



## Professional Development Scholarship Program

### Call to Institutions to Offer Scholarships for Professional Development Courses in 2018

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The Department of Human Development, Education and Employment (DHDEE) of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI) of the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (GS/OAS) is pleased to open its call for institutions to participate in its **2018 Professional Development Scholarship Program (PDSP)**.

Offering training and educational opportunities helps to address the development needs of OAS member states by providing a vital investment in human capital. Participants return to their home countries, implement the knowledge learned and pass what they have learned on to others. In this way, the Professional Development Scholarship Program helps the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI) meet the goals embodied in the Development Pillar of the [Comprehensive Strategic Plan of the Organization of American States](#).

#### *I. Background*

The Professional Development Scholarship Program (PDSP) offers opportunities to citizens of OAS member states to expand or refresh their professional expertise. OAS scholarships are for studies at institutions outside of candidates' countries of citizenship or permanent legal residence.

As per the areas of work of SEDI, the courses must be related to the following areas for action:

1. Education;
2. Social Development and Creation of Productive Employment;
3. Economic Diversification and Integration, Trade Liberalization and Market Access;
4. Scientific Development and Exchange and Transfer of Technology;
5. Strengthening of Democratic Institutions;
6. Sustainable Development of Tourism;
7. Sustainable Development and the Environment; and
8. Culture

#### *Cost-sharing Program*

Financing is often the decisive factor in making high-impact professional development training accessible to qualified candidates. The Professional Development Scholarship Program is a cost-sharing program between the OAS and the offering Institution.

OAS Professional Development Scholarships are financed as follows:

### For Onsite Courses

OAS	Offering Institution	Scholarship Recipient
<p>OAS provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Roundtrip ticket (up to US\$ 1,350) for courses in Member States</li><li>• Roundtrip ticket (up to US\$1,500) for courses in any other country</li><li>• Targeted recruitment of candidates</li><li>• Monitoring of scholarship recipients</li></ul>	<p>May include but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• cost of registration</li><li>• tuition</li><li>• books and/or materials</li><li>• local transportation</li><li>• room and board, and;</li><li>• health and accident insurance coverage</li></ul>	<p>The sponsoring institution of the scholarship recipient or the scholarship recipient covers, where required, additional costs associated with in-transit expenses, i.e.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• room and board</li><li>• local transportation</li><li>• pocket money</li></ul>

### For Online Courses

OAS	Offering Institution	Scholarship Recipient
<p>Up to 50% of the cost of tuition</p>	<p>At least 50% of the cost of tuition</p>	<p>No contribution required</p>

## II. *Application Information:*

### Who can apply?

Regional and international organizations, public and private agencies, philanthropic and commercial institutions, institutes of higher learning in OAS member states, OAS Permanent Observers, States which are neither OAS member nor Observer State, and other areas of the OAS General Secretariat; all must have proven expertise in delivering professional development courses for at **least 5 years**.

### What courses are eligible?

All courses within the fields established in **Section I** that start between **April and November of 2018**.

Institutions can upload a maximum of 20 course proposals.

## Application Steps:

STEP 1
<p>SCAN all required documents into one single black and white PDF file, no larger than 5MB, making sure that all documents are legible. Upload the PDF file to your online application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Most recent evaluation of the course or program</li><li>• Short summary of program (max. 1 page)</li><li>• Accreditation of your institution and/or proof of official registry</li><li>• Proof of 5 years of experience in delivering Professional Development courses</li></ul> <p><b>The OAS will not consider incomplete course proposals.</b></p>
STEP 2
<p>After submitting the online application, you will receive a confirmation email which contains your application in PDF format.</p> <p>If you do not receive the confirmation email, after submitting your online application, please send an email to: <a href="mailto:pdsp@oas.org">pdsp@oas.org</a></p>

## [ONLINE APPLICATION](#)

### Deadline:

**November 27th, 2017**

### Course Selection

The courses offered shall be selected based on the following criteria:

1. Areas of work of SEDI;
2. Training priorities of the OAS member states;
3. Credentials of the host institution and of the program experts;
4. Level of demand for the course;
5. Course evaluation in those instances where the course has been previously selected for OAS scholarships;
6. Geographic and linguistic distribution among offering institutions; and
7. Duration and cost-benefit of the course.

### *III. [General Provisions for selected Courses:](#)*

In accordance with the [Manual of Procedures for the Scholarship and Training Programs of the OAS](#), after the Professional Development Course Selection Committee has selected the courses for the 2018 PDSP cycle, the OAS will:

1. Contact selected institutions for the signing of a cooperation agreement (for new institutions) or a supplemental agreement (for institutions that already have a cooperation agreement with the GS/OAS in place);
2. Draft the scholarship announcement for review of the offering institution; and,
3. Publish and promote the scholarship announcements through its vast network, inviting eligible candidates to compete for the respective training and scholarship opportunities.

### **Selection of Scholarship Awardees**

Professional Development scholarships are awarded through a competitive selection by an Ad-Hoc Professional Development Scholarship Selection Committee. This Committee will be composed of the coordinator of the Offering Institution, as well as two professionals of the GS/OAS. The offering institution may be represented by a staff member of the Permanent Mission of the OAS member state in which the offering institution is located, if the offering institution so agrees in writing.

The OAS scholarships shall be granted based on the following criteria:

1. Areas of work of SEDI;
2. Training priorities of member states;
3. Merits and overall credentials of the candidate, including his/her academic and professional background;
4. Financial need of the candidate;
5. An extensive and equitable geographic distribution for the benefit of all member states that takes into account the greater needs of the smaller and relatively less developed economies.

#### **IV. Contact Information:**

Should you have any questions, please contact **Mrs. Carmen Loredó** of the Professional Development Program at e-mail address: [cloredo@oas.org](mailto:cloredo@oas.org)