



OAS | Scholarships

2025 SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

International
Institute of
Social Studies



OAS | Scholarships

> Study at ISS in The Hague

Scholarship opportunity

to pursue a Master of Arts in

Development Studies

Erasmus University Rotterdam



▼ 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), 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.

Since 2009, [the International Institute of Social Studies](#) is a University Institute of Erasmus University Rotterdam located in The Hague.

- The International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) is an international graduate school of policy-oriented critical social science. It brings together students, teachers and researchers from the Global South and the North in a European environment.
- Established in 1952 by Dutch universities and the Netherlands Ministry of Education, the ISS is involved in research, education and public service in the field of development studies and equitable international cooperation.
- ISS is located in The Hague, also referred to as ‘City of Justice and Peace’ or the ‘Legal Capital of the World’ because of the presence of various prominent international judicial organizations, including the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court.
- The Hague has a rich cultural life, is close to nice beaches, and has good public transport connections for traveling in and beyond the Netherlands.

▼ ACHIEVEMENTS AND INITIATIVES

For nine years already the OAS and ISS join forces to offer students from OAS member states a scholarship for the MA in Development Studies at ISS. Each year many students applied for these scholarships and we have been able to support over 30 students so far.

▼ TESTIMONIALS FROM CURRENT STUDENTS

“Receiving the OAS scholarship meant a tremendous opportunity for both personal and professional growth. It signifies recognition of my past efforts and potential for future contributions to sustainable development” Nicolas

“Without this scholarship, I would not be able to afford the ISS tuition fee. I am very grateful for the opportunity to have it and to be part of the ISS community” María

▼ SCHOLARSHIP OVERVIEW

PROGRAM:	Master of Arts in Development Studies with a major in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agrarian, Food and Environmental Studies• Economics of Development• Governance and Development Policy• Human Rights, Gender and Conflict Studies: Social Justice Perspectives• Social Policy for Development• Governance of Migration and Diversity Track
MODALITY:	Onsite in the Netherlands
LANGUAGE:	English
DURATION:	15.5 months
DEADLINE:	Admission through ISS and scholarship application: May 30, 2025
START DATE:	September 1, 2025
END DATE:	December 18, 2026
BENEFITS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The ISS shall provide a one-time tuition waiver of €4,000• The OAS shall cover a one-time tuition allowance of USD \$4,000 to the selected Scholarship Recipients to help defray the cost of tuition only in the first year of study.

▼ THE UNIVERSITY'S ADMISSION INFORMATION

If you are interested in applying for an OAS–ISS fellowship, you must first be admitted unconditionally to the ISS MA in Development Studies.

Student/Applicant's profiles

Detailed information about the program and profiles of students is available through the following link: <https://www.iss.nl/en/education/ma-development-studies>

Admission Process:

Before applying for admission, you are encouraged to read the program description and ensure that the study area fulfills your expectations and interests. For information about the Institute's application process for this Program, please visit the Institute's website.

http://www.iss.nl/prospective_students/apply_to_iss/

University Contact Information:

Should the ISS website not provide answers to queries you have, you can contact the Admission Office at admission@iss.nl for more information about the admission process.

▼ SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply for an OAS–ISS scholarship, applicants must first be admitted unconditionally to the ISS programme.

- ✓ Check the admission requirements here: <https://www.iss.nl/en/prospective-students/ma-academic-requirements>
- ✓ Apply to the programme at: <https://www.iss.nl/en/education/ma-development-studies/apply-iss>
- ✓ You application must be accompanied by:
 1. Academic transcripts including an explanation of the grading system and certified photocopies of degrees and university degrees (both original and certified translation if the documents are not in English).
 2. A statement of proficiency in English.
 3. Two letters of reference from persons in a position to judge your professional and/or academic abilities; at least one of these references should be provided by the most recent academic institute attended by the applicant.
 4. A motivation statement - *This academic motivation statement (approximately 1000 words) should consist of a (short) authentic introduction about yourself, your education and work experience. It should also explain why you choose the ISS, the specific Major for which you apply and how all of this relates to your current job and your objectives for the future.*
- ✓ ISS will evaluate all complete applications against the admission criteria.
- ✓ Once admitted unconditionally, you should send an email to the ISS admission office (admission@iss.nl) indicating that you want to apply for the OAS–ISS scholarship.
- Only applicants who have been admitted to the ISS program will be allowed to apply for the OAS–ISS scholarship.

▼ EXPENSES NOT COVERED BY THE SCHOLARSHIP

Expenses not covered by the scholarship are:

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

- ✓ Remaining cost of tuition fees;
- ✓ Registration fee;
- ✓ Immigration fees (including Schengen visa);
- ✓ Research expenses;
- ✓ Study visit;
- ✓ Books and study materials;
- ✓ Health insurance (including administration costs);
- ✓ Living expenses;
- ✓ Local transportation;
- ✓ Round trip airfare;
- ✓ Any additional costs and fees not included in the scholarship offer.

An estimate of the cost of studying at the ISS can be found here: <https://www.iss.nl/en/prospective-students/fees-and-costs>

- ✓ The additional expenses listed above shall be the exclusive responsibility of the scholarship recipients.
- ✓ Scholarship benefits are subject to academic performance. In order to receive these benefits, the scholarshipholder should not be reported for unsatisfactory academic performance due to absences or failing courses.

▼ ELIGIBILITY

To be considered for this scholarship opportunity, an applicant must:

- ✓ Provide an unconditional admission letter from ISS;
- ✓ Be a citizen and/or permanent legal resident of any active [OAS member state](#).
 - *Applicants from **Argentina** must fill out a required form through the following link; <http://www.oas.org/en/scholarships/PAEC/2018/NOTA-SOLICITUD-DGCIN-2017.doc> and send it to the [National Liaison Office \(ONE\)](#) in Argentina.*

The following applicants are ineligible:

- ⊗ Current OAS scholarship recipients;
- ⊗ GS/OAS staff and their immediate relatives or GS/OAS consultants; and
- ⊗ 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;
- ✓ Geographical distribution of the applicants, taking into account the greater needs of the smaller and relatively less developed economies;
- ✓ Applicants whose motivation statement portray the highest potential for impact upon return to their countries of origin; and
- ✓ Gender diversity.

▼ SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION PROCESS

Selection Committee The ISS and the OAS will select the scholarship recipients, based on the [criteria](#) listed above. The names of the scholarship recipients will be published in June/July at www.oas.org/scholarships.

Notification of selected candidates The OAS 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 RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

- ✓ The scholarship will be formally awarded only after the selected awardees will have signed an OAS/ISS Acceptance Form, in which the awardees formally accept the scholarship and agree to its terms and conditions.
- ✓ Scholarship recipients shall:
 - 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 (updates of) academic guidelines and admission requirements of ISS.
 - Comply with the provisions indicated in the document entitled “Financial responsibilities of scholarship recipients.”
 - Commit to return 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. Upon failure to comply with this commitment, the GS/OAS and/or the ISS may seek reimbursement for the total value of the scholarship awarded.
- ✓ The scholarship can be declined by the scholarship recipient before the starting date of the program without financial penalties. However, if the scholarship is declined after that date, without proof of force majeure, the OAS and ISS may require the recipient to reimburse all funding granted to her/him.

▼ SCHOLARSHIP CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions about this scholarship opportunity should be sent to scholarships@oas.org with the subject “OAS-ISS Scholarship Program”.

▼ FOR MORE INFORMATION



www.oas.org/scholarships



/oasscholarships



@OASscholarships

Note: The General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (GS/OAS) reserves the right to cancel this scholarship announcement at any time during the process. The GS/OAS and its staff will not be responsible for any action that derives from the information in this announcement.