



OAS - University for International Cooperation 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 International Cooperation in Costa Rica through the OAS Partnerships Program for Education and Training (PAEC), are offering scholarships to qualified candidates of the Americas to participate in UCI's Master's degree in Project Management.

PROGRAMS:	Master's degree in Project Management
MODALITY:	Online
LANGUAGE:	English*
DURATION:	15 – 18 months
DEADLINES:	Program admission deadline: August 30 th , 2014 Scholarship application deadline: September 19 th , 2014
BENEFITS:	57% or 95% of the tuition fees

*IMPORTANT NOTICE: This scholarship opportunity is also being offered in Spanish (Maestría en Administración de Proyectos) under the same conditions of this announcement. For more information on the PAEC OAS/UCI scholarship opportunity in Spanish please visit: www.oas.org/becas

IMPORTANT DATES:



ABOUT UCI 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.

The University for International Cooperation

Twenty years of excellence make the University for International Cooperation (UCI) the perfect choice for project management training. The UCI is the first university in the region to be accredited by the Global Accreditation Center (GAC) from the prestigious Project Management Institute (PMI). Through UCI's training and guidance, more than 2000 graduates in 40 countries around the world are making better projects for a better future. The Global School of Project Management at the University for International Cooperation is committed to bringing world-class faculty, innovative online training, and real-world experience together to shape the professionals that will manage the projects that are shaping our future.

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Student/Applicant's profile: The program is intended for professionals from all disciplines and sectors, from all over the world, who already hold a bachelor's university degree, and who are seeking to develop core competencies and creative thinking skills to successfully implement projects, while leading multidisciplinary teams and delivering positive results in today's complex multicultural environment. Whether the participant is new to projects, or is already a certified PMP, this program is the perfect "next step" for those who want to incorporate the benefits and skills from an integral Project Management training in their professional profile.

2. Study Location/Modality: Online

3. Study program start date: October 13th, 2014

4. Study program duration: 15 - 18 months

5. Approximate end date of the study program: March 12th, 2016

6. Language of instruction: English¹

7. Admission process²:

¹ IMPORTANT NOTICE: This scholarship opportunity is also being offered in Spanish (Maestría en Administración de Proyectos) under the same conditions of this announcement. For more information on the PAEC OAS/UCI scholarship opportunity in Spanish please visit: www.oas.org/becas

² Neither the OAS nor the University shall assume any responsibility arising from the acceptance or rejection of degree or diploma awarded by the University at educational institutions in the country of origin of the scholarship recipient.

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. For more information on the program please visit: http://en.ucigspm.com/

7.2 The following documents are necessary to obtain admission to the program:

- Copy of degree diploma.
- Copy of birth certificate or equivalent, issued by the pertinent authority.
- Copy of government issued identification document with at least six-month validity.
- Copy of passport with at least six-month validity.
- Recent and clear digital front photograph taken on a white background (approx. size 3.5 x 4.5 cm).
- Curriculum Vitae in English (max. 2 pages), and should contain contact information, education, professional experience, language skills, and other relevant skills (personal, extracurriculars, etc.)
- Copy of certificate of completion of studies, including official transcripts with information regarding courses, dates of approval, credits, and grades; and/or any other proof of awarded credits.
- Letter from the academic insitution that issued your diploma, stating the equivalency of one
 credit. This equivalency must clearly indicate the total hours per credit, including both class
 hours and self-study hours. To download an example of this letter, click here.
- 7.3 UCI admitted students will require to present some of the aforementioned documents in original copies, certified/authenticated/apostilled, and officially translated (if the originals are not in Spanish)³, no later than 60 days after the program start date.
- 7.4 The deadline to apply for admission to the program is: August 30th, 2014.

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

8. UCI contact information:

Applicants can contact the Global Admissions Office at info@ucigspm.com for more information on the UCI program.

II. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS AND PROGRAM COSTS

1. Benefits:

1.1 UCI shall cover **57% or 95%** of the tuition fees for PAEC OAS/UCI Scholarship Recipients. The tuition cost of the program without the scholarship is US\$ 14,000.

³ The program will issue a Mexican degree certificate, subject to a final validation of the student's admission documents (see "Admission Process") by the Public Secretariat of Education in Mexico. The validation will depend on an external process, and on the amount of credits earned by the student at the undergraduate level in his/her home country. The MPM degree program is accredited by the Project Management Institute's (PMI) Global Accreditation Center (GAC).

1.2 Scholarship benefits are subject to the academic performance of the awardee. In order to receive these benefits, the awardee should not be reported with a low academic performance due to absences or failing courses.

2. Financial Responsibilities of Awardees:

- 2.1 The scholarship awardees will be responsible for the remaining tuition, fees and study materials.
- 2.2 These above expenses shall be the sole and exclusive responsibility of the scholarship recipients and the scholarship recipients will be responsible for the payment of the remaining tuition cost and any other applicable costs to UCI.

3. Scholarship Eligibility Requirements:

- 3.1 Letter of unconditional admission to UCI.
- 3.2 The student must not have received other academic scholarships from the OAS or from the UCI for the same level of studies and/or programs as requested in the 2014 OAS/UCI application.
- 3.3 Be citizens and/or permanent legal residents of any OAS Member State, except Costa Rica.
- 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/UCI scholarships.
- 3.5 No type of employment or commercial relationship shall be established between the OAS or UCI and the PAEC OAS/UCI scholarship recipients. Similarly, the OAS and UCI 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/UCI scholarship application form, and in the following order:
 - 1. Letter of unconditional admission to UCI;
 - I. Proof of application for admission to UCI could be shown in the forms of the application confirmation number, application ID number or email confirmation forwarded by UCI 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 mduncan@oas.org with copy to nduncan@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 550 or higher for the paper based test, 215 for computer-based test, or an internet-based TOEFL (IBT) score of at least 90. OR
 - III. IELTS 5.5, or the equivalent OR
 - IV. Other forms of English Proficiency, as accepted by UCI.

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 the cost of study materials, which is estimated at US\$1,000 to US\$7,000, based on the percentage of scholarship received, 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 Draft the following essays: (each essay should have a minimum of 800 characters and maximum of 2900 characters)

✓ 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 or remain in 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/UCI 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 online before September 19th, 2014 (12:00 PM, Washington, DC time).

- 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 on September 24th, 2014.
- 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: preparation for payment of remaining tuition and fees, and registration for online classes.

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/UCI Acceptance Form, in which the awardees formally accept the scholarship and agree to its terms and conditions, and return it to the DDHEE via email to mduncan@oas.org with copy to nduncan@oas.org.
- 6.2 Refrain from activities that are inconsistent with the status of an OAS Scholarship recipient, abiding by the regulations referred to in this Acceptance Form.
- 6.3 Comply with all the academic guidelines and admission requirements requested by UCI and submit to the updates of these guidelines and requirements made by the academic authorities at UCI.
- 6.4 Comply with the provisions indicated in the "Financial responsibilities of awardees", section II.2 "
 SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS AND PROGRAM COSTS ".

- 6.5 To retain the scholarship, awardees should not have low academic performance (GPA must be at least **7/10**), due to absence from the program and/or course failure.
- 6.6 The scholarship can be declined by the awardee before the start date of the program without financial penalties. However, if s/he declines the scholarship after that date without proof of force majeur, the OAS and UCI may require the awardee to reimburse all funding granted to her/him with the scholarship at the time in which the declination is processed.
- 6.7 Commitment to return or remain to work in their country of origin or legal residence; in one of the OAS Member States; or at an international organization for at least the length of the duration of the scholarship. If the awardee fails to comply with this commitment, the OAS and UCI may require the awardee to reimburse all funding granted.

APPLY NOW!

For more information: www.oas.org/scholarships