



Organization of
American States



OAS and the University of Winnipeg 2013 Scholarship Opportunities under the OAS Partnerships Program for Education and Training

The General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (GS/OAS) and the University of Winnipeg (University) are offering scholarships to qualified candidates of the Americas to further their education through a Master's degree in Development Practice in Indigenous Development.

About the Organization of American States (OAS) and the University of Winnipeg (University)

The General Secretariat of the Organization of American States¹

GS/OAS is the central and permanent organ of the Organization of American States (OAS). Through its Department of Human Development, Education and Culture (DHDEC), GS/OAS supports OAS member states in creating policies and executing programs that promote human capacity development at all educational levels. By enabling formative opportunities to citizens, DHDEC strengthens democratic values and security under the framework of regional integration. DHDEC does this: (i) by supporting the efforts of OAS member states to improve the quality of and equity in education while enhancing and highlighting the contribution of their diverse cultures to economic, social, and human development; and (ii) by assisting the citizens of the Americas in realizing their full potential by giving them access to knowledge and skills through training that improves the standard of living for individuals, families and communities in the region.

The University of Winnipeg

Located at the heart of Canada, Winnipeg is a compact, diverse, multicultural campus committed to academic and excellence, community engagement, social and environmental sustainability. It is home to more than 9,000 full and part time students and is connected to a growing network of over 40,000 alumni across the globe. The University of Winnipeg is consistently ranked by both *The Globe&Mail* and *MacLean's Magazine* as one of the Top 10 universities in the country. Students value the small class sizes, high quality of teaching and distinguished team of faculty and staff. As an undergraduate university it offers bachelor degrees in the Arts, Business & Economics, Education, Science and Theology with over 400 courses in 40 subject areas. The University also launched several new graduate programs, including a unique Masters degree in Indigenous Studies.

¹ ALL SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AWARDED CONDITIONALLY BASED ON THE CONTINUED AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR THE OAS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- 1.1 This scholarship opportunity is for Master's degree in Development Practice in Indigenous Development offered by the University.
- 1.2 The application deadline for admission to this program is **March 30th, 2013**.
- 1.3 For information about the University's application process for this Program, please visit the the University's [website](#).
- 1.4 The student must possess a bachelor's degree or its equivalent with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 and a background in statistics (minimum of one course).
- 1.5 The classes will be held in English
- 1.6 The program of study will be held onsite at the University of Winnipeg in Canada.
- 1.7 The program is scheduled to begin **August 2013**.
- 1.8 The expected completion date for the Program is **June 2015** or according to the course duration standards of the University
- 1.9 The official scholarship results will be announced after **April 30th, 2013**

2. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS AND PROGRAM COSTS:

2.1. Each student will receive the following benefits:

- 2.1.1. The University shall cover 100% of tuition fees and a 12-week English Language training
- 2.1.2. The OAS shall provide \$2,000 to help defray the cost of books and study materials
- 2.1.3. The scholarship awardees will be responsible for the cost of additional language training, travel expenses (to and from country of study), mandatory university fees, additional cost of books and study materials, health insurance, cost of living expenses, graduation expenses, visa expenses (where applicable) and any costs not covered by the scholarship.

3. REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION TO BE SUBMITTED WITH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

3.1 The application must include the following documents:

- 3.1.1 Completed [OAS-University of Winnipeg Scholarship Application Form](#)
- 3.1.2 Unconditional Admission letter by the University
 - 3.1.2.1 Proof of application for admission to the University could be shown in the forms of the application confirmation number, application ID number or email confirmation forwarded by the University which confirms that the application was successfully received.
 - 3.1.2.2 **IMPORTANT:** Although we encourage you to apply and submit the other required documents of the OAS/University of Winnipeg Scholarship application before receiving your admission letter, you **must** submit a copy of the official admission letter by **the scholarship application deadline** before your application could be reviewed by the scholarship selection committee.
- 3.1.3 Copy of government issued identification document;
- 3.1.4 Curriculum Vitae or Resume, without attachments;
- 3.1.5 Copy of undergraduate academic records or transcripts of completed programs;
- 3.1.6 Two letters of recommendation; one from a university professor and another from current or most recent employer;
- 3.1.7 Two essays in English as indicated in the [OAS-University of Winnipeg Scholarship Application Form](#)
- 3.1.8 Students whose native language is not English will be required to submit the following proof of English proficiency:

- 3.1.8.1 An official transcript verifying completion of studies in an English speaking university in the last five years
- 3.1.8.2 A test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a score of 570 or higher for the paper based test, 230 for computer-based test or 89 for internet-based test; IELTS 6.5, or the equivalent
- 3.1.9 The deadline to apply to the 2013 PAEC OAS-University of Winnipeg scholarship is **April 30th, 2013 at 11:59 p.m.** (official Washington, DC time). **The deadline will not be extended and applications will not be accepted after the deadline.**
- 3.1.10 Original documentation may be requested by the OAS or the University at any time.
- 3.1.11 Each eligible applicant has to submit proof of remaining funds needed. Applicants without the required proof of funds will not be considered.

4. SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION CRITERIA

- 4.1. The merits and overall credentials of the candidate, including his/her academic and professional background;
- 4.2. A geographical distribution of the applicants, taking into account the greater needs of the smaller and relatively less developed economies;
- 4.3. Applicants whose proposals portray the highest potential for impact upon return to their countries of origin; and
- 4.4. Gender diversity.

5. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STUDENT

- 5.1 The final approval of the 2013 PAEC OAS-University of Winnipeg selected awardee will be subject to the signing of the Scholarship Acceptance Form, in which the candidate is obliged to comply with the Program's requirements.
- 5.2 Applicants will be asked to provide proof that they have sufficient funds to cover the estimated cost of the items listed in 2.1.3 by submitting one, or a combination of the following documents:
 - 5.2.1 a contract for salary in absentia (example, study leave);
 - 5.2.2 a copy of a rental agreement on property showing the applicant as the property owner;
 - 5.2.3 proof that the applicant possess sufficient funds in the form of bank statement or letter and/or student loan;
 - 5.2.4 additional scholarship(s), grants, financial aid;
 - 5.2.5 bank statement from a friend or relative along with a notarized letter certifying that the applicant will be provided with the funding needed to complete his/her studies.

6. SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- 6.1 Be citizens and/or permanent legal residents of any [OAS member state](#), except Canada².
- 6.2 The student must not have received other academic scholarships from the OAS or from the University for the same level of studies as requested in the 2013 OAS/University of Winnipeg scholarship application.
- 6.3 These scholarships are specifically intended for individuals who are looking for a career in Indigenous development. Indigenous students are especially encouraged to apply. Such applicants are asked to provide evidence of their Indigenous status such as formal membership in a government-sanctioned Indigenous group/tribe/community; some other proof of Indigenous status; or proof of participation in, or cultural connection to, an Indigenous group. Additional

² No OAS scholarship shall be awarded to an individual for academic studies, research or professional development training in the OAS member state of which the individual is a national or permanent resident.

documentation from Indigenous communities/authorities endorsing the applicants' candidacy will be helpful for the applications review process. Applications from non-Indigenous students who have prior experience in Indigenous development are also encouraged. In the case of Non-Indigenous students, the application should provide a description of their experience and a letter of endorsement in support of their candidacy from the Indigenous communities/authorities with whom they have worked.

- 6.4** OAS staff, individuals who maintain employment contracts with the OAS, the staff of Permanent Missions to the OAS and their immediate relatives are not eligible to receive scholarships from the PAEC OAS/University of Winnipeg program;
- 6.5** No type of employment or commercial relationship shall be established between the OAS or the University and the PAEC OAS/University of Winnipeg scholarship recipients. Similarly, the OAS and University shall not assume any type of liability, whether civil, contractual or non-contractual, during the entire scholarship period.