



Checklist

Applying for student finance from the Caribbean

> Before departure

> After your studies

> Upon arrival

> Contact

> During your studies

Before departure

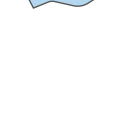
from the Caribbean



Choose a study program

Information about study programs, university towns, the price of rooms.

- > [Studiekeuze123.nl](#)
- > [Studeermeteenplan.nl](#)
- > [Kiesmbo.nl](#)



Choose to apply with or without guidance

You can choose to come to the Netherlands independently (free mover) or with the guidance of a supervisory agency. This agency can help you to arrange everything. Ask your guidance counselor about the options available.

- > [TuranGoeloe \(Dutch Caribbean\)](#)
- > [Kabinet van Aruba \(Aruba\)](#)
- > [SSC \(Curacao\)](#)
- > [Division Study financing \(Sint Maarten\)](#)



Apply for a study program

Higher education: submit a request in Studielink before 1 May
MBO: submit a request directly to the institution before 1 April
Deadline for fixed quota programmes: 15 January

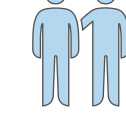
- > [Studielink.nl](#)



Make a student budget

Use the calculating tool at [duo.nl/cariben](#) to get a sense of how much money you will need per month.

- > [Duo.nl/cariben](#)



Parents' income

Request information about your parents' incomes from the Tax and Customs Administration for the island where you live. You will need this information to apply for student finance. Use the form '[Statement income tax](#)' from [duo.nl/cariben](#).



Apply for student finance

You apply for student finance using a form. Complete the form electronically at [duo.nl/cariben](#) so that all the details are easy to read. Apply for your student finance at least 3 months in advance. Send supporting documents with the completed form – the form tells you which ones you need to send. Submit everything as a single PDF in the right order.

- > [Application student finance higher education](#)
- > [Application student finance MBO](#)
- > [E-mail to documenten@duo.nl](#)



Receiving your BSN

If you have Dutch nationality but you don't yet have a citizen service number (BSN), you will receive a BSN when you apply for student finance. You can use your BSN to arrange a number of matters in the Netherlands, even if you are not yet in the Netherlands.

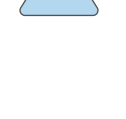
You will receive your BSN by post from the National Office for Identity Data (RvIG). You can also request your BSN from DUO by phone while you wait for the letter to arrive. First wait for the e-mail from DUO telling you that your student finance application has been processed. This e-mail will contain the phone number you can call to request your BSN.



Apply for and activate DigiD

With your BSN you can apply for a DigiD. DigiD is your personal online login ID for Dutch government business. You will need your DigiD for such things as getting your student travel pass and logging in to Mijn DUO.

- > [Checklist Applying for DigiD from abroad](#)



Dutch bank account

Once you have a BSN, you can open a Dutch bank account. Check to see whether you can already open an account with a Dutch bank online. The conditions vary from one bank to another. So contact the bank for more information or make an appointment with a local branch after arriving in the Netherlands.



Healthcare insurance and other insurance

Be sure to arrange for good healthcare insurance. While studying in the Netherlands, you must usually arrange Dutch health insurance and apply for healthcare allowance. If you're not sure whether you need to take out healthcare insurance, ask the SVB to assess your situation for you. Remember to arrange other insurance coverage you might need, like liability insurance and personal property insurance.

- > [Zorgverzekeringslijn](#)
- > [Svb.nl](#)



Making an appointment with the municipality

You must register with the municipality where you will be living (in the Municipal Personal Records Database, or BRP) within 5 days of arriving in the Netherlands. Check the municipal website to see if you can already make an appointment.



Deregister from the population register

You must deregister from the population register of the island where you live no more than 10 days before your departure. When doing so, specify which municipality in the Netherlands you intend to move to. Bring your proof of deregistration with you to the Netherlands. This is one of the documents you will need to register in the Netherlands.

- > [Information sheet](#)



Request your birth certificate

Also request a copy of your birth certificate from the population register of the municipality where you were born. You will need this to apply for student finance if you haven't been acknowledged by your parents as their child, and possibly also when registering with a municipality in the Netherlands. Bring the original document with you to the Netherlands.

- > [Nederlandwereldwijd.nl](#)

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Upon arrival

in the Netherlands



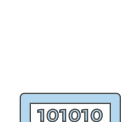
Register in your municipality

You are required to register in the BRP if you will be staying in the Netherlands for more than four months. You must do so within five days of your arrival in the Netherlands, with the municipality where you will be living. Tell them you already have a BSN.



Pass on your bank account number

As soon as you have your bank account number, pass it on via Mijn DUO. DUO needs your account number to pay out your student finance.



Verify your information in Mijn DUO

Log in to Mijn DUO using your DigiD and check to be sure that your information, like your email address and bank account number, are correct.

- > [Mijn DUO](#)



Apply for a personal public transport card (OV-chipkaart)

Apply for a personal public transport card, called an 'OV-chipkaart'. You will need this card to make use of the student travel product.

- > [OV-chipkaart.nl](#)



Link your student travel product

Log in at [studentenreisproduct.nl](#) using your DigiD and enter the information about your personal OV-chipkaart.

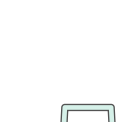
- > [Studentenreisproduct.nl](#)



Picking up your student travel product

After you successfully linked your student travel product, you'll only need to pick up your product at a service point. Search for a service point near you.

- > [Studentenreisproduct.nl](#)
- > [Service points](#)



Add information to your Studielink account

Log in to your Studielink account. Change your home address and link your DigiD to your Studielink account.

- > [Studielink.nl](#)



Applying for allowances

If you have Dutch healthcare insurance, you can also apply for healthcare allowance. This is a contribution from the Dutch government towards the cost of your healthcare insurance. You may also be entitled to housing allowance. Find out whether you are entitled.

- > [Toeslagen.nl](#)

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During your studies

in the Netherlands



Change your student finance

Do you want to change your student finance? For example the amount of your loan or your student travel product? Then change your student finance in Mijn DUO.

- > [Mijn DUO](#)



Request for tax refund

If you have a part-time job, tax is automatically deducted from your pay. Often it is possible to get a partial refund.

- > [Belastingdienst.nl/jongeren](#)



Check your supplementary grant

Check every year whether your supplementary grant has been calculated.

- > [Mijn DUO](#)

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After your studies

wherever you are in the world



Stop your student finance and student travel product

When you finish your program or stop studying, you yourself must stop your student finance in Mijn DUO and stop your student travel pass at a service point.

- > [Mijn DUO](#)
- > [Service points](#)



Keep contact information up-to-date

Do you have a student loan with DUO? Always make sure that DUO has your current contact information. You yourself must notify DUO of a change of address to another country.

- > [Mijn DUO](#)

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Contact

with DUO



Website

- > [Duo.nl/cariben](#)



Phone number

+31 505997755



Mail

if you have questions

[ks-aa-uaf@duo.nl](#)
to send in documents
[documenten@duo.nl](#)



Video call or call back request

Set up an appointment at

- > [Duo.nl/cariben](#)



Visiting a service office

Visit one of our service offices in the Netherlands

- > [duo.nl/servicekantoor](#)



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[studenten mbo](#)



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