who is your work environment contact person to learn more about their work and how a good work environment is secured for you. You can also find more general information on the webpage of the [Swedish Work Environment Authority.](https://www.av.se/en/)

Useful websites and links

* **SULF (**The Swedish Association of University Teachers and Researchers)

<https://sulf.se/en/work-salary-and-benefits/foreign-citizens/benefits-from-the-social-insurance-system-for-foreign-citizens/>

<https://sulf.se/en/work-salary-and-benefits/doctoral-candidate-doctoral-studies/financing-by-scholarships-or-study-loans/>

<https://sulf.se/en/work-salary-and-benefits/pensions/the-scholarship-period-does-not-generate-pension/>

<https://sulf.se/en/work-salary-and-benefits/insurance/collective-insurance-cover/>

**Svenska utbildningar (SFI, onlinekurser m.m.)**

If you are planning to stay in Sweden for some time we highly recommend that you learn Swedish. It is a great way to get integrated into Swedish society, both professionally and socially.

**SFI - Swedish for immigrants by Komvux**

To take out these courses you need to have a Swedish id-number. They do not cost anything and it might be possible to have a flexible schedule. Contact them for more information.

<https://arbetsformedlingen.se/other-languages/english-engelska/additional-support/support-a-o/svenska-for-invandrare-sfi>

**Folkuniversitetet**

Swedish courses run every semester and normally contain of between 1-10 sessions in the evenings. Since these are private you need to pay a course fee.   
<https://www.folkuniversitetet.se/In-English/>

<https://www.folkuniversitetet.se/new-in-sweden/>