

# Scholarship Opportunity for Citizens of The Bahamas



Open to Bahamian students who are admitted to one of the participating institutions listed below and have applied for a scholarship opportunity through the Ministry of Education and Technical and Vocational Training of The Bahamas to start studies in 2024.

#### SCHOLARSHIP OVERVIEW

PROGRAMS:	Undergraduate and graduate degree programs as listed in Annex I and Annex II below.		
<b>MODALITY:</b>	Onsite in the United States and Canada		
LANGUAGE:	English		
<b>DURATION:</b>	1 - 4 years		
BENEFITS:	<ul> <li>A grant of USD \$7,500 to the top ranked candidates to help defray program expenses during the first year of the scholarship period.</li> <li>A one-time subsistence allowance of USD \$1,000 to the top ranked candidates to help defray cost of living expenses during the first year of the scholarship period.</li> <li>Various tuition waivers from participating partner institutions in the United States and Canada</li> </ul>		

- ✓ Scholarship benefits from participating universities are subject to the academic performance of the scholarship recipient and based on the availability of funds.
- ✓ In order to receive scholarship benefits from the Government of The Bahamas, the scholarship recipients should not be reported with a Grade Point Average (GPA) of less than 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

#### ABOUT THE OAS AND MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

The OAS General Secretariat (GS/OAS) is the central and permanent organ of the <u>Organization of</u> <u>American States</u> (OAS). Through its Department of Human Development, Education and Employment (DHDEE), the GS/OAS supports <u>OAS Member States</u> 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 as a whole.

The <u>Ministry of Education</u> of The Bahamas vision is for a Bahamian Education system that will foster academic excellence and equip students with multiple literacies that will enable them to make meaningful contributions as nation builders who are globally competitive. The mission of the Ministry is to provide all persons in The Bahamas an opportunity to receive a quality education that will equip them with the necessary beliefs, knowledge, attitudes and skills required for life, both in a democratic society guided by Christian values and in an inter-dependent changing world.

#### PARTICIPATING PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

The following institutions have expressed interest in participating in this Scholarship Program. For more information on each institution, please view the links in the table below:

#	United States Institutions	
1	Midwestern State University	
2	Colorado State University	
3	The New School	
4	The University of Texas at El Paso	
5	The University of Tennessee	
6	Western Illinois University*	
7	New York Institute of Technology	
8	Stillman College	
9	Florida National University	
10	Ana G. Mendez University	

#	Canadian Institution	
11	Western University	

\*Agreement is under negotiations

#### SCHOLARSHIP CONSIDERATION PROCESS

- ✓ Applicants must be admitted in one of the areas and levels of study as indicated per participating partner institution in Annex I and based on the list of priority areas listed in Annex II.
- ✓ In most cases, the scholarship offers by the participating partner institutions are available to current and new Bahamian students who are not a current OAS Scholarship holder.
- ✓ Applicants have completed and submitted the scholarship application form and provide all the required supporting documents to the Ministry of Education of The Bahamas.

### Step 1

### **GOVERNMENT OF THE BAHAMAS APPLICATION PROCESS**

# Gather supporting documents as required by the Ministry and submit application for scholarship consideration.

- ✓ To apply to the National Tuition Assistance program (formerly National Grant Scholarship) through the Scholarship and Educational Loan Division of the Ministry of Education, applicants must attach the required supporting documents listed and apply through this <u>link</u>.
- ✓ Deadline: March 31, 2024
- ✓ Questions related to the Government of The Bahamas Scholarship, should be sent to Under Secretary Serethea Clarke at <u>scholarships@bahamas.gov.bs</u>

### Step 2

### **VOAS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS**

## Gather supporting documents as required by the OAS and submit a complete application online:

To apply for an OAS – GOB scholarship, applicants must have ALL required supporting documentation as listed in the cover page of the online application form and submit a complete application through this link.

✓ Deadline April 30, 2024

✓ Questions related to the OAS scholarship application form, should be sent to <u>scholarships@oas.org</u>.

#### EXPENSES NOT COVERED BY THIS SCHOLARSHIP

Expenses not covered by this scholarship, and which are the sole responsibility of the scholarship recipients, are:

	$\otimes$	Remaining tuition and fees;
	$\otimes$	Immigration and visa fees;
<b>FINANCIAL</b>	$\otimes$	Research expenses;
RESPONSIBILITY	$\otimes$	Study materials;
OF 25CHOLADSHID	$\otimes$	Living expenses (housing, meals, health insurance and personal
		expenses);
RECIPIENTS	$\otimes$	Round trip airfare; and
		Any additional fees not included in the OAS-GOB Scholarship offer.

- $\checkmark$  The cost of tuition and fees is expected to increase each year.
- ✓ Applicants can also apply for the <u>Rowe Fund</u>, which is an educational loan program of the OAS that helps citizens from Latin America and the Caribbean to finance their studies in accredited universities across the United States by awarding **interest-free loans** of up to US\$15,000 dollars.
  - We are excited to share with you <u>The Financial Aid Guide for Studies in the U.S</u>. This booklet features a useful listing of financial aid opportunities sorted by country of residence. Check out the listing of scholarships, grants, fellowships and loans, collected by the <u>Rowe Fund</u> program of the 80rganization of American States. For over seventy years, the Rowe Fund has granted interest-free student loans for university studies in the U.S. to supplement other sources of financing.
  - Given the steady increase in the cost of higher education, international students require a combination of strategies to finance their U.S. studies. We trust this Financial Aid <u>Guide</u> for U.S. studies is a good start of your search for funding.

#### ELIGIBILITY

To be considered for this scholarship opportunity, applicants must:

- ✓ Be a citizen of The Bahamas.
- ✓ Have already submitted a complete application to the Ministry of Education of The Bahamas
- ✓ Have admission or proof of enrollment to one of the participating institutions listed in this announcement.

The following applicants are ineligible:

- ⊗ Current OAS, and OAS-GOB scholarship holders
- ⊗ GS/OAS staff and their immediate relatives or GS/OAS consultants
- $\otimes$  OAS Permanent officials and their immediate relatives.

#### SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION CRITERIA

- ✓ The merits and overall credentials of the candidate, including his/her academic and professional background;
- ✓ Applicants who portray the highest potential for impact upon return to their countries of origin; and
- ✓ Gender diversity.

#### SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION PROCESS:

- **Selection** The Government of The Bahamas and the OAS will select the scholarship awardees based on the <u>criteria</u> listed above. The names of the selected scholarship awardees will be published on the scholarship websites of the OAS and the Government of The Bahamas by August 2024.
- Notification of The OAS and the Government of The Bahamas will contact selected candidates by email selected with the scholarship offer and instructions for the scholarship acceptance form.
   candidates Applicants who are not selected will not be contacted.

#### DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT:

- ✓ The scholarship will be formally awarded only after the selected awardees have signed an OAS/GOB Acceptance Form, in which the awardees formally accept the scholarship and agree to its terms and conditions.
- ✓ Refrain from activities that are inconsistent with the status of an OAS Scholarship recipient, abiding by the regulations referred to in this Acceptance Form.
- ✓ Comply with all the academic guidelines and admission requirements requested by the University and submit to the updates of these guidelines and requirements made by the academic authorities at the Universities.
- ✓ Comply with the provisions indicated in the "Financial Responsibilities of Awardees."
- ✓ To retain the scholarship, OAS Scholarship recipients should not have low academic performance (GPA must be at least equivalent to 3.0/4.0).

- ✓ The scholarship can be declined by the scholarship recipient before the start date of the program without financial penalties. However, if she/he declines the scholarship after that date without proof of force majeure, the OAS and GOB may require the Scholarship recipient to reimburse all funding granted to her/him with the scholarship at the time in which the declination is processed.
- ✓ Commitment to return to work in the Bahamas for at least the length of the duration of the scholarship. Failure to comply with this commitment, the GS/OAS and/or the GOB could seek reimbursement for the total value of the scholarship awarded.

#### ANNEX I

#### List of Programs, Participating Institutions and Scholarship Offers

Please note that the scholarship benefits are subject to be changed based on the academic merits of the applicants.

#	Institution	Participating Study Programs	Scholarship Offer
1	Midwestern State University	1. Undergraduate	The University shall offer in-state tuition and fees for undergraduate programs and graduate programs, and 40% of the published rate for the university's lowest priced residence hall, including summer housing for the first year on campus.
		2. Graduate – Master's	The Scholarship Recipients can still earn additional scholarships to further reduce their tuition via superior SAT scores or transfer GPAs from other colleges or universities. The benefit of in-state rates in years 2 through 4 of the Program is renewable subject to a 3.0 GPA requirement.
2	Colorado State University	1. Undergraduate Agricultural Business, Agricultural Education, Animal Science, Landscape Architecture, Construction Management, Engineering (Civil, Chemical, Biological, Computer, Electrical, Engineering Science), Hospitality Management, Languages, Literatures and Cultures, Natural Resource Tourism, Watershed Science; Natural Resources Management	1/3 tuition waiver
		2. Graduate (Ph.D. and Master's) Agricultural and Resource Economics, Animal Sciences, Anthropology, Construction Management, Engineering (Bioengineering, Bioagricultural, Chemical, Civil, Electrical, systems, Biomedical, Computer, Electrical), Social Work, Conservation Leadership, Landscape Architecture, Soil and Crop Sciences, Human Dimensions of Natural Resources, Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Biology, Forest Science, Rangeland Ecosystem Science, Earth Science; Bioagricultural Sciences & Pest Manage8ment; Psychology; Horticulture; Political Science (Public Policy and Administration)	1/3 tuition waiver

		<ol> <li>Master's;</li> <li>Fine Arts, Leadership and Cultural Management, Agricultural Sciences, Industrial / Organizational Psychology, Languages, Literatures and Cultures, MBA – Global Social and Sustainable Enterprise Specialization, Tourism Management, Construction Management</li> </ol>	
3	The New School	Master's International Affairs (MA) - 42 credits, International Affairs (MS) - 30 credits, International Affairs MA (42 credits), International Affairs MS (30 credits), Media Studies (MA) - 39 credits, Media Management (MS) - 36 credits, Public and Urban Policy (MS) - 42 credits, Environmental Policy and Sustainability Strategies (MS)	30%-50% tuition waiver
4	The University of Texas at El Paso	Undergraduate and Graduate programs	To the extent permitted by Texas law, UTEP shall offer recipients of the ASP access to available tuition waivers, which may include, yet are not limited to, employment as research or teaching assistants, which shall be eligible for the lowest tuition and mandatory fees available for each academic year of the Program[s]
5	The University of Tennessee	Undergraduate programs	<ul> <li>a) The University shall offer a reduced tuition rate of USD 20,000 per year for undergraduate students.</li> <li>b) Applicants may also be eligible for UT's out-of-state scholarships, the International Volunteer or International Tennessee Explore Scholarship. Applicants would need to meet the additional scholarship criteria (International Volunteer Scholarship: US GPA minimum of a 3.8 and either an ACT or SAT t8est score minimum of 28 or 1300; or the International Tennessee Explore Scholarships: US GPA minimum of a 3.6 and either an ACT or SAT test score minimum of 24 or 1160) to be eligible. Combined institutional aide cannot exceed the maximum out-of-state institutional scholarship award amount. In addition, applicants may apply for competitive scholarships adhering to the application (November 1st) and competitive scholarships and deadline dates are subject to change.</li> </ul>

6	Western Illinois University	Undergraduate programs	Agreement under negotiations (pending)
7	New York Institute of Technology	1. Undergraduate: All undergraduate programs listed as a priority for the Government of The Bahamas and fall under the following NYIT schools: School of Management, Arts & Sciences, Engineering and Computing Sciences, Architecture & Design, Interdisciplinary Studies & Education, Health Professions	Tuition scholarships a) Undergraduate First-Year degree programs: \$5,000 - \$22,000 / year. Minimum High School GPA of 3.0 and SAT score of 980 required. b) Undergraduate Transfer programs: \$5,000 - \$16,000 / year. Minimum Transfer GPA of 2.5 required.
		2. Graduate All graduate programs as listed as a priority for the Government of The Bahamas and fall under NYIT Schools, See Annex II. School of Management, Arts & Sciences, Engineering and Computing Sciences, Architecture & Design, Interdisciplinary Studies & Education, Health Professions	Tuition Scholarship: Graduate degree programs: \$1,500 - \$3,000 / year. Minimum Undergraduate GPA of 3.3 required.
8	Stillman College	All undergraduate programs listed as a priority for the Government of The Bahamas. See Annex II	50% tuition reduction
9	Florida National University	Master of Business Administration Master of Health Sciences Administration Bachelor of Science in Accounting Bachelor of Science in Business Administration Bachelor of Science in Finance Bachelor of Health Sciences Administration	50% of the published tuition and fee amounts for the applicable Program in effect at the time the Scholarship Recipients applies to the University.
10	Ana G. Mendez University	All undergraduate and graduate programs listed as a priority for the Government of The Bahamas. See Annex II	60% tuition waiver for online programs and 50% tuition waiver for onsite programs.
11	Western       1. Undergraduate degrees         Western       Arts & Humanities, Engineering, Information & Media         University       Studies, Science, Social Science, Management and         Organizational Studies, Health Sciences, Education		A scholarship award valued at 10% of his/her tuition fee, applied in two separate installments: 5% in the Fall of the first year of the Program and 5% in the Fall of the second year of the Program. Scholarship Recipients who are enrolling at the University in Year 2 or Year 3 of the Program shall also receive a scholarship award in two separate installments, valued at 5% of the tuition in the Fall of Year 2 or Year 3 of the Program and 5% in the Fall of Year 3 or Year 4 of the Program.

<ul> <li>2. Ph.D. and Master's; Non-professional degrees only: Anthropology, Visual Arts, Engineering (Design and Manufacturing), Library &amp; Information Science, Psychology</li> </ul>	Ph.D. (Research Doctoral Programs) Full tuition and at least CAD \$13,000 per year
3. Master's: Non-professional degrees only: Environment and Sustainability, Linguistics, Public Administration, Social Work	Non-professional Master's: 100% tuition waiver

#### ANNEX II

#### PRIORITY ACADEMIC AND TECHNICAL AREAS OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

#### **Academic Priority Areas**

Certifications (minimum of 6 months), Diploma/Associate Degree, Bachelor's Degree, Master's Degree or Doctoral Degree

#### 1. Aviation:

Aviation Studies | Airport Management

#### 2. Social Sciences / Humanities

Applied Behavioral Analysis | Anthropology | Archival Management | Archival Materials & Processing | Counseling (Specialized Fields) | Foreign Languages | Gerontology | Mental Health Counseling | Psychology | Social Work | Speech Therapy/Pathology | Youth Development & Studies | Criminal Justice (Police Officers Only) | Policy Development | History/Heritage Management/ Afro-Caribbean Studies | Communications

#### **3.** Tourism and Hospitality

Hospitality Studies | Hotel Management | Tourism Marketing Specialists | Food Service Management/Food System | Entertainment & Recreation Management | Personal Service Management Tourism and Development

#### 4. Engineering / Construction

Construction Management | Quantity Surveying | Architecture | Engineering Specialization: (Architectural, Agricultural, Civil, Mechanical, Industrial, Marine, Environmental, Automotive, Manufacturing, Renewable Energy)

#### 5. Business Studies

Actuarial Science | Business Analytics | Conservation Management | Entrepreneurial Studies | Financial Services | Human Resources management | Marketing & Marketing Research | Public Administration | Project Management | Urban Development & Planning | International Relations | Hazardous Material and Waste Management | Taxation | Economics | International Business | Supply Chain Management | Procurement | Change Management

#### 6. Education

Special Education | Counseling | Mathematics | Sciences (For current and prospective teachers only) | English Language | Library Science

#### 7. Natural Sciences

Forensic Science | Marine Studies | Mathematics | Meteorology | Renewable Energy (Hydroelectricity, Solar, Geothermal, Biomass, Wind, Fossil Fuel & Nuclear) | Soil and Plant Science | Agriculture | Horticulture | Environmental Studies | Environmental Restoration | Environmental Toxicology | Climate change Analysis | Water and Waste Management | Marine Mammal Veterinary Studies | Biology, Chemistry & Physics (Research Only) | Health Informatics | Bioinformatics | Cytotechnology

#### 8. Arts

Theatrical Performance | Fine Artists (Painters, sculptors, illustrators) | Set/Exhibit Designers (Technical) | Dance | Media Arts | Music | Fashion Design

#### 9. Health and Allied Health Care

Audiology | Pharmacy/Pharmaceutical Studies | Occupational Therapy | Physical Therapy | Public Health Administration | Nursing Specializations (Emergency Room, Operating Room, Intensive Care Unit, Maternity, Psychiatric, Community, Acute & Education) | Health Education Specialist | Dietetics & Nutrition

#### 10. Technology

Computer Studies & Information Systems | Information Technology | Information Technology Security | Cybersecurity | Software Development | Cloud Engineering | App Development | Coding

#### **11. Land Development and Real Estate**

Land Management | Land Surveying: (Cadastre, Topography, Photogrammetry, Cartography, Engineering, Hydrography) | Planning and Development (Urban and Rural) | Valuation Surveying | Geographic Information Systems Management

#### **Technical Priority Areas**

Certifications (minimum of 6 months), Diploma/Associate Degree, Bachelor's Degree.

#### 1. Technical Courses of Studies

Agriculture | Allied Health Care and Technology | Auto Mechanics | Aviation Mechanics | Computer Service Technology | Culinary Arts | Dental Hygiene | Diesel Mechanics | Disaster Recovery & Management | Environmental Technicians | Electronic Technology | Emergency Medical Services | Fire & safety protection Management | Fisheries Technology | Heavy Equipment Operation | Horticulture & Fisheries Technology | Marine Mechanics | Medical Equipment Management/Repairs | Medical Technology | Respiratory Technology | Radiologic Technology | Radiology | Search & Rescue | Surgical Technology | Laboratory Technology | Occupational Health& Safety Technician | Mortuary Studies | Customer Service Specialization | Print Technology Management | Medical Coding | Insurance Coding | Automated Teller Machine Technology | Air Conditioning and Refrigeration | Building Inspection | Carpentry | Construction Management | Construction Technology | Dry Wall Installation | Masonry | Plumbing | Roofing | Steel Fabrication | Tiling | Textiles & Garment Construction | Welding | Asphalt Paving