



**SINT EUSTATIUS
CARIBISCH NEDERLAND
Island Council's Proposal**

Island Council meeting: October 16, 2025
Date proposal Exco: October 13, 2025

Nr. 013-2025ER
Portfolio Holder: Comm. R. Merkman
Author: Directorate Social Domain

Subject: Concept Eilandsverordening Studietoelage 2025

Proposal: The Island Council is requested to adopt the '*Eilandsverordening Studietoelage Sint Eustatius 2025 (Eilandsverordening Studietoelage 2025)*'

Introduction:

The draft ordinance provides a structural solution to the financial challenges faced by St. Eustatian children. It is an investment in the youth and in the future of St. Eustatius.

Many young people from Sint Eustatius must leave the island for further studies. This brings considerable costs, such as housing, travel, and study materials. The current national provisions (study grant, RCN start-up allowance) do not always cover this specific situation.

To ensure equal opportunities, the Executive Council has prepared a regulation that provides financial support for access to further education: the Island Ordinance on Study Allowance Sint Eustatius 2025.

The ordinance aims to:

- reduce financial barriers for students studying off-island;
- support students who are not covered by existing schemes;
- provide equal treatment and legal certainty for all applicants;
- promote academic performance through clear obligations and monitoring.

The scheme provides for:

- a start-up allowance (one-time, for laptop/books),
- a housing allowance (income-based, monthly),
- a sports and arts allowance (extra contribution for special programs),
- a contribution toward school expenses (for youth in secondary education up to 21 years old).

The draft ordinance aligns with the policy objective of ensuring equal opportunities for all children.

Legal framework & policy framework

The legal basis is Article 152 of the WolBES.



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Motivation incl. eventual alternatives**

See above for motivation.

Participation/ communication

We advise that GIS be instructed to develop a public information strategy.

Arguments

The ordinance aims to reduce financial barriers for students studying off-island; to support students who are not covered by existing schemes; to provide equal treatment and legal certainty for all applicants; and to promote academic performance through clear obligations and monitoring.

The scheme provides for a start-up allowance (one-time, for laptop/books), a housing allowance (income-based, monthly), a sports- and arts allowance (additional contribution for special programs), and a contribution toward school expenses (for young people in secondary education up to 21 years old).

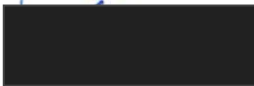
Financial

Annual provisions will be made in the budget of Public Entity St. Eustatius post: 6.480.6530.70200

Appendix

Eilandsverordening Studietoelage Sint Eustatius 2025.

The Island Governor



Ms. M.A.U. Francis



The Island Secretary



Mrs. M.A. Dijkshoorn