



# OAS – GOVERNMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

2017 Scholarship Opportunity for Citizens of The Bahamas



**Scholarship Application Deadline: May 31, 2017**

The General Secretariat of the [Organization of American States](#) (GS/OAS), through the Department of Human Development, Education and Employment (DHDEE), and the Government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, through the OAS Partnerships Program for Education and Training (PAEC), are offering partial scholarships to qualified applicants of The Bahamas to participate in certificates, undergraduate and graduate degree programs in the United States and Canada.

## ▼ SCHOLARSHIP OVERVIEW

<b>PROGRAMS:</b>	Certificate, undergraduate and graduate degree programs as listed in Annex I below.
<b>MODALITY:</b>	Onsite in the United States and Canada as listed in Annex I
<b>LANGUAGE:</b>	English
<b>DURATION:</b>	1 - 4 years
<b>CALENDER:</b>	<b>Scholarship Application Deadline: May 31, 2017</b>
<b>BENEFITS:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A grant of USD \$7,500 to the top ranked candidates from the Government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas to help defray program expenses.</li> <li>• A one-time subsistence allowance of USD \$1,000 to the top ranked candidates from the OAS to help defray cost of living expenses.</li> <li>• Various tuition waivers from participating partner institutions in the United States and Canada as listed in Annex I below.</li> </ul>



## ▼ ABOUT THE PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

The OAS General Secretariat (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), the 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 as a whole.

## ▼ PARTICIPATING PARTNER INSTITUTIONS / ADMISSION PROCESS

### 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	State	Contact Person	Contact Email
1	<a href="#">Midwestern State University</a>	Texas	Randy Glean	<a href="mailto:randy.glean@mwsu.edu">randy.glean@mwsu.edu</a>
2	<a href="#">Colorado State University</a>	Colorado	Christy Eylar	<a href="mailto:Christy.Eylar@ColoState.EDU">Christy.Eylar@ColoState.EDU</a>
3	<a href="#">Western Illinois University</a>	Illinois	Christie Carmack	<a href="mailto:ca-carmack@wiu.edu">ca-carmack@wiu.edu</a>
4	<a href="#">American University</a>	Washington D.C.	Jia Jiang	<a href="mailto:jiang@american.edu">jiang@american.edu</a>
5	<a href="#">Willamette University MBA</a>	Oregon	Aimee Akimoff	<a href="mailto:aakimoff@willamette.edu">aakimoff@willamette.edu</a>
6	<a href="#">University of Florida</a>	Florida	Emilia Hodge	<a href="mailto:ehodge@aa.ufl.edu">ehodge@aa.ufl.edu</a>
7	<a href="#">Syracuse University</a>	New York	Margaret E. Lane	<a href="mailto:melane02@maxwell.syr.edu">melane02@maxwell.syr.edu</a>
8	<a href="#">University of South Florida</a>	Florida)	Matthew Barrett	<a href="mailto:mbarrett3@usf.edu">mbarrett3@usf.edu</a>
			Sean Gilmore	<a href="mailto:gilmore@usf.edu">gilmore@usf.edu</a>

⊗ *Please note that the above list of participating partner institutions in the United States is subject to be changed pending the signing of formal agreement with each institution.*

#	Canadian Institutions	Province	Contact Person	Contact Email
1	<a href="#">University of Western Ontario</a>	Ontario	Carolyn Ford, Undergraduate	<a href="mailto:cford28@uwo.ca">cford28@uwo.ca</a>
			Olga Paladi, Graduate	<a href="mailto:opaladi@uwo.ca">opaladi@uwo.ca</a>

⊗ *Please note that scholarship benefits are being negotiated with the above Canadian partner institution.*



General Admission Guidelines:

- ✓ Applicants must apply for admission to the areas and levels of study as indicated per participating partner institution in Annex I below.
- ✓ Applicants are encouraged to apply for admission to up to three different participating partner institutions to increase your chances of being granted admission and selected for the scholarship.
- ✓ Applicants should contact the persons in the table above for more information on the admission process and application deadlines as the deadlines for admission might be extended for OAS applicants. Please be guided accordingly.
- ✓ The Western Illinois University has agreed to waive the application fee for admission Bahamian applicants participating in this Program.
- ✓ In most cases, the scholarship offers by the participating partner institutions are available to current and new Bahamian students effective Fall 2017.

## ▼ SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

<b>SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A grant of USD \$7,500 to the top ranked candidates from the Government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas to help defray the program expenses.</li> <li>• A one-time subsistence allowance of USD \$1,000 to the top ranked candidates from the OAS to help defray the cost of living expenses.</li> <li>• Various tuition waivers from participating partner institutions in the United States and Canada as listed in the Annex I.</li> </ul>
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- ✓ Scholarship benefits from participating partner institutions 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.

## ▼ EXPENSES NOT COVERED BY THIS SCHOLARSHIP

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

<b>FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⊗ Remaining tuition and fees</li> <li>⊗ Immigration and visa fees;</li> <li>⊗ Research expenses;</li> <li>⊗ Study materials;</li> <li>⊗ Living expenses - housing, meals, health insurance and personal expenses;</li> <li>⊗ Round trip airfare; and</li> <li>⊗ Any additional fees not included in the OAS-GOB Scholarship offer.</li> </ul>
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- ✓ The cost of tuition and fees is expected to increase each year.



## ▼ ELIGIBILITY

To be considered for this scholarship opportunity, applicants must:

- ✓ Provide Admission letter (s) or proof of enrollment:
  - a. Students applying for admission to begin Fall 2017 may submit up to three (3) admission letters to three different participating partner institutions or
  - b. Students who are currently enrolled in one of the participating partner institutions must submit proof of enrollment.
- ✓ Submit a complete scholarship application online with all required supporting documents
- ✓ Be a citizen of The Bahamas.

The following applicants are ineligible:

- ⊗ Current OAS scholarship holders
- ⊗ GS/OAS staff and their immediate relatives or GS/OAS consultants
- ⊗ 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 whose essays portray the highest potential for impact upon return to their countries of origin; and
- ✓ Gender diversity.

## ▼ SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS

### Step 1 > Gather required supporting documents

To apply for an OAS – GOB scholarship, applicants must fill out the OAS online application form and attach the following required supporting documents:

- ✓ Government issued ID – scan the photo of [passport page](#) that contains the candidate's full name, date of birth, and country of citizenship.
- ✓ Admission letter (s):
  - a. Students applying for admission to begin Fall 2017 may submit up to three (3) admission letters to three different participating partner institutions or
  - b. Students who are currently enrolled in one of the participating partner institutions must submit proof of enrollment.



- ✓ [Transcript](#) or record of grades – copy of High School transcript or associate’s degree transcript or transcript from current institution. Transcripts must be translated by a sworn translator if English is not the original language of the transcript.
- ✓ Certificate or Diploma – copy of high school certificate or associate’s degree diploma or letter of enrollment from current institution.
- ✓ Two (2) Recommendation Letters – one of the [recommendation letter](#)s should be provided by a university professor and the other should be provided by 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.
- ✓ Essays – applicants are required to write and include two (2) essays as part of the OAS-GOB online application form and must be written in English. Both essays should be no longer than 2 pages.

<p><b>Essay No. 1</b></p> <p>Describe how acquiring this academic degree will directly impact and enhance your professional skills in your current job position or future career.</p>	<p><b>Essay No. 2</b></p> <p>Explain how you intend to apply the acquired knowledge and experience in the specific field of study that you will pursue to the development of your country or region.</p>
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- ✓ Curriculum vitae – in English and no specific format is required. Do not include copies of diplomas, certificates or awards; only include text.
- ✓ Proof of Additional Funds – proof that you have **sufficient funds** to cover remaining tuition and fees and other costs not covered by the scholarship by including **one, or a combination**, of the following documents with your scholarship application:
  - 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.
- Applicants can also apply for the [Rowe Fund](#) 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 US by awarding **interest-free loans** of up to US\$15,000 dollars.

## ▼ GENERAL OAS APPLICATION GUIDELINES:

- ✓ All documents must be in English or officially translated to English by a certified translator.
- ✓ The recommendation letters provided for admission consideration to the University can be used for scholarship consideration. However, if you choose to provide new recommendation letters directly to the OAS, the letters should be addressed to the OAS Scholarship and Training Programs, Department of Human Development, Education and Employment.



- ✓ Applicants must select one university and one level of study in the OAS application form but can upload up to three (3) admission letters from three different participating institutions in the Program as part of the required supporting documents.

## Step 2 > Apply online

- ✓ Applicants must complete and submit the **OAS-GOB Online scholarship Application Form**, and upload all the required supporting documents listed above and both essays in **one (1) single PDF file (no larger than 5MB)**.
- ✓ Applicants must select the preferred participating partner institution and one level of study in the scholarship application form.
- ✓ If the file is larger than 5MB, you will not be able to submit the complete online application. The application system does not allow for more than one document to be uploaded at the same time. Do not include any additional documents besides those indicated above.

[Click here for the Online Scholarship Application Form](#)

✓ **ONLY COMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

## ▼ SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION PROCESS:

**Selection Committee** The Government of The Bahamas and the OAS will select the scholarship awardees based on the [criteria](#) listed above. The names of the scholarship awardees will be published on the scholarship websites of the OAS and the Government of The Bahamas.

**Notification of selected candidates** The OAS and the Government of The Bahamas will contact selected candidates by email with the scholarship offer and instructions for the scholarship acceptance form. 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."



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for more people



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- ✓ 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 s/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.

## ▼ CONTACT INFORMATION:

For questions about this scholarship opportunity:

- ✓ Questions related to the OAS scholarship application form, should be sent to [scholarships@oas.org](mailto:scholarships@oas.org)
- ✓ Questions related to the Government of The Bahamas Scholarship, please contact Mr. Reginald Saunders at [scholarships@bahamas.gov.bs](mailto:scholarships@bahamas.gov.bs)

## ▼ FOR MORE INFORMATION:



[www.oas.org/scholarships](http://www.oas.org/scholarships)



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## ANNEX I: List of Programs, Participating Partner Institutions and Scholarship Offers

*Please note that the list of participating partner institutions and the scholarship benefits are subject to be changed pending the signing of a formal agreement with each partner institution.*

#	Partner Institution	Country (State or Province)	Levels and Areas of Study	Scholarship Benefits with Estimated Cost
1	Midwestern State University	United States (Texas)	<p><b>1. Undergraduate</b> Dental Hygiene, Geosciences, Mechanical Engineering, Political Science, Respiratory Care, Computer science</p> <p><b>2. Graduate – Master’s</b> Geosciences, Radiologic Technology, MBA, Computer Science, Training and Development, Psychology, Political Science</p>	<p>Scholarship incentive includes:</p> <p>Tuition for Fall &amp; Spring: \$9,260 Room and Board: 3,500 Insurance: 2,000 Books &amp; Misc.: 2,000 Total Estimated Cost of \$16,760 per year</p>
2	Colorado State University	United States (Colorado)	<p><b>1. Undergraduate</b> 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</p> <p><b>2. Graduate (Ph.D. and Master’s)</b> 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 &amp; Pest Management; Psychology; Horticulture; Political Science (Public Policy and Administration)</p> <p><b>3. Master’s;</b> 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</p>	<p>1/3 tuition waiver:</p> <p>Expected yearly undergraduate tuition: \$17,340</p> <p>1/3 tuition waiver</p> <p>Expected yearly graduate tuition \$23,603.20</p>



3	Western Illinois University	United States (Illinois)	<p><b>1. Undergraduate</b> Agriculture, Anthropology, Construction Management, Engineering (Civil, Robotics, Industrial, Electrical, Mechanical), Fire Protection Services, Foreign Languages, Cultures, Hospitality Management, Political Sciences, Recreation, Park and Tourism Administration, Youth Development, Spanish Teacher Education, Geography, Computer Science, Psychology</p>	<p>Undergraduate tuition with International Commitment Scholarship: \$13,330</p> <p>The application fee for admission is waived for applicants participating in this Program.</p>
			<p><b>2. Graduate – Master’s</b> Political Sciences, Recreation, Park and Tourism Administration, Museum Studies, Geographic Information Systems, MBA, Computer Science, Psychology</p>	<p>Graduate with International Commitment Scholarship: \$10,960</p> <p>The application fee for admission is waived for applicants participating in this Program.</p> <p>Western Commitment Scholarship – up to \$10,000 per year for new students</p>
4	American University	United States (Washington D.C.)	<p>AU’s School of International Service – Global Environmental Politics Program in Global Environmental Policy with options to specialize in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) water</li> <li>b) food/agriculture</li> <li>c) climate/energy</li> <li>d) environmental law/policy</li> <li>e) environmental peacebuilding</li> <li>f) urban ecology</li> <li>g) Development</li> </ul>	<p>50% tuition waiver</p> <p>Graduate tuition: \$14,211 (\$789.50 per credit)</p> <p>Pending confirmation of offer in May 2017. Subject to be changed.</p>
5	Willamette University	United States (Oregon)	Master of Business Administration (MBA) – Politics and Public Policy for Managers	<p>20%-100% tuition waiver</p> <p>\$0 - \$32,376 per year</p>
6	University of Florida	United States (Florida)	<p><b>1. Graduate</b> Agricultural Education and Communication, Agricultural and Biological Engineering, Agronomy, Animal Sciences, Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, Museum Studies, Fine Arts, Fire and Emergency Services, Architecture, Construction Management, Historic Preservation, Interior Design, Landscape Architecture, Urban and Regional Planning, Engineering (Biomedical, Civil, Computer, Electrical, Mechanical, Systems, Aerospace, Industrial, Materials, Environment, Agricultural and Biological, Biomedical, Chemical, Coastal and Oceanographic, Nuclear), Tourism, Natural Resource Recreation, Sustainable Development Practice</p>	Graduate In-state tuition: \$12,740 per year



7	Syracuse University	United States (New York)	<p><b>Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Executive Master of Public Administration</li> <li>Certificates: Public Administration, Leadership of International and Non-Government Organizations, E-Government Management and Leadership, Public Infrastructure Management and Leadership, Conflict Resolution, Health Services Management and Policy</li> </ol>	<p>35% tuition waiver</p> <p>Graduate tuition: \$29,133.00 per year</p> <p>Certificate Courses: \$11,653.20</p>
8	University of South Florida	United States (Florida)	<p><b>1. Undergraduate</b> Anthropology, Applied Sciences, Engineering (Chemical, Civil, Computer, Electrical), Foreign Language Education, Integrative Animal Biology, Social Sciences, Political Science</p>	Undergraduate In-state tuition; \$6,410 per year
			<p><b>2. Graduate</b> Ph.D./MA in Cultural Resource Management, Ph.D./MA in Heritage Studies, MA Architecture, Fine Arts, Engineering (Biomedical, Chemical, Civil Computer, Electrical, Environmental, Industrial, Mechanical) , Foreign Language Education, Library and Information Science, Linguistics, Marine Science, Political Science, PhD/MA in Psychology, PhD./MA in Social Work, Urban and Community Design, Urban and Regional Planning</p>	Graduate In-state tuition: \$10,428 per year
9	University of Western Ontario	Canada (Ontario)	<p><b>1. Undergraduate degrees</b></p>	Incoming Year 1 students automatically considered for admissions scholarships in amounts of CAD \$1K, \$2K or up to \$10K, based on final academic averages. Additional categories of award are pending approval
			<p><b>2. Ph.D. and Master's; Non-professional degrees only:</b> Anthropology, Visual Arts, Engineering (Design and Manufacturing), Library &amp; Information Science, Psychology</p>	<p><u>For non-professional degrees only</u></p> <p>Ph.D. Full tuition and at least \$12,000 per year</p>
			<p><b>3. Master's; Non-professional degrees only:</b> Environment and Sustainability, Linguistics, Public Administration</p>	Master's: 100% tuition waiver