

DAAD Scholarship Programme for Ghana

1. Research Grants For Doctoral Candidates and Young Academics and Scientists
2. Research Grants for Doctoral Candidates within the "Sandwich Model"
3. Research Grants Awarded to Support Extended Medical Continuing Education and Training (not Medical Specialisation)
4. Re-invitation Programme for Former Scholarship Holders
5. Long-Term and Short-Term Teaching Assignments
6. Study Visits to Germany for Groups of Foreign Students
7. Postgraduate Courses for Professionals in Developing Countries

Please note:

All information contained in this brochure subject to confirmation

1. Research Grants For Doctoral Candidates and Young Academics and Scientists

Objective

Research grants provide young foreign academics and scientists with an opportunity to carry out a research project at a German higher education institution or non–university research institute.

Research grants can be used to carry out

1. research projects at a German higher education institution for the purpose of gaining a doctorate in the home country,
2. research projects at a German university for the purpose of gaining a doctorate in Germany,
3. research projects or continuing education and training, but without aiming for a formal degree/qualification.

Duration

The length of the grant is set by the grant committee at the selection session. Depending on the project in question and on the applicant's work schedule, grants can be paid generally for between one and ten months, in the case of full doctoral programmes in Germany for up to three years, and in exceptions for up to a maximum of four years.

Support can only be provided for the completion of a full doctoral programme in Germany when special support policy reasons exist. Such reasons include, for example, the lack of comparable research or academic supervision opportunities in the home country or when the doctoral topic requires several years of research in Germany.

Support for full doctoral programmes in Germany is based on a programme length of three years; if foreign graduates first have to qualify for admission to a doctoral programme, then grants can be awarded for a period of four years. Even when support has been awarded for a full doctoral programme, that award will initially be limited to a maximum of one year. Extensions then depend on whether or not the evaluation finds the previous award period to have been successfully completed.

Requirements

Applications for DAAD research grants are open to excellently–qualified university graduates who hold a Bachelor's Degree with at least Second Class, Upper Division, plus a Master's degree at the time they apply for the grant–supported research. It is required that doctoral candidates wishing to take a doctorate/PhD in their home country will already have been admitted to an appropriate course at their home university.

The application papers must generally include written confirmation of academic supervision by a professor in Germany and expressly refer to the applicant's project, thereby confirming that the host institute will provide a workplace. If the applicant is planning to complete a doctorate at the German host university, the letter of confirmation must come from the academic supervisor (Doktorvater/Doktormutter) for the applicant's doctoral programme/thesis.

Besides previous study achievements, the most important selection criterion is a convincing and well-planned research or continuing education and training project to be completed during the stay in Germany and which has been co-ordinated and agreed with an academic supervisor at the chosen German host institute.

German language skills are generally required, although the required level also depends on the applicant's project and topic, as well as on the available opportunities for learning German in the applicant's home country. In the natural sciences and in engineering disciplines, in particular, and when English is spoken at the host institute, proof of good English language skills may also be accepted. The DAAD decides on a case-by-case basis whether the applicant can attend a German language course before beginning the research grant (free of charge for the award holder). This option is only available for research grants lasting more than six months.

The award of DAAD research grants for doctoral candidates and young academics and scientists is subject to an age limit for applicants of 32.

Applicants who have already been in Germany for more than two years when the research grant begins cannot be considered.

Application procedure

Detailed information on what documents need to be submitted and application forms are available via the DAAD Information Centre Accra; email: daadghana@web.de

The DAAD will not consider incomplete applications; applications must not be sent directly to the DAAD head office in Bonn but must be delivered to the German Embassy, Accra (German Embassy, P.O. Box 1757, Accra).

All applications for the year 2005 must be submitted to the German Embassy by 15th October 2004.

2. Research Grants for Doctoral Candidates within the "Sandwich Model"

Objective

Within the academic funding schemes of numerous development countries, training and further education of future and young university teachers is given special priority. Besides specialisation and increasing previously gained knowledge, students very often strive for a PhD or doctorate degree as frequently required according to the regulations ruling university careers in their home country. Even in cases where PhD studies would be possible in the student's home country, a doctorate degree from an industrial nation is often preferred for reasons of prestige. PhD studies abroad, however, carry with them risks: of alienation connected with very long study courses, loss of originally reserved lecturing posts at the home university, and finally the risk of temptation to settle in the host country.

In an effort to minimize these risks, the DAAD has developed the scheme of co-operative PhD funding (Sandwich-Scholarships) for nationals of developing countries whose universities offer doctorates. Whereas conventional scholarships for doctorate or PhD studies assume that a scholarship holder will stay at a German institution of higher education for several consecutive years, the "Sandwich Scheme" described hereafter is a flexible multi-phase funding programme. Within the Sandwich Scheme, PhD students carry out their research and studies alternately in their home country and in Germany, following a schedule set in advance and under continuous supervision by a German academic. The doctorate is obtained at the homeland university.

Procedure

This means the procedure can be as follows:

- the German university lecturer/professor travels to the homeland of the future doctoral candidate to draw up a joint protocol signed by both the local and the German supervisor, which details the dissertation subject, the planned work measures, and their duration,
- preparatory studies and research for the PhD thesis in the home country (data collection and field research) without DAAD funding,
- studies and research at a German institution of higher education (1 – max. 2 years),
- if necessary, visit by the foreign academic supervisor and co-advisor at the German institution (progress control, consolidation of institutional contacts)
- completion of the thesis in the home country (without DAAD funding)
- visit of the German supervisor to the home country of the PhD student (last corrections and participation at the viva as external examiner)

The main characteristic of this Sandwich Scheme is the individually tailor-made PhD programme schedule set with the greatest flexibility possible regarding the beginning and duration of each individual funding phase.

Requirements

Eligibility, application forms and documents for this programme are the same as for research grants for doctoral candidates and young academics and scientists, which means applicants need to hold a Bachelor's Degree with at least Second Class, Upper Division, plus a Master's degree at the time they apply for the grant. The extensive and detailed research proposal must be accompanied by a work- and time schedule agreed upon by the academic advisors, both in the home country and in Germany. Applicants for funding within the Sandwich Scheme must be no more than 36 years of age when taking up the scholarship.

Application procedure

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All applications for the year 2005 must be submitted to the German Embassy by 15th October 2004.

3. Research Grants Awarded to Support Extended Medical Continuing Education

The DAAD does not support full courses of training for medical specialisation. Application for a scholarship to support medical continuing education and training lasting from one to a maximum of two years at German university clinics is open only to candidates who meet the following criteria.

Applicants must

- have completed at least 7 years of medical training with a university degree and must hold a licence to practise medicine in their home country (physicians/dentists from developing countries must prove that they have gained at least 3 years of professional practice after completing their medical/dental training);
- have commenced specialist medical training in their home country in a course which leads to a professional qualification;
- be studying or working at a university clinic in their home country at the time of application;
- intend to pursue a university career in their home country after completing the continuing education and training in Germany;
- have received confirmation of the provision of academic supervision and a study place from a German university clinic;
- be no older than 32 years of age when they commence the award-supported stay.

In order to be able to work in a German clinic, foreign physicians require a so-called "Permit for the Temporary Practice of Medicine" (Erlaubnis zur vorübergehenden Ausübung des ärztlichen Berufs), which the DAAD will obtain on behalf of its scholarship holders. Please note that this may take several weeks or even months!

Application procedure

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4. Re-invitation Programme for Former Scholarship Holders

Objective

The Re-invitation Programme helps the DAAD maintain contacts with its former one-year scholarship holders and with former scholarship holders who have studied in East Germany (GDR) for at least one year. Former scholarship holders meeting these requirements can apply for re-invitation to Germany to complete a research or work project at a state higher education institution or non-university research institute.

More than one invitation within the space of three years is not possible. Preference is given to applicants who have not had the opportunity of an extended study visit to the Federal Republic of Germany during the past three years.

Duration

Depending on the applicant's work schedule, the research stay will last between one and three months.

Requirements

Applicants must have returned to their homelands at least three years previously, be working in universities, research institutions, public administration, government ministries or industry, and submit a detailed research plan.

Applications should present as clear a picture as possible of the person and the qualifications of the academic. The most important selection criterion is a convincing and well-planned research project to be completed during the stay in Germany and which has been co-ordinated and agreed with an academic supervisor at the chosen German host institute. Written confirmation of the research co-operation, including express reference to the applicant's project, must be included with the application papers. The application must provide proof of a workplace being provided at the host institute.

Applications for invitations of foreign academics may be initiated by German academic institutions, the foreign missions of the Federal Republic of Germany, the DAAD or by the academics themselves.

Application procedure

Detailed information on what documents need to be submitted and application forms are available via the DAAD Information Centre Accra; email: daadghana@web.de

The DAAD will not consider incomplete applications; applications must not be sent directly to the DAAD head office in Bonn but must be delivered to the German Embassy, Accra (German Embassy, P.O. Box 1757, Accra).

5. Long–Term and Short–Term Teaching Assignments

Objective

The DAAD is able to assist foreign universities and institutions of higher education in the recruitment and placement of German academic teaching staff, and funds short–term as well as long–term teaching assignments.

The host university can invite a German university teacher (who should hold at least a PhD degree) to take over teaching duties either within the standard programmes or to offer special compact courses for postgraduate students and members of the academic staff. The guest lecturer should be able to cover a field of specialization which cannot or can temporarily not be offered by members of the host university. The German guest professor is supposed to teach a minimum of eight hours per week. Apart from teaching the short–term/long–term–lecturer can assist in the supervision of thesiswork for a Master or PhD degree. He or she can further on support research projects of students and members of staff, or joint research projects can be formulated.

The host university is expected to extend an invitation to a German university teacher. After receiving this invitation the German professor or lecturer will submit special application forms to DAAD as well as a CV, a publication list and a description of the planned courses. The host university will receive a job description form through the prospective German guest lecturer asking for information about the university and the respective faculty or department where the guest lecturer is going to teach. The complete application will be discussed and decided on by a committee of German university professors. As this committee meets only five times a year it is necessary to plan the guest professorship well in advance.

DAAD further expects a contribution of the host university which can either be a local salary, honorarium, accommodation or comparable benefits; DAAD pays a topping–up to the local salary and can contribute to the travel expenses if necessary.

Duration

The duration of a short–term teaching assignment is at least 4 weeks and can be extended up to 3 months. The duration of a long–term teaching assignment is at least 6 months and can be extended up to 5 years.

Application procedure

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The DAAD will not consider incomplete applications; applications must not be sent directly to the DAAD head office in Bonn but must be delivered to the German Embassy, Accra (German Embassy, P.O. Box 1757, Accra).

6. Study Visits to Germany for Foreign Groups of Students

Objective

The study visits programme aims to help foreign students visiting Germany under the guidance of a lecturer make contact in their specific academic field and gain knowledge of Germany, its people and language by undertaking visits, tours and discussions which provide them with an insight into academic, scientific, economic, political and cultural life in Germany. At the same time the programme aims to maintain and develop institutional contacts between German and foreign higher education institutions.

Visits and Value

Visits should be no shorter than seven days and no longer than twelve days. The DAAD will pay for board and lodging and for travel costs within Germany. The DAAD will further take out health, accident and personal liability insurance for the funded group. However, **the DAAD cannot pay any international travel costs.**

Requirements

Support can be provided for groups of university students (third semester or later) under the guidance of a lecturer. The number of participants must not be lower than 10 or higher than 15 persons.

Application procedure

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The DAAD will not consider incomplete applications; applications must not be sent directly to the DAAD head office in Bonn but must be delivered to the German Embassy, Accra (German Embassy, P.O. Box 1757, Accra).

7. Postgraduate Courses for Professionals in Developing Countries

Objective

The *German Academic Exchange Service* (DAAD) supports a range of specifically selected postgraduate courses at German Universities which aim at providing academically educated young professionals from developing countries with further specialised studies. At the end of the programmes participants can in most cases obtain an internationally recognised Master's degree.

The typical scholarship holder will come either from a public authority or state or private company in a developing country and as such be engaged in the planning and execution of projects with emphasis on development policy having a bearing on technological, economic or social areas.

Duration

Depending on the course between 12 and 24 months.

Requirements

Applicants must hold a good Bachelor's degree (at least second class upper) relevant to the postgraduate course and have at least two years of related professional experience. Thus, all applicants are requested to state their current work situation at the time of application and to submit a letter of reference from their current employer, guaranteeing employment after completion of the postgraduate course. The age limit is 36 years of age on commencement of scholarship (for certain courses 32).

Application procedure

Detailed information on selected courses, application procedures and forms are available from the DAAD Information Centre Accra; email: daadghana@web.de