



SKOLARIFY

ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITY INTELLIGENCE

THE PREMIUM GUIDE TO STUDYING IN POLAND

Master's *in Poland*

The complete guide to a funded master's in Poland — including a deep dive on the fully-funded **NAWA Banach** scholarship.

EDITION

2026 / 27 Intake

PREPARED BY

Skolarify Research Desk

World-class research, *fully fundable.*

A Polish master's combines low tuition, strong English-taught programmes and access to one of Europe's most generous government scholarships — open to students from dozens of countries, including India.

1–2 yrs

typical master's length (Bologna second cycle)

€2–6k

usual English-taught tuition per year

PLN 2,500

monthly NAWA Banach stipend, if you win it

Fully funded

Banach covers tuition, stipend & travel



Specialise fast

Most master's run 1–2 years — you finish sooner and cheaper than in much of Western Europe.



Fundable end-to-end

Between NAWA, Łukasiewicz and university awards, a genuinely free master's is realistic for eligible applicants.



A European launchpad

EU-recognised, Schengen-based, and a strong base for a PhD, research career or the European job market.

How master's admission *works here.*

Two systems run in parallel: direct university admission, and the NAWA scholarship track. The smartest applicants run both at once.



University admission via IRK

Each university admits through its own **IRK** portal. Applications go straight to the institution — there is no central master's clearing house.



The NAWA scholarship track

Government scholarships (like Banach) have their **own** application in the NAWA ICT system, with their own earlier deadline. Winning one still requires a university place.



October start, spring deadlines

Studies begin in October. University and scholarship deadlines fall months earlier — scholarship deadlines usually first.



English or Polish

English-track master's need ~B2 English (IELTS 6.5–7.0). Polish-track options can be cheaper or free but need Polish proficiency.

RUN BOTH TRACKS TOGETHER

Scholarship bodies want proof you're also seeking admission. Start your university application *in parallel* with your scholarship application — not after.

What you need *to qualify.*

Master's entry is more document-heavy than bachelor's — recommendation letters and a sharp motivation letter start to matter.

Academic

- ✓ **Bachelor's degree** in a relevant field (≈180 ECTS), apostilled.
- ✓ **Transcript** with a competitive grade average.
- ✓ **English proficiency** — IELTS 6.5–7.0 / TOEFL 90–100 for most English-taught programmes.
- ✓ **Prerequisite match** — some master's require specific undergraduate coursework.

Application materials

- ✓ **Motivation letter / statement of purpose.**
- ✓ **CV** highlighting academic & relevant experience.
- ✓ **1–2 recommendation letters** (academic or professional).
- ✓ **GRE/GMAT** — occasionally for competitive business programmes.

YOUR TRANSCRIPT IS THE ENGINE

For both admission and scholarships, your undergraduate grade average carries the most weight. Everything else supports it — it doesn't replace it.

From shortlist *to enrolment.*

- 1 Choose programmes & check prerequisites**
Match your bachelor's to eligible master's. Confirm language, ECTS and any subject prerequisites.
- 2 Prepare your pack**
Apostille your degree, gather references, and write a programme-specific motivation letter.
- 3 Apply via IRK (each university)**
Register, upload PDFs, pay the fee. Apply to several in parallel.
- 4 Apply for scholarships separately**
If eligible for NAWA Banach or similar, submit in the NAWA ICT system before its earlier deadline.
- 5 Receive & accept your offer**
Decisions arrive in 2–8 weeks. Confirm in IRK and pay any deposit.
- 6 Visa & residence**
Use your acceptance (and scholarship award, if any) for the type D visa and later residence permit.

CHECKLIST

Your master's *document pack.*

Build this once and reuse it across every university and scholarship application.

- ✓ **Bachelor's diploma** + transcript (apostilled)
- ✓ **Certified translation** (English or Polish)
- ✓ **English certificate** (IELTS/TOEFL) or waiver
- ✓ **Motivation letter** tailored per programme
- ✓ **CV / résumé**
- ✓ **1-2 recommendation letters**
- ✓ **Passport** scan + photo
- ✓ **Bachelor's thesis abstract** (if requested)
- ✓ **Proof of admission/recruitment** (needed for NAWA)
- ✓ **Fee payment receipts**

KEEP A 'RECRUITMENT PROOF' HANDY

NAWA Banach requires a document confirming you're in a university's recruitment process (an application confirmation or acceptance letter). Secure this early — it's a common blocker.

The *NAWA Banach* Scholarship.

Poland's flagship, **fully-funded** master's scholarship for talented students from developing countries — run by NAWA with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Its aim: build talent through Polish development cooperation.



Monthly stipend

PLN 2,500 / mo

Paid up to 12 months per academic year, from your first month of study.



Tuition waived

Full exemption from tuition fees at public universities supervised by the Ministry.



Travel allowance

A one-time lump sum toward your international travel to Poland.



Language support

English-track: a Polish language & culture course. Polish-track: a fully-funded 1-year prep course.

TWO PATHS IN

English track — study entirely in English with ~B2 English. **Polish track** — if you have B1 Polish, a funded one-year preparatory year brings you to full proficiency first. Both are genuine routes, not consolation prizes.

Can you *apply?*

Who qualifies

- ✓ Citizen of one of the **~37 eligible Polish-Aid countries** — including **India**, Indonesia, Vietnam, Nigeria, Kenya, Ukraine, Georgia, Brazil, Peru and more.
- ✓ Hold a **bachelor's degree** (obtained recently — a recent-graduation rule applies) or graduating this cycle before studies begin.
- ✓ **Have not** previously received a NAWA scholarship.
- ✓ **Not** holding or applying for Polish citizenship.
- ✓ **B2** in the language of study — or **B1** if taking the preparatory course.

How you're scored

Undergraduate grade average	~70 / 110 pts
Video self-presentation	~30 / 110 pts
Other criteria	remaining pts

The single biggest lever is your **transcript**. The **short video** is where you articulate your goals, why Poland, and the impact of the degree on your career — treat it as seriously as the grades you can no longer change.

VERIFY THE CURRENT CALL

Country lists, exact point weightings and the recent-graduation cut-off are set fresh in each year's call announcement. Confirm every rule on nawa.gov.pl before you rely on it.

Winning the *application.*

1

Confirm eligibility & the live call

Check the current call announcement for your country, deadline and rules on nawa.gov.pl.

2

Start university recruitment in parallel

Apply to a public university via IRK now — you'll need proof of recruitment for NAWA.

3

Prepare documents & record your video

Transcript, degree, language proof, and a crisp self-presentation video on your goals and choice of Poland.

4

Submit in the NAWA ICT system

Apply online before the deadline (the 2026/27 call closed 8 May 2026 at 15:00 CET; treat future dates as ceilings).

5

Mind the country quota

Applications can close per country once a submission limit is hit — apply early, not on the last day.

TIPS THAT MOVE THE NEEDLE

1 · Apply weeks early — quotas close silently. 2 · In the video, be specific: name the programme, the research, the career impact. 3 · Get your 'proof of recruitment' before you submit.

If Banach *isn't your route.*

Banach is competitive and country-restricted. Here's the wider funding and cost picture.

Tuition & living

English-taught master's / yr	€2,000–6,000
EU/EEA, Polish-taught (public)	€0
Living — smaller cities / mo	€350–550
Living — Warsaw / Kraków / mo	€500–850

Other funding routes



Ignacy Łukasiewicz Programme

For students from selected developing countries in engineering, sciences, agriculture & vet science — tuition + monthly stipend.



University merit awards

Faculty and rector's scholarships reward strong records — apply as admission opens.



Erasmus+ & joint degrees

Mobility grants and double-degree tracks add partial funding and an extra EU campus.

VISA FUNDS STILL APPLY

Even fully-funded scholars may need to show proof of funds for the type D visa — roughly €7,000–€12,000/year. Keep your award letter and bank statements ready.

TIMELINE

The master's *calendar.*

Scholarship deadlines come first, university deadlines next, visa last. Anchor everything to the earliest date.

~10 MONTHS BEFORE

Shortlist & test

Pick programmes, confirm prerequisites, sit IELTS/TOEFL, apostille your degree.

SPRING (VARIES YEARLY)

Scholarship deadline

NAWA Banach's call typically closes in spring — the 2026/27 deadline was 8 May 2026. Submit early against country quotas.

SPRING-SUMMER

University admission

Apply via IRK and secure your proof of recruitment/acceptance.

SUMMER

Results & acceptance

Scholarship and admission decisions land; accept and confirm.

AUG-SEP

Visa & residence

Apply for the type D visa; arrange insurance and housing.

OCTOBER

Studies begin

Enrol, register residence, and (Banach) start stipend payments.

Edge cases that *win places.*



Sequence by deadline, not preference

Do the earliest-closing scholarship first. A dream programme you miss the funding for isn't a dream anymore.



Make the video human, not a CV read-out

Scorers watch dozens. Specific goals + genuine reasons for Poland beat polished but generic every time.



One master, many tailored versions

Keep a base motivation letter, then swap in programme-specific modules, faculty and city for each application.



Treat quotas as your real deadline

'Closes 8 May' can mean 'closes when your country hits its limit' — weeks earlier. Submit as soon as you're ready.



Line up references early

Academic referees are slow in summer. Ask months ahead and give them your CV + deadlines.

CREDIBILITY BEATS HYPE

Don't inflate your story. Scorers reward a clear, honest, well-evidenced case far more than buzzwords — and universities remember embellishment.



SKOLARIFY

Don't hunt for opportunities. *Let them find you.*

Everything in this guide — scholarships, deadlines, supervisors, funded positions — changes weekly. Skolarify keeps it live, matches it to **your** profile, and tells you exactly what to apply to next.

— WHERE SKOLARIFY FITS IN



Scholarships matched to your citizenship

We flag the funding you're actually eligible for — Banach, Łukasiewicz, university awards — not a generic list.



Never miss a closing call

Country quotas close early and silently. We alert you the moment a matching call opens, and again before it ends.



Sharper applications

Programme-specific motivation letters, a tighter video brief, and a reusable document pack — guided end to end.

THE SKOLARIFY DIFFERENCE

General AI tools can draft a motivation letter. They can't tell you which live call closes next Tuesday, which supervisor has funding right now, or whether you clear an eligibility cap. That verified, continuously-updated opportunity layer is what we do.



SKOLARIFY

Your shortcut to the right opportunity.

Skolarify matches students and researchers to verified scholarships, funded PhD positions, supervisors and academic jobs — from a live, continuously updated opportunity layer, not a static list. This guide is one small part of what we help you navigate.



This guide is prepared by Skolarify for general information and is not official government or university advice. Figures, deadlines, eligibility rules and programme details change frequently — always confirm against official sources before applying: nawa.gov.pl, study.gov.pl, euraxess.pl and each university's own IRK admission portal. Tuition and living-cost figures are indicative ranges in EUR/PLN and vary by university, city, field of study and academic year. Skolarify is not affiliated with NAWA or any university unless stated.