

Frequently Asked Questions

How long does the application/selection process last?

Typically, the application process opens in December and closes in April. Consult your National Liaison Office (ONE) for specific deadlines which vary from country to country. Final selection and notification of awards does not take place until the following November, once the OAS program budget for the coming year has been finalized.

Am I guaranteed to receive \$30,000US per year if I am awarded an OAS Academic Scholarship?

No. The \$30,000 US is the maximum available funding for any OAS Regular Program beneficiary but OAS policy dictates that there are fixed dollar limits on how much funding can be dispersed for all specific benefits (such as subsistence, study materials, etc).

Can I use this scholarship for a degree program offered by an institution in my country of citizenship or permanent residence (sponsor country)?

No. The Regular Program requires beneficiaries to study towards degrees to be issued by institutions outside of their sponsor country.

Can I use this scholarship to study in a country that is not an OAS Member State?

No. The Regular Program only supports studies in universities and higher education institutions in the OAS Member States.

Can I stay in my country if pursue an online degree program?

Yes. Those who are admitted to an online degree program are expected to pursue their studies in their sponsor country.

If my online degree program involves brief onsite sessions abroad, will the scholarship cover this expense?

The OAS will cover the cost of international travel, if trips are a mandatory part of the online degree program curriculum. This benefit applies on a case by case basis.

What fields of study does the Regular Program support?

This program supports the human capacity-building efforts of the OAS Member States in the areas of action and priorities established in the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Development of the Permanent Executive Committee of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development. As part of the application process, all applicants are asked to link their desired field and topic of study with specific priorities and areas of action defined in the Strategic Plan.

What fields of study are not supported by the Regular Program?

This program does not allow for scholarships to be granted for study in either the medical sciences or for introductory language studies.

What if the ONE requests application requirements that are additional to those required by the OAS?

Sometimes the ONE will set requirements additional to those required by the OAS. In these cases the ONE's requests must be followed.

If I have already begun my study program and I am awarded an OAS scholarship afterward, can the scholarship cover any of my study costs retroactively?

No. If awarded, the scholarship can never be used to pay for any cost incurred prior to the period for which the scholarship becomes active.

If I have received a Regular Program scholarship in the past, how long must I wait to be eligible to apply for another one?

A beneficiary must complete his or her obligation to return to the sponsoring country for at least 2 years after the completion of the program. After these two years, the beneficiary will return to eligibility for a new Regular Program scholarship.

What are the document submission deadlines?

For the Regular Program, deadlines are determined independently by each Member State National Liaison Office (ONE). Please contact the ONE for more information.

Can I use this scholarship for study outside of the OAS Member States?

No. Regular Program scholarships can only be used for study in degree programs offered by institutions within the OAS Member States always with the exception of those within the sponsor country of the beneficiary.

During the application process can I select whether I would like to study in an onsite or online program?

Yes. Applicants must decide on their application form whether they prefer placement in an onsite program or an online program.

What benefits are included in this scholarship?

Regular Program funding can include the following benefits: tuition, partial monthly subsistence, yearly stipend for books or study materials, health insurance, and international round-trip airfare to a maximum of US\$ 30,000 per academic year.

Is supplementary funding available for those who wish to travel abroad to study with their spouse or family?

No. The scholarship does not include any type of benefits for the applicant's spouse or family.

What happens if I receive another scholarship in addition to my Regular Program scholarship?

The OAS will provide supplementary funding up to the level that would have been granted through the OAS scholarship alone. When a beneficiary receives another scholarship that covers equal or greater amounts of the same types of benefits as the OAS scholarship, the beneficiary will not receive any OAS benefits.

If I enroll in a two-year program that includes an extended break in the middle of the program, will the OAS pay for my flight to return home for the break?

No. The OAS will cover the cost of only one round-trip flight between the sponsor country of the beneficiary and the country of study.

Can I stay in the country of study after I finished my program?

No. OAS Scholarship's beneficiaries must return to their sponsoring country upon completing their studies and reside there for a two year period.

What is LASPAU?

LASPAU is a Third-Party Administrator of the OAS Academic Scholarship Program. LASPAU monitors the progress of each individual scholarship recipient once they have been awarded a scholarship by the OAS and issues the periodic disbursements of scholarship benefits.