

Breakthrough level (A1) Slovene language

Training and exam

During the programme, you will gain breakthrough level proficiency in the Slovene language, which is of key importance for your integration into the labour market in Slovenia. Improved language skills will increase the success of your job applications, improve your communication in everyday life and your participation in society in general. The obtained certificate of the breakthrough level (A1) Slovene language proficiency constitutes a valid document which can be used for official or personal purposes.

For third-country nationals, a successfully passed Slovene language exam within one year of registering with the Employment Service of Slovenia is mandatory.

Who can apply for the programme:

You can apply if you are registered as an **unemployed person** and a foreign citizen:

- **third-country nationals:** citizens of third countries are required to pass the breakthrough level (A1) exam in Slovene as a second and foreign language **within one year of registering with the Employment Service of Slovenia.**
- **EU citizens:** taking the exam is not a condition for registering as an unemployed person, but obtaining the certificate will be proof that you are actively seeking employment.

Who is not required to take the breakthrough level exam:

- if you have completed the exam for Slovene as a second and foreign language at the basic or intermediate level (A2 or higher), or
- if you received any level of formal education in Slovenia.

If this is the case, please submit your official **Transcript of Records** to your personal advisor.

What you will gain by enrolling on the programme:

- linguistic skills (reading, writing, listening, and speaking in Slovene at the breakthrough level (A1)),
- certificate of breakthrough level (A1) proficiency in the Slovene language, which constitutes a valid document and can be used for official or personal purposes,
- better employment opportunities and better cooperation in the workplace,
- better communication skills in everyday situations and participation in society in general.

Contents of the programme:

- **TRAINING COURSE:** Slovene as a second and foreign language – breakthrough level (A1). Duration of the course: 120-180 hours.
- **EXAM:** Breakthrough level (A1) Slovene language exam (A1). Duration: 1 day (2 days in exceptional cases). The exam consists of a test of reading, writing, listening, and speaking in the Slovene language.

The programme is **free of charge**. The Employment Service of Slovenia gives you the opportunity to **participate in the training course once** and to **take the exam once**.

Attending the training course is not a prerequisite for taking the exam. You may take the exam only.

If you are not capable of written communication and have not completed at least 6 grades of primary school, you can take the exam only for spoken Slovene language communication in the breakthrough level (A1).

What you will be refunded for attending:

We can reimburse you the following expenses on a monthly basis for the previous month:

TRAINING COURSE:

- **Travel allowance** – travel expenses for each day of your actual attendance at the training are EUR 0.23 per kilometre of distance from your place of residence to the location of the training and back (if the distance between both places is at least 1 kilometre in one direction).
- **Activity allowance** – partial coverage of the cost of participation in the programme, which is paid at EUR 1.50 per hour of actual attendance at the programme.

EXAM:

- **Travel allowance** – travel expenses for each day of your actual attendance at the exam are EUR 0.23 per kilometre of distance from your place of residence to the location of the training and back (if the distance between both places is at least 1 kilometre in one direction).

How to join the programme:

See your personal advisor at the employment service where you are registered. He or she will help you prepare the application form, which will be submitted to the programme provider. He or she will also notify you of the timetables for the courses and exams.

Information on scheduled exam dates (as well as a sample exam) is published on the website of the Centre for Slovene as a Second and Foreign Language: <https://centerslo.si/>

Registration for the exam must be made at least 10 days before the exam!

Some exam providers offer **Self-directed learning centres (SLC)**, where they provide advice and preparation for the exam. Your adviser at the Employment Service of Slovenia will refer you to an SLC.

Other possibilities for learning Slovene through the Employment Service of Slovenia:

TRAINING COURSE: Slovene language for foreigners, levels I to III.

Each level comprises 60 hours.

For more information on the training (a course), see your personal advisor at the employment service where you are registered.

Other possibilities for learning Slovene:

In addition to the language courses that you can apply for through the Employment Service, there are **other courses for the Slovene language**.

Check at your nearest **administrative unit** whether you are eligible to join the **Initial Integration of Foreigners** programme, with a duration of up to 180 hours, which is intended for third-country nationals. More information on the course can be found on the following website, which also lists the regional providers of the programme:

<https://infotujci.si/en/integration-into-slovenian-society/free-slovenian-language-courses/>

Contact your advisor and consult him or her about the possibility to apply for a course in the Slovene language, and to take a Slovene language proficiency exam.



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Information on the Slovene language course and the Slovene language proficiency exam



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