



## 14<sup>th</sup> Hippo Hippo4Equity Grant Regulations

### Who can participate?

Hippo 4 Equity Grant (hereinafter H4EG) is aimed at all the candidates enrolled in the 2026 edition of the Contest. They must have reached the Continental Round (previously known as Qualifiers) of the Contest.

In the 2026 edition, an increased number of grants will be offered to support more participants. The 2026 H4EG grants will be awarded for the four Continental Round events and will not apply to the Play-Off Qualifiers or the World Finals.

As the H4EG has been created to provide equal opportunities for as many students as possible, one of the basic requirements is a low household income.

### What is the intended use of H4EG?

The H4EG grant may be used to support successful applicants with their accommodation expenses. The grant will be awarded in the form of accommodation provided for the duration of the Continental Round. No monetary payments will be disbursed.

### How many grants will be awarded?

The number of H4EG per country will be proportional to the number of enrolled candidates.

### How to apply for the grant?

H4EG applications need to be made by the students, with the help of the country coordinator. The completed application form needs to be sent to the country coordinator and [equity@hippo-thecontest.org](mailto:equity@hippo-thecontest.org) will have to be cc-ed on the email, after which applicants will receive an application acknowledgment e-mail from the Global Hippo Association. The application must include a self-declaration of the household income, part of the application form. Hippo reserves the right to carry out checks and request documentation in support of the declaration where necessary.



## What are the requirements?

The H4EG will be awarded based on the following criteria:

1. the position of the country of residence in the list of countries by GDP per capita,
2. the number of points achieved by the candidate in the National Finals round,
3. household income and
4. orphanhood.

Each of these criteria will be awarded a certain number of points (see details per criteria below) and a ranking list will be created. The highest qualifying applicants will be awarded the grant.

### 1. Country of Residence

Candidates will be assigned points depending on the position of their country of residence in the 2024 International Monetary Fund GDP (nominal) per capita list. For the purpose of assigning points, the ranking list has been divided into five categories. Candidates will be awarded the following points depending on their country's position in the list:

Country Ranking	Number of Points
from 1 <sup>st</sup> to 36 <sup>th</sup> position	1 point
from 37 <sup>th</sup> to 75 <sup>th</sup> position	2 points
from 76 <sup>th</sup> to 114 <sup>th</sup> position	3 points
from 115 <sup>th</sup> to 153 <sup>rd</sup> position	4 points
from 154 <sup>th</sup> to 193 <sup>rd</sup> position	5 points

### 2. Score Obtained in the National Finals

Points will be assigned to the applicants based on their position and number of points in the National Finals ranking list. The obtained number of points will be transformed into percentages, divided into 10 groups and assigned 1 to 10 points, where the highest score obtained for the specific Hippo category will be assigned the maximum number of points.



### 3. Household Income

Candidates will receive from 1 to 10 points based on their income. The ranking list will be created based on the submitted applications. The lowest 10% will get 10 points, the highest will be awarded 1 point.

### 4. Orphanhood

Children who have suffered the loss of one (maternal/paternal orphans) or both parents (orphans) will be assigned 5 and 10 points respectively.

### What do the applicants need to submit?

Documentation supporting the self-declaration is not needed at the time of application. A self-declaration will be sufficient at this stage, but student applicants, through their coordinators, undertake to provide such documentation in the event that the grant has been approved. The grant will be disbursed only once the complete documentation, both in the original language and translated into English, has been submitted.

### Deadlines

The application deadline varies depending on the event date. For the Continental Round grant, students need to apply in accordance with the deadlines below.

Location: Jesolo Lido, Venice, Italy for Europe & Africa

Date: May 2026

Participating Countries: Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Austria, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Ghana, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Malawi, Malta, Moldavia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherland, North Macedonia, Nigeria, Niger, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Tanzania, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine and Zimbabwe.

Location: Baku, Azerbaijan, for Greater Middle East & Central Asia

Date: June 2026

Participating Countries: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Cambodia, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Kuwait, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan



Location: Phuket, Thailand, for Asia-Pacific

Date: July 2026

Participating Countries: Bangladesh, Brunei, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Laos, Macau, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Location: Buenos Aires, Argentina, for the Americas

Date: September 2026

Participating Countries: Brazil, Costa Rica, Mexico, Venezuela and other countries in the North or South America joining Hippo in 2026.

Late and incomplete applications will not be considered.

### [Advice for applicants and steps to take](#)

1. Please complete the application form making sure that all the information is correct.
2. Candidates are expected to declare their 2025 household income, as officially declared to the relevant authority in the country of residence, including:
  - salaries / wages of all the members of the family unit,
  - real property (consisting of land and buildings, such as houses or land) and personal property as well as their estimated market value (private property that is movable that is, any property that can be moved from one location to another, such as vehicles).
3. E-mail your application form to the country coordinator and cc [equity@hippo-thecontest.org](mailto:equity@hippo-thecontest.org). Contact details for all country coordinators can be found on the JOIN US page of our website.
4. Successful applicants will need to provide supporting documents.

N.B. Hippo reserves the right to verify the information you provided with the help of the local coordinators. In case the information provided turns out not to be true or not verifiable, the candidate application will not be considered.