



OAS | Scholarships

Professional Development Scholarship Program

Call to Institutions to Offer Scholarships for Professional Development Courses

For courses that begin from March to June 2022

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) open its annual Call for institutions to participate in its **Professional Development Scholarship Program (PDSP)**.

Granting training and educational opportunities help to address the development needs of OAS member states by providing a vital investment in human capital. Currently, the OAS is prioritizing knowledge that aim to strengthen the labor market through best practices in a variety of disciplines in response to a post-COVID reality. Participants implement the expertise 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 should focus on the following areas of action:

1. **Education** *(Priority will be given to courses that seek to strengthen skills in the areas of ICTs, teacher training and virtual or distance education)*
2. **Social Development and Creation of Productive Employment** *(Priority will be given to Post-Covid business recovery and resilience training courses*)*
3. **Economic Diversification and Integration, Trade Liberalization and Market Access** *(Priority will be given to courses that support economic growth, particularly with regard to micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises - MSMEs*)*
4. **Scientific Development and Exchange and Transfer of Technology** *(Priority will be given to courses that support science, technology and innovation *)*

5. **Strengthening of Democratic Institutions** (*Priority will be given to courses that seek to strengthen skills in civic values, conflict resolution, negotiation and mediation*)
6. **Sustainable Development of Tourism** (*Priority will be given to courses that support building capacity to design and implement contingency plans and business continuity plans for small Post-Covid tourism businesses **)
7. **Sustainable Development and the Environment** (*Priority will be given to courses that seek to strengthen staff capacities in accordance with the Inter-American Program for Sustainable Development 2016-2021 ([PIDS](#)) in a Post-Covid context*); and
8. **Culture** (*Priority will be given to courses that seek to strengthen personnel capacities with an orientation of culture to creative industries linked to SMEs * in a Post-Covid context*)

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 for online courses as follows:

Online Courses



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**.
- Courses that begin between **March and June of 2022**.
- Courses that **do not exceed one (1) year** of study and are duly **recognized**.

- Courses taught in any of the four (4) official languages of the OAS: English, Spanish, Portuguese and French. Courses taught in languages other than Spanish will have priority.

Institutions can upload a maximum of 5 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">- Most recent evaluation of the course- Brief summary of course content, objectives and methodology of the course (max. 1 page)- Accreditation of the institution and/or proof of official registry- Proof of 5 years of experience delivering Professional Development courses <p>The OAS will only consider COMPLETE applicatons.</p>

STEP 2
<p>Complete the <u>ONLINE APPLICATION</u></p>

STEP 3
<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: <u>scholarships@oas.org</u></p>

Course Proposal Application Deadline:

October 8, 2021

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 Procedure](#) for the Scholarship and Training Programs of the OAS, after the Professional Development Course Selection Committee has selected the courses corresponding to the PDSP Call for Course selection , the OAS will:

1. Contact selected institutions for the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the OAS;
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. The Committee is composed of the coordinator of the Offering Institution, as well as two professionals of the GS/OAS.

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:

For questions, please contact the Professional Development Scholarship Program by email at: scholarships@oas.org

-
- OEA/Ser.W CIDI/doc.309/21 rev.1 Work Plan of the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI)