EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS THROUGH IsDB SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

IsDB
البنك الإسلامي للتنمية
Islamic Development Bank



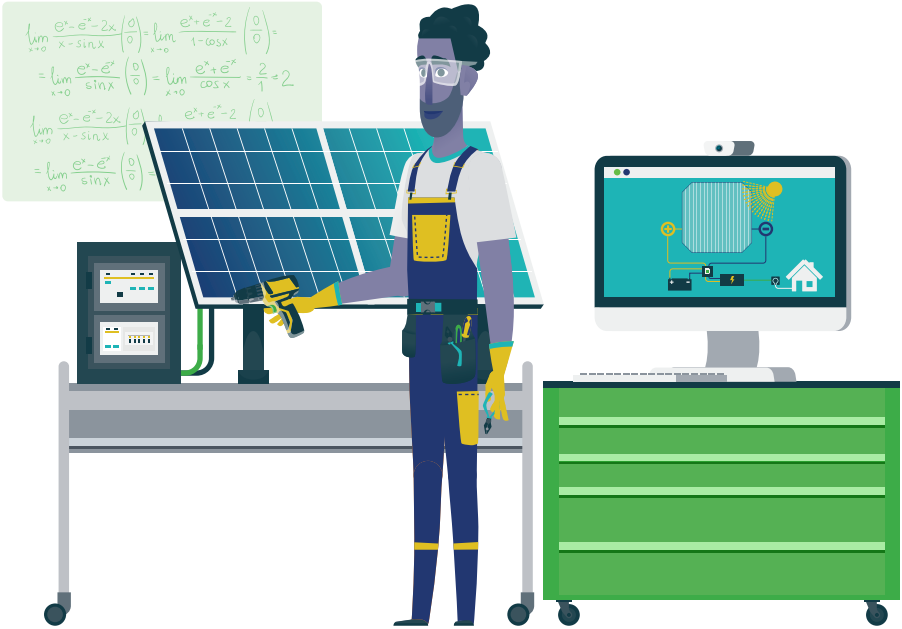
MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR HIGH TECHNOLOGY (MSP) FOR IsDB MEMBER COUNTRIES



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BACKGROUND

The Merit Scholarship Program (MSP) was introduced in 1992. It offers scholarships for higher study at renowned high-tech universities and institutions around the world.



OBJECTIVE

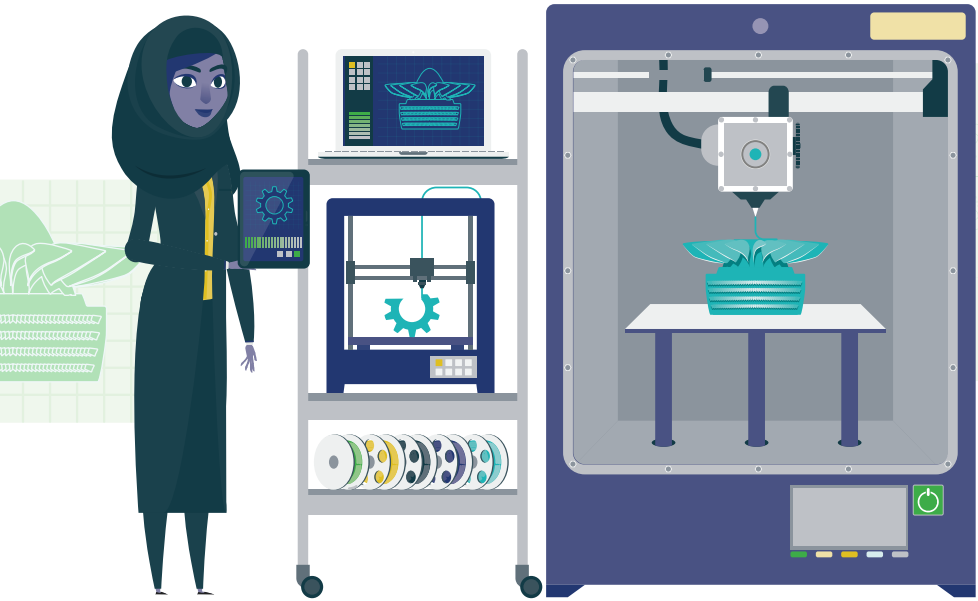
The objective of the MSP is to develop technically qualified human resources in IsDB MCs by providing scholarships to promising and outstanding scholars and researchers to undertake advanced studies and research in the fields of applied science and technology needed for the development of the member countries.

The main objectives are:

- To develop technically qualified human resources in the MCs.
- To enhance the scientific, technological and research capability and potential of scholars and researchers in MCs.
- To help meet national needs for science and technology, and
- To strengthen the scientific, technological and research capability of institutions in MCs.

CONCEPT OF THE PROGRAM

The concept is to meet the needs of the MCs in science and high technology areas that are crucial to their development by enhancing the scientific, technological and research potential of their scholars/researchers and institutions. The scholars are expected to return to their countries/institutions to apply new know-how for the development of their countries.

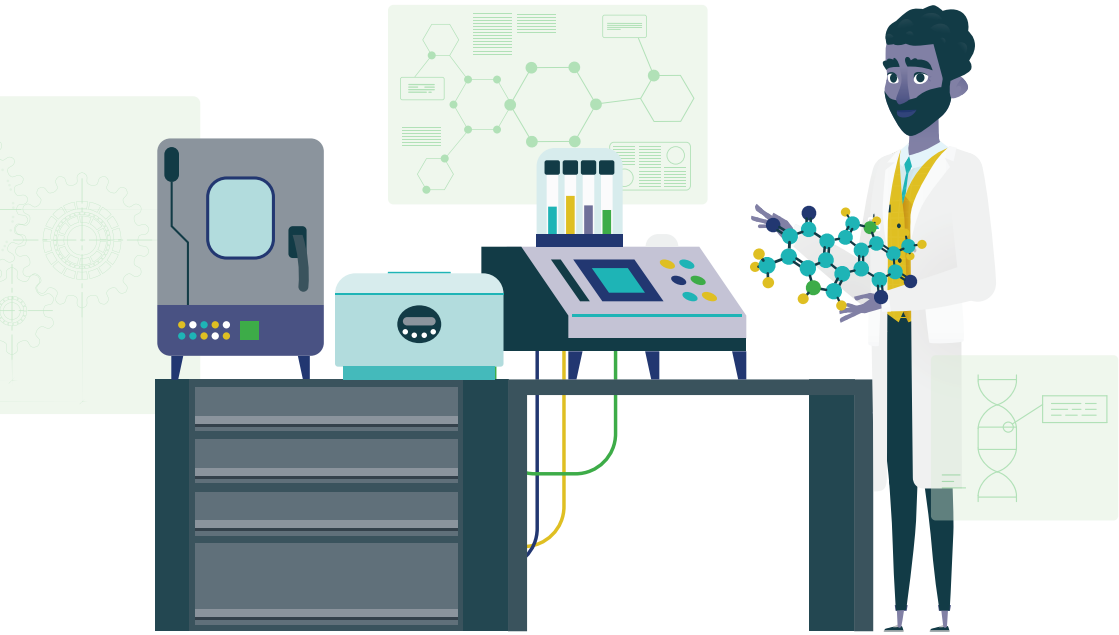


FIELDS OF STUDY

The program covers studies and research at two levels: (i) three-year or 36 months (about 3 years) Ph.D. study, and (ii) 6-12 months post-doctoral research. The duration of both Ph.D. study and post-doctoral research are in line with international standards and practice.

Fields of studies and subjects are determined by the direct need and the purpose of meeting the countries' developmental needs related to science and technology. The needs are categorized by the following justifications: (i) lack of expertise; (ii) emerging science; (iii) problem-solving; and (iv) science management.

For general guidance, a cluster list of 10 fields of study is drawn and outlined here. However, as the field of study is chosen from this list, it must gain merit by its relevance and value to the countries' development needs and fall within one of the four categories.



1. Computer Science, AI, Data Science and Cybersecurity
2. Energy and Sustainable Energy Technologies
3. Climate and Environmental Technologies
4. Health, Medical Sciences and Health Technologies
5. Agriculture, Food Security and Agricultural Technologies
6. Water Resources and Water Technologies
7. Chemical Engineering/Advanced Material Sciences
8. Space Science/Technology
9. Technology Management and Innovation
10. Advanced Engineering



INSTITUTIONS OF STUDY

Ph.D. candidates must secure admission to an eligible university either in their home country or in an IsDB Member Country. Priority will be given to candidates who secure admission to universities in countries that have established cooperation arrangements with IsDB. Postdoctoral candidates should undertake their research at recognized centers of excellence in an IsDB Member Country, with the appropriate facilities and research capacity to support the proposed research.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The program is only for scholars from MCs who are attached to educational, scientific, and technological institutions and research centers in their home countries and are actively working in the scientific and technological development of their countries and secured admission \invitation.

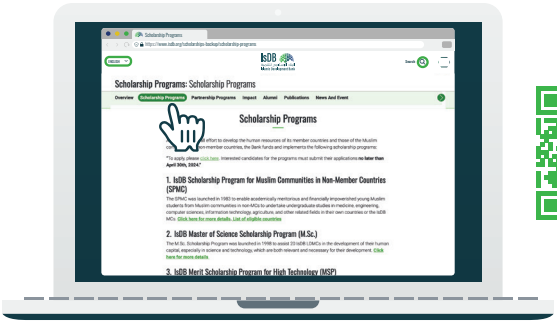
The program does not award scholarships to sole individuals, but to individuals at the institutional level. The institutions are partners in the program. Promising and talented individuals are sponsored and nominated by their institutions and accepted as appropriate by the offices of IsDB Governors in terms of the developmental and scientific needs of their countries.

To be eligible, applicants for the MSP must meet set criteria, including:

- Be up to the age of: (a) 35 years for Ph.D. study; or (b) 40 years for post-doctoral research.
- Have an M.Sc for PhD or PhD for post-doctoral research in a field of science/ technology and have above average Very Good academic performance.
- Prior admission or invitation from a university/institution is mandatory.
- Have good command of the language of the institution of study and the ability to conduct scientific work in it.
- Have work and/or research experience of not less than two (2) years for Ph.D. study or five (5) years for post-doctoral research in the related field.
- Have a record of publications/research in the same field.
- Have a proposed field of study and/or research in one of the fields listed under the approved fields of study with scientific and development relevance to the country being clearly demonstrated in a research proposal endorsed by the nominating institution.
- Applicants for post-doctoral research who have had a post-doctoral experience outside their countries within the past two years are not eligible.
- Not be an IsDB staff member or Executive Director, his/her alternate, and/or staff of any type of appointment (including temporary and consultant) of the IsDB Group nor a close relative of the aforementioned by blood or adoption, with the term "close relative" defined as mother, father, sister, half-sister, brother, half-brother, son, daughter, aunt, uncle, niece or nephew.

NOTES:

- The scholarship may only supplement, and shall not duplicate, any other source of financial support the applicant might have. If the applicant is awarded a scholarship, he/ she must inform ISDB at that time if he/she has other sources of funding.
- Sending the application or getting admission by the academic institution does not mean that the applicant has been accepted for a scholarship. Accordingly, the applicant should not take any action concerning his/ her current employment or otherwise until notified by IsDB of having been awarded a scholarship.



https://www.isdb.org/scholarships-backup/scholarship-programs



BENEFITS AND FACILITIES

For the successful candidates, the scholarship covers the following items:

- The cost of tuition fees is charged by the universities and payable to the universities directly.
- Monthly stipend commensurate with the cost of living in the country of study, on a single-status basis
- Medical insurance under the university health scheme
- Thesis/scientific papers preparation
- Conference allowance for Ph.D. scholars
- A return air ticket and installation allowance for scholars studying overseas.

The scholarship does not cover the following:

- Visa application(s) costs.
- Expenses to bring and/or support a scholar's family members.
- Extracurricular courses or training.
- Language training not provided by the study program.
- Additional travel during your study program.
- Expenses related to research, supplementary educational materials, field trips, participation in workshops/ seminars, exchange programs conferences or internships.
- Educational equipment, such as computers.
- Residence permit fee.



OBLIGATIONS OF THE BENEFICIARIES

Beneficiaries awarded the scholarship shall:

- Sign a surety bond stating their commitment to their studies, to return to their countries upon completion of their studies and to continue work and services to science, technology, and development of their countries thereafter for at least twice the period of their studies under the IsDB Merit Scholarship Program.
- Devote themselves to their studies on a full-time basis without interruption and provide IsDB with reports on their academic studies and activities on a regular basis.
- Not to seek or accept any other scholarship or remunerated work during their studies under the program may interfere with their studies or make the fulfilment of their other obligations difficult, unless otherwise approved in writing by IsDB.
- Respect the laws of the country of study and maintain good personal and professional conduct consistent with the rules, regulations and objectives of the program and the overall mission of the IsDB as an Islamic institution.



ROLES OF NOMINATING INSTITUTIONS

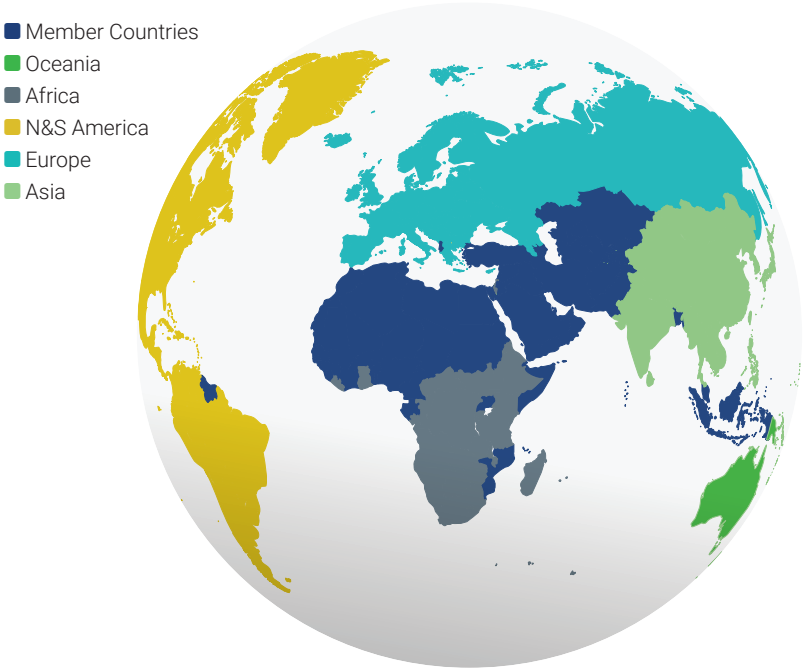
As a partner in the joint effort with IsDB, the institutions nominating candidates for the program are expected to:

- Duly nominate their candidates, assist them in all aspects of documentation preparation and secure the necessary endorsements from local authorities.
- Assist selected candidates to prepare for departure, place them on study leave and support them in their research.
- Help return scholars resettle and support them in their research and equipment needs.

ROLES OF OFFICES OF IsDB GOVERNORS

The offices of IsDB Governors are expected to:

- Announce the program, as widely as possible, among the scientific and research communities in the country.
- Disseminate information to relevant scientific and research institutions and interested scholars in the country.
- Endorse the shortlisted applications in the proposed fields of study most needed for the country's development.



MEMBER COUNTRIES

1. Afghanistan
2. Albania
3. Algeria
4. Azerbaijan
5. Bahrain
6. Bangladesh
7. Benin
8. Brunei Darussalam
9. Burkina Faso
10. Cameroon
11. Chad
12. Comoros
13. Cote d'Ivoire
14. Djibouti
15. Egypt
16. Gabon
17. Gambia
18. Guinea
19. Guinea Bissau
20. Guyana
21. Indonesia
22. Iran
23. Iraq
24. Jordan
25. Kazakhstan
26. Kuwait
27. Kyrgyz
28. Lebanon
29. Libya
30. Malaysia
31. Maldives
32. Mali
33. Mauritania
34. Morocco
35. Mozambique
36. Niger
37. Nigeria
38. Oman
39. Pakistan
40. Palestine
41. Qatar
42. Saudi Arabia
43. Senegal
44. Sierra Leone
45. Somalia
46. Sudan
47. Suriname
48. Syria
49. Tajikistan
50. Togo
51. Tunisia
52. Turkey
53. Turkmenistan
54. Uganda
55. United Arab Emirates
56. Uzbekistan
57. Yemen



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