

START Scholarships



OBJECTIVE

Supporting talented learners from immigrant families



PROJECT PARTNER

START-Stiftung gGmbH



DURATION

since 2009

Germany as a quality education location cannot afford to forego talent. Gifted and willing learners from immigrant families are in particular need of targeted support to improve their development opportunities, their requirements for an academic career and their professional perspectives. Deutsche Telekom Stiftung participates in a START Stiftung gGmbH program, which supports this precise target group.

START is a scholarship program for gifted learners from immigrant families, attending eighth, ninth or tenth grade at general schools at the time of application. The program is targeted to allowing talent and motivation to unfold, irrespective of background, status and environment. Young immigrants should be given a real chance for their successful integration into society and experience that they are welcome in Germany.

Since 2009, Telekom Stiftung has been supporting scholarship holders in North Rhine-Westphalia with a particular interest and special achievement in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). These students all have in common that they have good to excellent grades, are socially committed and that their families dispose of only a limited income. Scholarship holders are promoted until they leave school and receive a monthly educational fund of € 100, a laptop with internet connection as well as additional funds upon application. These additional funds allow students to finance language courses or study trips, for example. Ideational support of scholarship holders also plays an important role for the START Foundation: This includes advisory services



Photo: Deutsche Telekom AG

During a network meeting START scholarship students also visited the Deutsches Museum Bonn.

START SCHOLARSHIPS ELEVATE EDUCATIONAL POTENTIAL ESPECIALLY IN THOSE NEEDING EXTRA SUPPORT.

in education, study and life planning. For the START Foundation, the Telekom Stiftung has developed into an important study partner in STEM subjects. Together with "Jugend forscht", the German youth science competition, it

organizes the annual STEM Research Camp, for example, or organizes regular meetings for selected START scholarship holders. Students can establish contacts here and gain insights from lectures and excursions on the working world of universities and companies. After completing school, former scholarship holders can become members of the START Alumni Association, so that the network of scholarship holders is maintained even beyond school.

More information:

www.telekom-stiftung.de/en/start



Project partners

START-Stiftung gGmbH

The START Scholarships is an initiative of the charitable Hertie-Stiftung – one of the largest private foundations in Germany. The program started in 2002 with around 20 scholarships in the state of Hesse and, since 2007, is managed by the START-Stiftung gemeinnützige GmbH as a subsidiary of the charitable Hertie Foundation. The program is meanwhile supported by around 120 cooperation partners - foundations from Germany and the US, ministries of culture, communities, private persons, companies and associations.

Around 700 students from more than 60 countries are supported annually. Together with those scholarship holders who have gained their higher education entrance qualification or a different school leaving certificate, 1,760 scholarship holders profit(ed) from the program. START is represented in the federal states of Berlin, Brandenburg, Bremen, Hamburg, Hesse, Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, Lower Saxony, North Rhine-Westphalia, Rhineland-Palatinate, Saarland, Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt, Schleswig-Holstein and Thuringia, as well as in Austria.



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DEUTSCHE TELEKOM STIFTUNG

Deutsche Telekom Stiftung was established in 2003 to strengthen Germany's position as an education, research and technology leader. It is one of the country's main corporate foundations with an endowment of EUR 150 million. Deutsche Telekom Stiftung's mission is to improve education in the digital world concentrating on the so called STEM subjects science, technology, engineering and mathematics. It focuses on four core areas: Education Drivers, Education Opportunities, Education Innovations and Education Dialog.

In Education Drivers, the foundation supports people who inspire others to study STEM subjects. Education Opportunities involves projects to prepare children and teenagers to succeed in STEM fields and participate fully in our connected world. In Education Innovations, the foundation invests in researchers and teachers who specialize in STEM subjects. Finally, Education Dialog comprises all the projects in which the foundation works with policymakers and civil society to improve education in a digitized world.