"In-Country/In-Region Scholarship Programme" Sub-Saharan Africa

Call for Scholarship Applications 2020 at University of Abomey-Calavi, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences in Benin (UAC)

Funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Application Closing Date at DAAD (for pre-selected candidates only): 7th February 2020



Programme Objectives

The programme aims at fostering strong, internationally oriented higher education systems in Sub-Saharan Africa with the capacity to contribute to sustainable development. To this end, scholarships are granted for development-related Master or doctoral studies for individuals who plan to pursue a career in teaching and / or research at a higher education institution in Sub-Saharan Africa.

By training future academic and professional leaders, the programme contributes to the following **long-term impacts**:

- Qualified professionals' involvement in the solution of development-related problems in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Graduates strengthening education and research in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Structural strengthening and regional networking of partner institutions and partner universities

To achieve these long term impacts, the following outcomes have been formulated as programme objectives:

Programme objective 1: Graduates have qualified to take over responsible positions in their, or for their, region of origin

Programme objective 2: The participation of women and underprivileged groups is reinforced

Programme objective 3: Organizational, financial and personal capacities of partner institutions are strengthened

As part of the "In-Country/In-Region Scholarship Programme" DAAD offers scholarships for PhD and Master studies. The programme is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and aims at university staff in the first line, without neglecting the public sector demand of academically trained personnel.

The target group for scholarships are graduates and postgraduates from Sub-Saharan Africa with a first academic degree if applying for a Master's programme, or with a Master's degree if applying for a doctoral programme who want to pursue Master's or PhD courses in their home country (so called **In-Country scholarships**) or in another Sub-Saharan African country (**In-Region scholarships**).

It has been agreed upon that DAAD cooperates with University of Abomey-Calavi, Faculty of agronomic Sciences by offering up to 5 In-Region and 2 In-Country scholarships for PhD and up to 6 In-Region and 2 In-Country scholarships for Master studies at University of Abomey – Calavi, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences for the intake 2020.

Application requirements

Applicants

- have successfully completed generally a three-year university degree (Master candidates) or a two-year university degree (doctoral candidates) with above average results (second class upper division)
- clearly show motivation and strong commitment
- have thorough knowledge of the language of instruction
- have completed their last university degree not more than 6 years ago at the time of application
- must be nationals or permanent resident of a Sub-Saharan African country
- should generally be a) staff member of a public university, b) candidate considered for teaching or research staff recruitment, c) from the public sector

Female applicants and candidates from less privileged regions or groups are especially encouraged to participate in the programme.

Scholarships are initially granted for one year and can be extended to upon receipt of an application for extension. Scholars must demonstrate satisfactory progress before an extension is granted.

Eliaible fields

The In-Country/In-Region Scholarship Programme supports studies in subject areas with strong relevance to national development.

The scholarships at University of Abomey-Calavi, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences are available in the following field:

- Master Statistics, Major Biometry
- PhD Agronomy, Major Biometry

Place of tenure

University of Abomey-Calavi, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences, 04 BP 1525 Cotonou, Benin

Duration and Commencement

The duration

- of the PhD programme is generally up to three years
- of the Master programme is generally two years

generally starting in September 2020.

Application and Selection Procedure The application process contains two steps. Please be aware of the two application deadlines.

First step:

Applicants must apply for their studies at University of Abomey-Calavi, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences using the contacts and the method that is prescribed by the institution. The University of Abomey-Calavi, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences has set its own deadlines.

University of Abomey-calavi, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences will screen, preselect (according to DAAD selection criteria) and short-list the applicants. A detailed report consisting of the shortlisting procedure, the entire list of applicants, the ranked shortlist and the shortlisting panel members will also be availed to DAAD. The ranked shortlist will contain preferably triple (at least double) the number of scholarships that have been attributed to the institution.

DAAD reserves the right of final selection.

<u>Second step:</u>

University of Abomey-Calavi, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences will provide the shortlisted candidates with the link to the DAAD-Portal. Only the pre-selected candidates are asked to log into the DAAD portal, register themselves and submit an DAAD application. **DAAD Deadline: 7th February 2020.**

Documents to be submitted (in either English or German):

- DAAD application form duly filled in (available in the DAAD-Portal)
- Hand signed curriculum vitae (please use the European specimen form at http://europass.cedefop. Europa.eu), including a list of publications (if applicable).
- Recommendation letter by university teachers (Master 1, PhD 2)
- Letter of admission for the host university / institution / network
- · Certified copies of university degree certificates including transcripts
- Letter of motivation (if applicable: mentioning the planned research stay in Germany, see "Additional benefits")
- · Copy of the passport

PhD candidates have to submit the following additional documents:

- Declaration of acceptance from the academic supervisor
- Detailed and precise PhD proposal, including detailed work and time table (if applicable: mentioning the planned research stay in Germany, see "Additional benefits")
- Abstract of the proposal on one page (please include name and title of proposal

Scholarship funding

The scholarship covers:

Item	Payment	Amount
Tuition fees	annually	the regularly charged amount
Study and research allowance	annually	460 EUR (Master) 920 EUR (PhD)
Printing allowance	once at the end	400 EUR (Master) 800 EUR (PhD)
Monthly Scholarship (Accommodation, Food etc.)	monthly	300 EUR (Master In-Country) 450 (Master In-Region) 500 EUR (PhD In-Country) 550 (PhD In-Region)
Travel allowance (In-Region only)	twice (beginning/ end of scholarship)	The flat rate travel allowance will be specified in the letter of award
Insurance		if applicable

The scholarship will either be disbursed by the host institution, the German Embassy or will be paid directly to the scholarship holder's banking account. Further details will be announced after admission to the scholarship programme.

Additional benefits

DAAD In-Country/In-Region scholarship holders are also encouraged to apply for a research stay in Germany for 3 up to 6 months. <u>Please note:</u> The short-term research stay in Germany should preferably be announced in the application for the regular scholarship and can only be awarded if the necessary financial means are available.

The short-term research scholarship includes:

- a monthly scholarship payment for living costs
- health/accident/personal liability insurance
- a flat-rate travel allowance

All further details regarding additional benefits and the additional application processes will be provided after admission to the scholarship programme.

Contact and advice

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