SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY OF CHICAGO

Schweizerische Wohltätigkeitsgesellschaft

SBS Scholarship Awards for Language Immersion
At the Concordia Language Villages in Summer 2027

The Swiss Benevolent Society is pleased to continue its tradition of offering scholarships to the Concordia Language Villages in Minnesota. This scholarship program was begun over 30 years ago with the intention of helping students in Illinois, Wisconsin and Indiana find an opportunity to learn one of the four official languages spoken in Switzerland. We are very proud of the 400+ students who have participated in this program and are convinced that the one to four weeks spent at the Language Villages have impacted the participants' university studies, professional work and participation in community life with family and friends. To date we have provided over $400,000 in scholarship funding, and we are pleased that we can continue this tradition of co-funding scholarships with the Concordia Language Villages. This year the value of the scholarship is $1440, with $1000 provided by the SBS and $440 provided by the Concordia Language Villages.

GET TO KNOW A FOREIGN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE!

The Swiss Benevolent Society of Chicago is sponsoring scholarship awards for a summer language immersion experience in French, German or Italian at the *Concordia Language Villages* in northern Minnesota in the summer of 2027.

ONE-WEEK YOUTH OVERNIGHT CAMP: A program for elementary and high school students between 7 and 18 years of age. Students may begin learning a new language or continue learning a language that they have been learning at school or at home.

German

6/14/27 - 6/19/27 (Open to ages 8-12)
6/19/27 - 6/24/27 (Open to ages 12-15)
7/26/27 - 7/31/27 (Open to ages 15-18)
8/2/27 - 8/7/27 (Open to ages 8-11)
8/16/27 - 8/21/27 (Open to ages 8-14)

French

6/14/27 - 6/19/27 (Open to ages 7-18)
6/21/27 - 6/26/27 (Open to ages 8-14)
7/5/27 – 7/10/27 (Open to ages 13-17)
7/19/27 - 7/24/27 (Open to ages 7-13)
8/2/27 - 8/7/27 (Open to ages 12-15)

Italian

8/9/27 - 8/14/27 (Open to ages 8-18)

https://sbschicago.org/

Who is Eligible to apply for an SBS Concordia Language Village Scholarship?

- Any student residing in Illinois, Wisconsin or Indiana can apply.
- All applications are read and reviewed with the goal of identifying scholarship recipients that represent the 3 languages and the broad demographics of Chicago, Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin.
- Awards are for tuition only. Winners are responsible for travel costs. The decisions of the SBS Education Committee are final.
- Applications are online with guidelines and worksheet available at www.sbschicago.org/education under "Language Immersion Scholarship".
- Application deadline: **Monday, February 1, 2027**

Again in 2027: Students can also apply directly to the Concordia Language Villages for a ***Passport Scholarship*** which can be combined with the SBS Scholarship. With a 1-week SBS scholarship combined with a 1-week Passport Scholarship, students may choose from any of the 2-week programs offered in June, July and August. Families may also choose to self-pay a second week. (SBS $1440 + $1305 = $2745 – cost of 2-week session.) SBS Scholarships and Passport Scholarships may also be used for 2- or 4-week High School Credit Programs and Apprentice Programs.

How do I apply?

The application form is online and requires a "gmail account" to enter and submit the application with the required student, parent and statements. Teacher Recommendations are mailed to sbschicagoscholarship@gmail.com.
https://sbschicago.org/immersion/

APPLICATION: SUMMER 2027 LANGUAGE IMMERSION EXPERIENCE

Applications will be submitted online, using Google Forms which requires that applicants have a *gmail.com* account to submit the application and supporting documentation. Applicants will also upload two pdfs into the application portal: a "Student Statement" and a "Parental Support Statement." The Teacher Recommendation will be sent directly to sbschicagoscholarship@gmail.com. Please contact SBS Education Chair, John Paluch paluch@northwestern.edu if you have questions. Applications must be submitted by Monday, February 1, 2027. Guidelines and Worksheet at https://sbschicago.org/immersion/

Teacher Recommendation: We ask for a recommendation from the student's current teacher and want to know that the student has the academic and social skills that would allow the student applicant to successfully live in a camp environment, sharing a cabin with other students. During the Village Session, students are expected to step into a complete cultural and linguistic immersion environment where daily life, activities, and communication revolve entirely around the target language. Would your student be open to such an environment? (The camps are designed also to include students who have no language skills in the target language, but the students need to understand that the counsellors, staff and teachers will be using the target language as much as possible.

https://sbschicago.org/

Recommended Registration with Concordia Language Villages

Application to Concordia Language Villages: This is a separate procedure for registration at the Villages, and we recommend that parents register their child, even before completing the SBS Scholarship Application. There is a registration fee, which will be refunded, if the student does not receive the scholarship or if the parents decide not to have their child participate. Early registration ensures placement in the desired session.
There is no guarantee by the SBS that a scholarship recipient can be placed in his/her desired session, so we recommend registering your child for the desired session.

Worksheet for SBS Concordia Language Village Scholarship Application

Application for Swiss Benevolent Society -Concordia Language Village Scholarship - Summer 2027

Applicant Information

Last Name, First Name (Example: Smith, Everest) *

_____

Place of Birth, Date of Birth (Example: Rockford, IL, 2/27/12) *

_____

How old are you on June 1, 2027 *(Dropdown menu) _____

Parent's/Guardian Name *

_____

Permanent Mailing Address (Include city and zip) *

_____

Telephone (Example: 847-400-0000) *

_____

Emergency/Secondary Telephone (Example: 847-400-0000)

_____

Email address (smith@sbcgobal.net) (Please provide your preferred email address for correspondence.)

_____

What is your language choice? * (Only 1 language allowed)

We are offering a scholarship for a one-week Youth Overnight Session at the Concordia Language Villages. These programs are for beginners as well as for those who have already studied the language. Please read carefully and indicate which language and session (pick one language & one session) you are applying for. Actual registration with the Language Villages takes place after the awarding of the scholarship.

□ French
□ German
□ Italian

Which French Language Session would you like to do? (Dropdown menu)
□ 6/14/27 - 6/19/27 (Open to ages 7-18)
□ 6/21/27 - 6/26/27 (Open to ages 8-14)
□ 7/5/27 – 7/10/27 (Open to ages 13-17)
□ 7/19/27 - 7/24/27 (Open to ages 7-13)
□ 8/2/27 - 8/7/27 (Open to ages 12-15)

Which German Language Session would you like to do? (Dropdown menu)
□ 6/14/27 - 6/19/27 (Open to ages 8-12)
□ 6/19/27 - 6/24/27 (Open to ages 12-15)
□ 7/26/27 - 7/31/27 (Open to ages 15-18)
□ 8/2/27 - 8/7/27 (Open to ages 8-11)
□ 8/16/27 - 8/21/27 (Open to ages 8-14)

Which Italian language session would you like to do? (Dropdown menu)
□ 8/9/27 - 8/14/27 (Open to ages 8-18)

Academic Information - Grade School or High School

Name of School, Address, City, State, (Example: Roosevelt H.S., 3400 W. Wilson Chicago, IL. 60625)

_____

What grade is student beginning in Fall, 2027? (Dropdown menu) _____

What languages does the student know? What languages is the student learning? How long has the student been learning a new language?

_____

Name of teacher writing recommendation

_____

Email address of teacher writing recommendation

_____

Attachments: Student and Parent Statements

Please upload a **Student Statement**:
Please describe what it means to you to study another culture / language and why you would like to participate in the Concordia Language Villages Program in the summer of 2027. (Title documents: (LastName_StudentStatement_Date)

Please upload a **Parental/Guardian Support Statem**ent:
Please indicate that you would support your child's plan to participate in a session at the Concordia Language Villages in Bemidji, MN in the summer of 2027. In addition, briefly share your thoughts on why you think this experience is important for your child. (Title documents: LastName_ParentSupport_Date)

Application Checklist: Have you provided all of the necessary information?

- ☐ Student has attached statement. Due: Monday, February 1, 2027.
- ☐ Parent has attached statement. Due: Monday, February 1, 2027.
- ☐ Teacher has emailed recommendation. Due: Monday, February 1, 2027, to sbschicagoscholarship@gmail.com.

SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY OF CHICAGO

Schweizerische Wohltätigkeitsgesellschaft

Concordia Language Villages Scholarship
Teacher Statement

- This scholarship program was begun 30 years ago with the intention of helping students in Illinois, Wisconsin and Indiana find an opportunity to learn one of the four official languages spoken in Switzerland.
- Any student residing in Illinois, Wisconsin or Indiana can apply.
- Applications are online with guidelines and worksheet available at www.sbschicago.org/education under "Language Immersion Scholarships".
- All applications are read and reviewed with the goal of identifying scholarship recipients that represent the 3 languages and the broad demographics of Chicago, Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin.
- Awards are for tuition only. Winners are responsible for travel costs. The decisions of the SBS Education Committee are final.
- Application deadline: **Monday, February 1, 2027**

Name of applicant: _____

Name of Teacher: _____

School: _____

E-mail: _____

How long have you known the student and in what capacity? _____

_____

Please give us your assessment of why this student would be a strong candidate for a Youth Overnight program at the Language Villages in Moorhead, MN. Describe the student's scholastic ability in your class, his or her social interactions, and his or her attitude toward learning (or wanting to learn) a foreign language. 100-250 words

_____

_____

_____

_____

Signature Date