

## **Essay for the Scholarship application to VELA**

I saw the publication of this scholarship on Facebook and due to the current situation in Germany because of COVID-19 I'm writing this essay.

I come from Mexico from a hardworking family, my grandfather has its own business (small bakery) that he built from nothing, he used to be a street kid after their parents passed away when he was 5 years old, my father worked since he had 7 years old so he paid for his own support and career, He was the first on his family that got a bachelor degree.

Being that say I always take advantages of the opportunities that I had in my life, I was living most of the times as student from scholarships that I got for my good performance as a student. In 2010 after graduate I got a good job, and I started to save money so I could in some point being able to pay me a master in a foreign country and studying in another language to have more opportunities in the future.

3 years ago, I started to plan it, and here I am, I came to Germany two years ago to studying a master's degree. Nevertheless, this summer semester with COVID outbreak had been difficult to find a job, as a student job, and because my savings are not enough anymore for living in Germany.

So, I would love to stay this winter semester living in Germany and enjoying it culture, but even with an student job the money for an international student is not enough, in addition with the rule that we are only able to work 120 day per year makes harder to generate some saving or to live only from working as student. Now my financial situation is bad, I cannot longer work, and my saving will help me to survive for one month more only.

I am also about to finish my master and I had being looking for a full time job, but now all the recruitment process are getting slower (according to some friend around 4 to 6 months) and I have not longer enough money to support myself in Germany while I look for a full time job position.

So that's why I write to you this essay so you can consider giving me the scholarship that would help me to stay longer in Germany and enjoy their culture and the security of living as a woman. Currently Mexico is dealing with several social and security problems, specifically as a woman the problems of sexual abuse, violence against woman and murders are growing.

I hope you consider my application, thank you in advance for this program, that for sure will help a lot of international students in precarious situation as mine.

Sincerely,

Madelene Lara