



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service

Call for Applications

**Procedures and Guidelines for Academic Institutions
Applying to Participate as**

Host Institutions

in the ***In-Country Scholarship Programme***

**Strengthening Higher Education and Research
in the Palestinian Territories**

Affiliation as host institution for the intakes 2023-2025

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

Application Closing Date: November 15, 2021

Next Selection: February 2022



What are the programme's background and objectives?

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

Scholarships are awarded only for selected graduate (Master) programmes at host institutions that are affiliated with the programme. These will receive a maximum quota of In-Country scholarships for graduate programmes. This call for applications is therefore aimed at Palestinian higher education institutions wishing to participate as host institutions in the programme. The selected host institution will be affiliated with the programme for three intakes starting with intake 2023 and ending with intake 2025. Afterwards it is possible to reapply for participation.

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 the Palestinian Territories
- Graduates strengthening education and research in the Palestinian Territories
- 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 are qualified to take on responsible positions in or for their region of origin
- Programme objective 2:** The participation of women and underprivileged groups is reinforced
- Programme objective 3:** Organisational, financial and personal capacities of partner institutions are strengthened

The target group for scholarships are Palestinian graduates with a first academic degree who want to pursue Master's courses in the Palestinian Territories (**In-Country scholarships**). The last academic degree should be generally no more than six years old. Funding is generally granted for a period of up to two years for Master programmes. **All further details regarding scholarship funding are listed in the respective call for applications.**

How is the programme monitored?

With the aim of achieving the above-mentioned objectives, a results-oriented monitoring of the programme will be applied. Selected institutions are expected to actively participate by submitting an annual report, for which a template is provided by DAAD. In addition, DAAD carries out a graduate survey at the end of the scholarship and 3 years after the scholarship to gather data on the development of the scholarship holders' competencies and careers. Participating higher education institutions will be asked to provide up-to-date contact details of their graduates and postgraduates.



Who is eligible for application?

Palestinian universities and research institutes that offer high quality Master programmes which are geared towards capacity building of teaching and research staff. Part-time programmes cannot be funded within this programme.

Applying networks need to define and provide detailed information on all member institutions where scholarship holders will be admitted.

The application may only be submitted for post-graduate programmes that have been accredited and/or recognized according to national standards. All applying institutions need to prove that at least one cohort of the respective study or research programmes has graduated successfully.

Which subject areas are eligible for funding

The offered Master programmes need to focus on subject areas with strong relevance to regional development and be contributing to the pursuit of the sustainable development goals of the agenda 2030. The humanities might be considered in exceptional cases only if the aforementioned condition is met. As a rule, the following Master programmes are open for application:

- Disasters and Crisis Management/Disasters' Risks Management
- Renovation and Maintenance
- Engineering
- Private Law/Civil Law
- Renewable Energy/Renewable Energy and its Sustainability/Sustainable Energy and Renewable Energy/Clean Energy and Consumption Control
- Profitable Agricultural Businesses/Agriculture – Animal Production Specialization
- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology/Biotechnology
- Clinical Nutrition/Nutrition and Food Technology
- Infectious Disease Prevention and Control
- Medicinal Industries Technology
- Medical Imaging (Technology)
- Clinical Pharmacy
- Cardiac Perfusion Technology
- Tumors Nursing/Anesthesia Nursing/Critical Care Nursing/Maternal Child Health Nursing/Neonatal Nursing
- Statistics/Applied Statistics and Data Science
- Digital Media and Communication
- Cyber Information Security
- Computerization/Advanced Computerization/Computerization and Information System
- Artificial Intelligence
- Criminology/Electronic Criminology and Digital Evidences

Please note that no more than three post-graduate programmes per department can be mentioned in the application form. If different departments of the same institution would like to apply, they should submit separate applications.

Which measures can be funded in which time frame?

After being successfully admitted to the programme, the host institution receives a maximum quota of scholarships each intake (subject to availability of sufficient budgetary resources). The quota depends on the number of placements offered by the respective institution, the overall number of applicants,



and available financial resources. When the quota is not met (due to financial or administrative reasons from either side) the quota cannot be taken into the next fiscal year.

In the Palestinian Territories, in-region scholarships (i.e. scholarships for international students) cannot be funded within this programme.

The host institutions are affiliated with the programme for up to three intakes for the period 2023 - 2025. Afterwards they can reapply for participation. The participation as host institution in the programme will generally take the form of an affiliate agreement between the DAAD and the host institution. The affiliate agreement lists the binding specifications and mandatory procedures regarding, among others, the monitoring of the programme, the execution of the pre-selection of the scholarship holders and the financial administration.

The duration of funding for each intake will be stated in the affiliate agreement (usually no more than two years for a master's degree programme).

The scholarship funding (stipends in EUR covering the cost of living including accommodation) is generally paid directly to the scholarship holder. The university/institute fees will in general be paid directly to the host institution on basis of the above-mentioned affiliate agreement.

The amount of university/institute fees needs to be appropriate for the country/region and adequate to the academic quality offered by the applying institution/network.

No additional funding is provided within this programme. Participating institutions are invited, though, to hand in applications for other DAAD programmes to strengthen their institutional capacities and/ or to offer more focused support activities for the scholarship holders. Respective information will be provided after admission to the programme.

The project proposals will be evaluated according to formal and content criteria, with a particular emphasis on the relation to development issues and impact orientation. The following criteria will be applied in the evaluation of applications:

1. **Academic expertise:** The applying institution provides high quality academic education through renowned faculty and gives detailed information on all graduate programmes that are included in the application (not more than 3). It reflects cutting-edge research as well as application-oriented skills and know-how, makes use of the most up-to-date concepts, methods and methodologies in its field and shows strong motivation to continually develop and improve its academic portfolio.
2. **Relevance to development and capacity building as described in the programme objectives:** The graduate programme is clearly related to topics relevant to development and at the same time aims at capacity building in higher education and research. This is demonstrated by explaining the institution's contribution to the programme objectives (outcome-level of the results framework, see above).
3. **Cooperation and networking:** The applying institution regularly pursues cooperation and networking activities within and beyond academia, fostering inter-institutional and international exchange.

Which are the selection criteria for applying institutions?

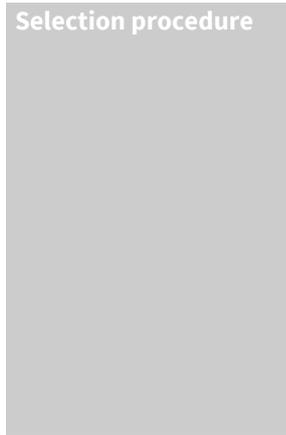


Experience in managing international projects and cooperation with German partners are especially desirable.

4. **Professional training:** The applying institution offers training in academic, mentoring and management skills that enable the students to apply their acquired knowledge in their subsequent academic or professional careers, stimulating change and development.
5. **Accreditation and quality assurance through results-oriented monitoring:** The applying institution corresponds to the higher education accreditation and/or recognition standards of the respective country and has graduated at least the first student intake successfully. In addition, it takes effective steps towards continuous quality assurance and quality improvement.
6. **Alumni concept:** The applying institution provides an alumni concept comprising measures of preparing and tracking its students' subsequent academic or professional careers.
7. **Admission and equality:** The applying institution demonstrates a transparent selection process, implementing measures to enhance participation of women, underprivileged groups related to, e.g., disability, social or regional background. Its admission criteria/process takes note that DAAD scholarships can only be awarded to applicants who:
 - have successfully completed generally an undergraduate degree with above average results (upper third of class)
 - clearly show motivation and strong commitment
 - have thorough knowledge of English language, which corresponds with the criteria of the host institution
 - have completed their last university degree not more than 6 years ago at the time of application
 - must be nationals or residents (5 years) of the Palestinian Territories
8. **Infrastructure, management and staff development:** The applying institution provides sufficient infrastructure (space, equipment, service facilities), a clear organisational structure, efficient management and a strong focus on staff development. Provision of a staff development plan for the supervisors of the DAAD scholars will be an asset. It has identified a member of staff who will be in charge of the financial administration and will act as contact partner for DAAD and scholarship holders.
9. **Target group orientation and support services:** The applying institution (or department hosting the individual doctorate) follows a target group-oriented didactic approach and ensures efficient support services (e.g. administrative, social, and intercultural support, as well as support with the migratory issues), taking into account the heterogeneity of its students. The applying institution provides a concrete support concept for the scholarship holders, explaining the planned support services and listing the planned support activities.



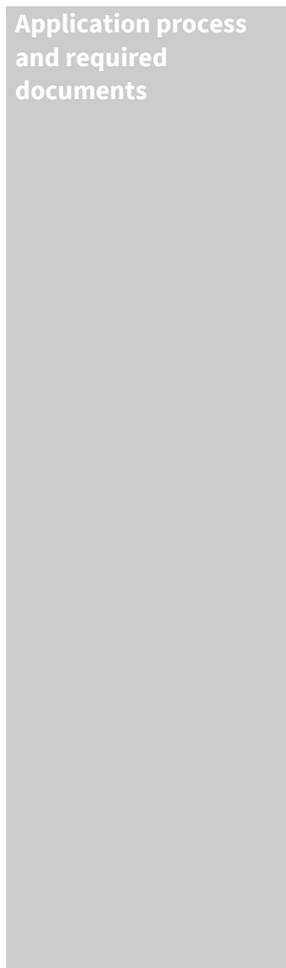
The applying institution also provides the official fee structure of the requested university/institute fees and is able to verify that these fees are the regular ones being demanded from all students. It will not be possible to ask for extra fees from DAAD scholars which will not be charged from regular students.



Selection procedure

The *selection of host institutions* is carried out by an independent committee of international peers (university professors) to be nominated by DAAD.

The *selection of scholarship holders* will take place after the selection of the host institutions. The host institution will screen, pre-select (according to DAAD selection criteria) and short-list up to three times as many applicants as scholarships are available. A complete list of all the applicants and a pre-selection report and lists showing the participants of the pre-selection and explaining the criteria employed, must be submitted to the DAAD Information Centre in East Jerusalem. The templates provided by DAAD for documentation of the pre-selection process are mandatory. The final selection of scholarship holders will be made by independent selection committees appointed by the DAAD.



Application process and required documents

If more than one department of an institution would like to submit applications for this call, a separate application should be submitted for every department.

Departments may list up to three graduate programmes with Master degree tracks each in their application.

Mandatory forms and other application documents:

- **Application form**, to be filled out and submitted online – along with the annexes – via the following link: **(open from September 13, 2021 onwards)**

<https://www.daad.de/surveys/984259?lang=en>

- **Annex I: Endorsement of the leadership of the applying university/institute** (→ [DAAD form](#))
- **Annex II: Organizational chart** of the applying department (without names of staffers) as well as
- For each of the (post)graduate programmes listed in the application:
 - **Annex III: Proposal form** (→ [DAAD form](#))
In the proposal form, the applying department addresses the selection criteria (1-9) stated in this call for applications. The institution outlines their concepts regarding staff development, alumni, as well as support for students enrolled in the programmes. If the proposal form concerns a graduate programme with more than one degree track, it should be clearly marked which information relates to which degree track.
 - **Annex IV: Staff list** of the graduate programmes (→ [DAAD form](#))
 - **Annex V: Module book/course plan** for each graduate programme mentioned in the application



- **Annex VI: Programme schedule – detailed list of courses to be taken per semester/trimester/quatrimester**
- **Annex VII: Accreditation certificate(s) and/or documentation of the recognition according to national standards** of each graduate programme
- **Annex VIII: Statistical information form of each graduate programme** (→ [DAAD form](#))
statistics on applications, students, alumni, graduation rates, dropout rates
- **Annex IX: Official fee structure** with university seal of each graduate programme (if different) (→ the fees requested from DAAD in this programme must be the same as the fees requested from self-paying students)

If applicable

- Marketing samples (e.g. flyer)
- Additional documents addressing the selection criteria

Please make sure to submit only the documents that are directly related to the programmes mentioned in this application and/or address the selection criteria stated above. If relevant documents are part of larger documents that also concern other programmes not related to this application, you may submit excerpts of these documents, containing only the relevant pages – e.g.: instead of submitted a catalogue with all the course plans of the department, please submit an excerpt containing only the course plan of the graduate programme addressed in the application.

Kindly note that proposals for different programmes may be forwarded to different reviewers for expert assessment. Therefore, it is important that all the required information is placed in the designated fields and all the documents are named correctly to prevent oversights.

All application documents must be submitted in English.

Application closing date and submission

Palestinian state or state-recognized higher education institutions can submit their completed applications until **November 15, 2021**, via the following link:

<https://www.daad.de/surveys/984259?lang=en>

Please note that any hard copies of application documents sent to DAAD will not be considered in the application process.

Contact and consultation

There will be an information session for prospective host institution, taking place online on September 27, 2021 at 15:00 Palestinian time. Please use the following link to sign up for the information session and to receive the conference link:

<https://www.daad.de/surveys/518395?lang=en>



If you have further questions or require assistance, please contact:

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Further information

Website of the In-Country/In-Region programme:

<https://www.daad.de/incountry-inregion>

