



## OAS – University for Peace 2014 SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### OAS Partnerships Program for Education and Training (PAEC)

The Organization of American States (OAS), through the Department of Human Development, Education and Employment (DHDEE) and the University for Peace (UPEACE), through the OAS Partnerships Program for Education and Training (PAEC), are offering scholarships to qualified candidates of the Americas to participate in master’s degree programs below.

#### Onsite:

- a) Environment, Development and Peace, with specializations in:
  - Environmental Security and Governance
  - Sustainable Natural Resource Management
  - Climate Change Policy
  - Sustainable Food Systems
- b) Gender and Peace Building
- c) International Law and Human Rights
- d) International Law and the Settlement of Disputes
- e) International Peace Studies
- f) Media, Peace and Conflict Studies
- g) Peace Education
- h) Responsible Management and Sustainable Economic Development
- i) Sustainable Urban Governance and Peace
- j) Derecho Internacional de los Derechos Humanos
- k) Derecho Internacional y Resolución de Conflictos

#### Online:

- Sustainable Peace in the Contemporary World

#### IMPORTANT DATES:



# ABOUT UPEACE AND THE OAS

## The General Secretariat of the Organization of American States

GS/OAS is the central and permanent organ of the Organization of American States (OAS). Through its Department of Human Development, Education and Employment (DHDEE), 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, DHDEE strengthens democratic values and security under the framework of regional integration. DHDEE does this: (i) by supporting the efforts of OAS member states to improve the quality of and equity in education; 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.

## University for Peace

Headquartered in Costa Rica, the United Nations-mandated University for Peace was established in December 1980 as a Treaty Organization by the UN General Assembly. As determined in the Charter of the University, the mission of the University for Peace is: *“to provide humanity with an international institution of higher education for peace with the aim of promoting among all human beings the spirit of understanding, tolerance and peaceful coexistence, to stimulate cooperation among peoples and to help lessen obstacles and threats to world peace and progress, in keeping with the noble aspirations proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations.”* The wider mission of the University should be seen in the context of the worldwide peace and security objectives of the United Nations. Having a focus and a global perspective is vital for UPEACE to develop successful projects. Thus, the international organization, UPEACE creates opportunities for people developing their careers, to foster an international vocation which is of vital importance for human rights and social development.

## I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

### **1. Student/Applicant’s profile:**

Academically outstanding individuals of the Americas interested in contributing to the development of their country upon completion of their studies.

### **2. Study Location/Modality:** Onsite and online in Costa Rica

### **3. Study program start date:**

Onsite Programs: August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014      Online Program: September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014

### **4. Study program duration:**

Onsite Programs: 1 year      Online Program: 1.5 years

### **5. Approximate end date of the study program:**

Onsite Programs: June 2015      Online Program: December 2015

### **6. Language of instruction:**

English and Spanish

### **7. Admission process:**

7.1 Before applying for admission, we encourage applicants to read the program description, and ensure that the study area fulfills their expectations and interests.

7.2 The student must possess a bachelor's degree diploma or certificate of completion of degree prior to the day the application is submitted.

7.3 The deadlines to apply for admission to the programs are:

**On-site Programs: June 15th, 2014**

**Online Program: July 31st, 2014**

7.4 For information:

Admission process for onsite programs: please visit the UPEACE website:

<http://www.upeace.org/admissions/general.cfm>

Admissions process for the online program, please visit the UPEACE website:

[http://www.elearning.upeace.org/ma\\_application.cfm](http://www.elearning.upeace.org/ma_application.cfm)

**IMPORTANT: Please review all the information in your application before submission.**

## **8. UPEACE contact information:**

Questions about the application process please contact the UPEACE Admissions Unit through email: [admissions@upeace.org](mailto:admissions@upeace.org) or phone: (506) 2205-9065 or (506) 2205-9070 or (506) 2205-9088.

## **II. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS AND PROGRAM COSTS**

### **1. Benefits:**

**1.1. On-site programs:** The top ranked candidates will receive 50% of the total cost of the programs.

**1.2. Online program:** The top ranked candidates will receive 50% of the total cost of the program.

### **2. Financial Responsibilities of Awardees:**

2.1 All awardees will be responsible for the remaining cost of tuition fees. In addition to the remaining cost of tuition fees, the scholarship awardees for the onsite programs will also be responsible for payment of registration fee, immigration fees, research expenses, study visit, books and study materials, health insurance, living expenses, airfare and any costs not covered by the scholarship.

2.2 These above expenses shall be the sole and exclusive responsibility of the scholarship recipients and the scholarship recipients will be responsible for payment of the remaining tuition fees and any other costs as needed to UPEACE.

### **3. Scholarship Eligibility Requirements:**

3.1 Letter of unconditional admission to one of the graduate programs listed on page one of this announcement.

3.2 The student must not have received other academic scholarships from the OAS or from UPEACE for the same level of studies and/or programs as requested in the 2014 OAS/UPEACE application.

3.3 Be citizens and/or permanent legal residents of any [OAS member state](#)

3.4 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 OAS/UPEACE scholarships.

3.5 No type of employment or commercial relationship shall be established between the OAS and UPEACE and the PAEC OAS/UPEACE scholarship recipients. Similarly, the OAS and UPEACE shall

not assume any type of liability, whether civil, contractual or non-contractual, during the entire scholarship period.

#### 4. Scholarship Application Process:

**STEP 1** The candidate should begin the admission process to one of the degree programs covered by this scholarship program.

**STEP 2** Gather the following documents which must be included with the completed [OAS/UPEACE scholarship application form](#), and in the following order:

1. Letter of unconditional admission to UPEACE;
  - I. Proof of application for admission to UPEACE could be shown in the forms of the application confirmation number, application ID number or email confirmation forwarded by UPEACE which confirms that the application was successfully received.
  - II. **IMPORTANT:** Although we encourage you to apply and submit the other required documents of the OAS Scholarship application before receiving your admission letter, you must submit a copy of the official admission letter by the scholarship application deadline, to [nduncan@oas.org](mailto:nduncan@oas.org) with copy to [mdeleon@oas.org](mailto:mdeleon@oas.org).
2. Copy of government issued identification document;
3. Curriculum Vitae or Resume, without attachments;
4. Copy of undergraduate academic records or transcripts of completed programs;
5. Two letters of recommendation: one letter from a university professor, and one from a current or most recent employer that includes: the letterhead of the University/Institution, the Professor's/Employer's position within the University/Institution, date and signature.
6. Students whose native language is not English will be required to submit one of the following proof of English proficiency:
  - I. An official transcript verifying completion of studies in an English speaking university in the last five years; OR
  - II. A test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a score of 580 or higher for the paper based test, 237 for computer-based test, or an internet-based TOEFL (IBT) score of at least 92. OR
  - III. IELTS 6.5, or the equivalent

*The date stated on the TOEFL or IELTS certificate must be within two years of your proposed start date.*
7. Proof that you have sufficient funds to cover tuition and fees and other expenses as indicated in 2.1 above, which is estimated at US\$22,500.00 for onsite programs and \$7,500.00 for online program by submitting one, or a combination, of the following documents:
  - a copy of a rental agreement on property showing you as the property owner;
  - a copy of a bank statement or bank letter;
  - a letter from an employer showing a monthly or yearly salary;
  - a letter showing a student loan or additional scholarship(s), grants, financial aid.

**NOTE:** Applicants must ensure that all information provided as part of the OAS Scholarship Application is accurate, true and correct. While documents are sent electronically, applicants must be able to present physical and original copies of these documents.

**STEP 3** Take into account that the OAS online application form requires the following two essays, which are to be written in the English language. Each essay must contain a minimum of 800 characters (not words) and a maximum of 2900 characters, including spaces.

**Essay 1:** Describe how acquiring this academic degree will directly impact and enhance your professional skills in your current job position or career.

**Essay 2:** The OAS – PAEC Scholarship requires recipients to return to their country of citizenship or legal residence for 2 years upon completion of the studies. Please explain how you intend to apply the acquired knowledge and experience in the specific field of study that you pursue to the development in your country or region. Also, please indicate the reasons for applying to this scholarship, financial need and how you will cover the additional costs not included in this scholarship.

**STEP 4** Complete and send the [OAS/UPEACE Scholarship Application Form](#), along with the above indicated documents, which should be attached in pdf format and in one document in the order specified in Step 2.

Note: We strongly recommend applying for the scholarship as soon you start the process of admission to Institution. Only applicants that are admitted by the University or Educational Institution will be considered for the scholarship.

**Scholarship applicants must complete the scholarship application and submit it online before:**

**On-site Programs: June 30th, 2014**

**Online Program: August 15th, 2014**

**STEP 5** The evaluation process, selection, and announcement of results will take place. During this period, the candidate should await the announcement of the scholarship results, which will published at [www.oas.org/scholarships](http://www.oas.org/scholarships) by mid-July 2014 for the onsite programs and by end of august for the online program.

**STEP 6** The scholarship acceptance process will take place. Only the selected candidates will be contacted via e-mail which will include the official scholarship offer and the instructions on its acceptance.

**STEP 7** Awardee should prepare for the beginning of the study program: registering for classes, ordering course books, among others.

## 5. Scholarship Selection Criteria

5.1 The merits and overall credentials of the candidate, including his/her academic and professional background;

5.2 Geographical distribution of the applicants, taking into account the greater needs of the smaller and relatively less developed economies;

5.3 Applicants whose proposals portray the highest potential for impact upon return to their countries of origin; and

5.4 Gender diversity.

## **6. Duties and Responsibilities of the Student:**

- 6.1 The scholarship will be formally awarded only after the selected awardees have signed an OAS/UPEACE Acceptance Form, in which the awardees formally accept the scholarship and agree to its terms and conditions.
- 6.2 Scholarship awardees shall pay the remaining tuition fees and any other fees to UPEACE at registration before the program start.

**APPLY NOW!**

**For more information: [www.oas.org/scholarships](http://www.oas.org/scholarships)**