

Ile-de-France Master's Scholarship

Foreign Students' Hosting Scholarship

Ready reference 2010

As part of its international mobility action, the Ile-de-France region is offering an individual financial aid entitled "Ile-de-France Master's Scholarship", aimed at enabling higher education institutions from the region to host foreign students during the 1st or the 2nd year of their Master's programme.

The number of scholarships is fixed according to quotas and specified each year during the regional budget vote.

The shortlist of candidates, apart from European Union nationals, will be made in the country of origin with the support of the diplomatic posts of the Ministry of External and European Affairs. Please note that submitting an application does not entitle you to a scholarship.

A regional awarding committee, chaired by the Vice-President of the Ile-de-France Regional Council, in charge of Higher Studies, Research and Scientific and Technological Innovation, is competent for the final selection of scholarship holders.

OVERVIEW OF ILE-DE-FRANCE MASTER'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

Eligible candidates

Nationality:

The Ile-de-France Master's Scholarship is open to students who are nationals of European Union nations and those of the following 16 nationalities:

- South African, Argentine, Brazilian, Canadian, Chilean, Hungarian, Indian, Lebanese, Malagasy, Malian, Moroccan, Mauritanian, Polish, Russian, Senegalese and Vietnamese.

Candidates holding dual citizenship, including French nationality, will not be priority.

This programme only concerns students arriving in France for the first time. Persons already in France at the time of application are not eligible.

Age:

There is no age limit for applying for the Ile-de-France Master's Scholarship.

For information, students pursuing a first degree, above 28 years of age, will not be entitled to specific "student" social security coverage.

Type and level of initial degree required:

At the time of submitting their applications, students should be enrolled:

- **in their first degree** course at the L3 or higher level.
- being pursued in a **higher education institution in their country of origin** (European Union, South Africa, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, India, Mali, Mauritania, Russia) **or the decentralised cooperation zone** of the Ile-de-France region (Montreal, Canada; Budapest, Hungary; Beirut, Libya, Antananarivo, Madagascar, Greater Casablanca, Morocco, Warsaw, Masovia Region, Poland; Dakar Region, Senegal, Hanoi, Vietnam).

Hosting institution and education plans in Ile-de-France:

At the time of submitting their application, candidates must have selected a maximum of two Ile-de-France higher education institutions at which they wish to pursue their Master's. Candidates applying for courses equivalent to a university "Diplôme supérieur" (DSU), inter-institution exchange, or studies in apprenticeship, alternation or refresher courses, are not eligible.

It is the students' sole responsibility to adhere to the deadlines, undertake all the necessary procedures for enrolment in the institution of their choice. Similar, they are solely responsible for completing all the administrative formalities pertaining to their departure to France.

Conditions governing the scholarship

General conditions:

Award of the Ile-de-France Master's Scholarship depends on the acceptance of all the following conditions:

- undertaking to pursue regularly the entire university course for which the candidate has been selected in the same educational institution;
- living in the single room (with bathrooms and kitchen on each floor) in the Cité universitaire internationale de Paris (CIUP), reserved and financed by the Ile-de-France Region, for the entire duration of their educational stay in Ile-de-France;
- taking up internships or research related to the academic programme, in Ile-de-France **as a priority**. All periods spent outside Ile-de-France will lead to a pro-rata reduction of the scholarship.
- arrival in France unaccompanied;
- undertaking to submit the evaluation report required at the end of the financed Master's programme, whatever be its outcome.

All these principles must be respected, without exception. Should any of these conditions be disregarded during the academic year, the Region reserves the right to withdraw all the benefits of the scholarship.

Amount:

The Regional grant for the entire period of stay is a lump sum of 10,500 Euros per student.

This includes:

- the rent for the CIUP room;
- student grant.

The payments will be made on a monthly basis, calculated with reference to the declared study period in France (For information, 368 Euros per month for those below 30 years and 476 Euros for those above 30 years during the academic year 2009-2010).

The Regional grant should suffice for meeting, in proper conditions, all the expenses related to completing studies in Ile-de-France. It should help in paying for local transport, food, and other needs. It also helps in paying for accommodation at the CIUP in the 14th arrondissement.

The Region provides no other financial or material aid.

The scholarship does not aim at paying or exempting the student from:

- the total amount of tuition fees in the host institution;
- expenses related to administrative formalities for entry and residence in France;
- social security coverage and various insurance expenses in France;
- transport expenses from the country of origin to France.

Duration:

The Master's scholarship is awarded for one year of Master's degree (M1 or M2). It may be extended, with the same conditions, for another year in order to help the student complete his/her entire Master programme in Ile-de-France.

The duration of the programme in Ile-de-France may not be lesser than **9 consecutive months** nor exceed 22 months over a period of two years.

A student deciding to remain in France on the completion of studies in France may do so on his/her own responsibility, without involving the responsibility of the France-de-France Region in any manner whatsoever.

The scholarships are awarded through a procedure involving five stages, following the quotas fixed every year by the Region.

1st step: Preparing the application

The application form is to be obtained in the country of origin from the various regional partners of the grant: Embassies of France, representatives of the decentralised cooperation zones, etc.

Applications forms will not be sent directly by the offices of the Region.

This procedure does not apply to the candidatures of students who are European Union nationals, except for those hailing from a decentralised cooperation zone of the Region in Europe (Masovia region, Poland; Budapest, Hungary).

The application must be completed carefully, include all the attestations required and be signed by the candidate, failing which it will not be accepted. Only applications formalised by the offices of the Region can be used for submitting a candidature.

2nd step: Shortlist by the Region's partners

The local partners of the Region (Embassies and decentralised cooperation zones partners) will shortlist the candidates among the best foreign students in application of the eligibility criterion mentioned above. Another factor taken into consideration is a student having already started enrolment procedures with one or both of the desired host institutions.

Further, should certain candidates be at par from the economic point of view, candidates coming from a less privileged economic background or without any other source of funding will be given preference.

To these initial criteria, others could be fixed by our partners (candidates' personal or their family's financial resources, total estimated cost of the stay, job prospects on return, integration of the academic course in a local development project, etc.)

Only shortlisted candidatures, classified in order of priority, will be forwarded to the Region for assessment.

3rd step: Evaluation by the host institutions

The offices of the Region approach the two institutions selected by the candidate to obtain their opinion in the academic level, the quality of the project and possible registration for the chosen course level.

At this stage, two unfavourable opinions will result in the rejection of the candidature. The decision of the institution is independent and the Region does not intervene in any manner whatsoever.

For positive evaluations, in keeping with the student's wishes, the candidature is submitted to the Regional Awarding Committee for examination.

4th step: Selection of candidate by the Regional Awarding Committee

The Vice-President of the Ile-de-France Regional Council, in charge of Higher Studies, Research and Scientific and Technological Innovation, chairs the Regional Awarding Committee.

The Committee alone is competent to award regional scholarships. While making its decision, it takes into consideration the evaluation of the candidatures by the regional services, the priorities laid down by the local partners, and the opinions of the potential host institutions.

The Committee's decision is notified by e-mail to the Embassies and representatives of the partner cooperation zones, and the students. At this stage, the applications are classified into 3 categories:

- **inadmissible candidatures** or decision rejecting the application;
- **admissible candidatures** leading to conditional notification of the scholarship subject to the student being included in the final list of one of the two selected institutions;
- **waitlisted eligible candidates** who may be called in case an admissible student withdraws his/her application.

5th step: Final award of scholarship

On receiving the admission certificate, issued by the host institution (specifying the exact title of the Master's, its level, duration, and the type of course being an initial degree, not one of apprenticeship or alternation), the Region will issue a certificate, via e-mail, attesting to the student's status as a "Ile-de-France Master's scholarship holder".

Once the student's status as scholarship holder is confirmed, he/ she must undertake to contact the Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris (CIUP) for indicating the exact date of arrival in Paris. The formalities for room reservation are borne by the programme. However, it is up to the scholarship holder to complete all the necessary administrative formalities related to his/her arrival in France.

Tentative Calendar of the "Ile-de-France Master's Scholarship Programme" Academic Year 2010-2011	
Thu 8 January	Call for applications at Embassies and local Partners
February-March	Shortlist of candidates in the country of origin
Fri 26 March	Last date for submitting applications to the Region
April-May	Host institutions approached for evaluation of applications
Fri 7 May	Deadline for institutions to submit their evaluations
Early June	Regional Awarding Committee meets
Fri 11 June	Notification of results to the students, local partners and Embassies
Fri 30 July	Last date for receiving admission certificate for provisionally selected scholarship holders
Thu 30 September	Final list of Ile-de-France Master's scholarship holder 2010-2011