

„In-Region Scholarship Programme“ Central America

**Call for Scholarship Applications 2020
For Master studies at the University of Costa Rica
(UCR), Costa Rica**

**Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources
(PPCARN)**

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

**Application Closing Date at DAAD: 18/08/2019
(Dateline for the application at PPCARN: 08/08/2019)**

Programme Objectives

The programme aims at fostering strong, internationally oriented higher education systems in Central America 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 Central America.

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 region
- Graduates strengthening education and research in region
- 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-Region Scholarship Programme“ DAAD offers scholarships for 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 from Central American countries and the Dominican Republic with a first academic degree if applying for a Master's programme, who want to pursue Master's in Central American country (**In-Region scholarships**).

Application requirements**Applicants**

- must be nationals or permanent residents (5 years) of a country in Central America (except Costa Rica) or the Dominican Republic.
- have successfully completed a Bachelor degree with above average results (upper forth of class) and 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
- 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.

Eligible fields

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

The scholarships at UCR, Costa Rica are available in the following fields:

- **MSc. Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources with emphasis on:**
 - a) Animal nutrition
 - b) Soil

Place of tenure

Sede "Rodrigo Facio Brenes" Montes de Oca, San José Costa Rica

Duration and Commencement

The duration

- of the Master programme is generally 29 months

generally **starting in March 2020**.

Application and Selection Procedure

The application process contains **two parallel steps**.

Application at UCR:

Applicants must apply for their studies at the UCR using the contacts and the method that are prescribed by the institution. The UCR has set its own deadlines. Admission's Office: carn.sep@ucr.ac.cr

The UCR will screen, pre-select 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 double or triple the number of scholarships that have been attributed to the institution.

At the same time applicants must apply for the DAAD scholarship (see Documents to be submitted).

DAAD application:

Applicants are asked to log into the DAAD portal and register themselves and submit a DAAD application.

1. Register online via the DAAD-Portal (if not already registered):
<https://portal.daad.de>

Apply online via the DAAD-Portal under the tab "Personal Funding" / "Application", **Third Country Programme Central America, 57500262**

Documents to be submitted:

- DAAD application form duly filled in (available in the DAAD-Portal)
- Hand signed curriculum vitae (please use the European specimen form at
<https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/es/documents/curriculum-vitae>,

including a list of publications (if applicable).

- 2 Recommendation letters by university teachers and/or professional supervisors
- Letter of admission for the host university / institution / network (it is not obligatory at the time of the application)
- Certified copies of university degree certificates including transcripts
- Letter of motivation (if applicable: mentioning the planned research stay in Germany, see "Additional benefits")
- Passport copy

Closing date for the submission of DAAD scholarship applications is 18/08/2019

Decisions on the awarding of scholarships will be taken by a selection committee. The amount of awarded scholarships will be subject to the provision of funds by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Scholarship funding

The Master scholarship covers:

Item	Payment	Amount
Tuition fees	annually	USD 3212.72
Study and research allowance	annually	EUR 460
Printing allowance	once at the end	EUR 400
Monthly Scholarship (Accommodation, Food etc.)	monthly	EUR 668
Travel allowance (In-Region only)	twice (beginning/end of scholarship)	<i>The flat rate travel allowance will be specified in the letter of award</i>
Insurance	monthly	The insurance fee will be paid directly to the insurance company.
Family Allowance (additional application requested)	monthly	EUR 280

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-Region scholarship holders are also encouraged to apply for a **research stay in Germany** for 2 up to 6 months. **Please note: 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 which amounts 850 EUR per month
- 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

Ms. Grettel González Altamirano

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