



Applicant Information for the DAAD/OSI Program

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Bonn, and Open Society Scholarship Programs are collaborating on a joint program of grants for graduates from the Balkans.

1. Aim

The DAAD/OSI Scholarships aim to bolster the capacity of the participating countries to provide quality instruction and research in the social sciences and humanities, and to create a network of scholars from these countries in these fields with colleagues in Germany to enhance the international exchange of ideas and academic best practice.

A variety of academic opportunities are available to scholars in participating countries to pursue advanced degrees and training at top level universities in Germany. Grantees will be clustered at host institutions to build cohorts of graduates and professors with a common frame of reference, generating international and intra-regional connections into the future.

The grants are awarded jointly by DAAD and Open Society Scholarship Programs for study and living expenses incurred at German Universities.

The Program is open to scholars from the following countries in 2013:

1. Albania
2. Bosnia
3. Kosovo
4. Serbia
5. Montenegro
6. Macedonia

2. Target Group

The grants are aimed at students with either a Bachelors degree or a Masters degree or who have completed 5 years of a diploma.

3. Eligible Pathways

Grants are issued for one of the following options:

1. Masters' level studies (2 years)- more information is available in the **Course List**.
2. Doctoral studies (3 years)- Ph. D. students will be based at a German university for 3 years. Doctorate studies in Germany do not have taught courses as such, but offer close mentoring

by an academic supervisor on a selected topic. Extension of the scholarship beyond three years will be contingent upon positive annual reviews and the recommendation of the faculty mentor.

4. Eligible Courses

Applicants for the Masters pathway can apply for one of the courses in the **Course List (available in English and German)**.

Students interested in the PhD option can apply for studies within the following areas:

- Political Science
- Sociology
- International Relations
- Law
- Economics
- Public Administration Studies
- Educational Administrative Studies
- Public Health
- Philosophy
- German Studies (in special cases only)

Under certain circumstances, other courses within the realms of the social sciences and humanities can be considered. The list represents fields of social sciences and humanities underrepresented in the participating countries and available in either English or German instruction at German universities.

5. Application Requirements

All applicants must apply within one of areas mentioned in point **3** above.

a) Masters Courses (2 Years)

Students **can** submit applications when they are still finishing their Bachelor studies, but have to have their BA diploma before they start their academic studies at a university in Germany.

b) Doctoral Studies (3 Years)

Applicants must have a further university diploma, normally a Masters degree. In specific cases, applications are permitted after 5 years of undergraduate study when a specialisation has been outlined by the applicant.

All applicants must provide evidence of contact to a prospective German supervisor.

6. Language Competence

A good knowledge of German is desirable. Funding for additional language training may be available.

The Test of German (OnDaF) is administered by DAAD Representatives in each country to assess a candidate's level of German prior to the interviews.

Candidates who require extra German language training are requested to attend a pre-academic language course in their home country (up to 2 months), with the possibility of spending up to 2 months in Germany if deemed necessary by the interview panel.

Applicants wishing to follow a course instructed in English are required to have a very good command of the English language, proven by a TOEFL test. It is scholars' responsibility to obtain their official result of English Language.

Please note that no equivalent language training will be offered in English.

7. Grantee Selection

Selection Committee

Each year between January and March, a selection committee consisting of staff from the DAAD central office in Bonn, the OSF Office in London, and a commission of 2-3 German Professors travel to each country in order to interview pre-selected candidates. Interviews are organised and hosted by the local DAAD IC Office or the German Embassy representatives.

In the case of applications for PhD scholarships, the final decision may be conferred to a selection committee in Bonn.

Selection Procedure

Written applications will be collected up to the generic deadline of the **1 November** each year by the local DAAD-IC office representatives or the German Embassy directly (see the **Contact List**).

In January or February of the following year, selection committees and interviews will commence for all applicants.

Selection Criteria

Selection will be based on academic merit, knowledge of the language required, extracurricular activities, and leadership potential, and will follow a multi-tiered and transparent process. All completed applications will be reviewed and evaluated by selection teams representing the universities, DAAD and OSF.

Semi-finalists will be invited for an in-country interview between January and February.

The interview will be carried out either in German or in English based on selected course of studies.

All applicants must be aware that after a 2-4 month language course, an adequate level of German must be demonstrated in order to fulfil all necessary academic requirements.

Applicants must present the TOEFL and where needed the GRE test results or proof of registration at the time of an interview.

8. Costs Covered

DAAD/OSI Scholarships are in essence full scholarship awards, which include a monthly stipend sufficient for a single person, one return trip (PhD scholars get an additional return trip to their home country in the 2nd year of study), pre-sessional German language training where necessary, and scholarship enhancement activities, including an Orientation Event, taking place in Bonn in autumn each year, as well as a Mid Year Conference held at a German University.

Costs or supplements for partners or children are not covered by the Program.

Masters and doctoral students having pre-school age children in their home country can apply for up to 3 weeks financed trip home.

At Universities where more than 3 DAAD/OSI grantees are placed, a tutor is assigned to provide scholarship holders with guidance and advice.

9. Advice and Information

Representatives of the local DAAD-IC offices / German Embassy provide adequate information to potential grantees about the programs offered within this Award, general advice on study in Germany and making contact with German universities.

10. Application Details

a) Master Course of Studies

- DAAD application form „Application for a Research Grant/Study Scholarship (Forschungs-/Studienstipendium)
- Curriculum vitae
- Research plan or statement of reason for the studies
- Recommendation from a local professor
- All certificates which may be asked from the favoured course of studies (for example GRE, TOEFL, and so on)
- Completed Admission to Studies application form for the three degree programmes in favour
- Certified copies of the certificate of qualification for university matriculation, the Bachelor resp. Master Diploma or in the case of students in their fourth academic year, a certified copy of their study record book and their translation
- DAAD-Language Certificate
- Applicants for a Master's Grant are asked to list three favoured courses of studies according to their priority in their application

b) Doctoral Studies

- DAAD application form „Application for a Research Grant/Study Scholarship (Forschungs-/Studienstipendium)
- Curriculum vitae
- Research plan (detailed plan of work and time)
- Confirmation of academic supervision for doctoral studies by a German professor
- Two recommendations from local professors

Two certified copies of the certificate of qualification for university matriculation, the Bachelor resp. Master Diploma and their translation

DAAD-Language Certificate

All copies of certificates and their translations must be officially certified. The health certificate need only be presented after the scholarship has been awarded.

The above-mentioned application forms are available from the DAAD website (www.daad.de/en/form) or can be obtained from the [diplomatic and consular missions](#) of the Federal Republic of Germany and from the DAAD Lektors.

DAAD application form is available for download through the following link www.daad.de/de/form.

General scholarship information is also available from the following representatives:

DAAD

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