EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS THROUGH IsDB SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

IsDB
البنك الإسلامي للتنمية
Islamic Development Bank



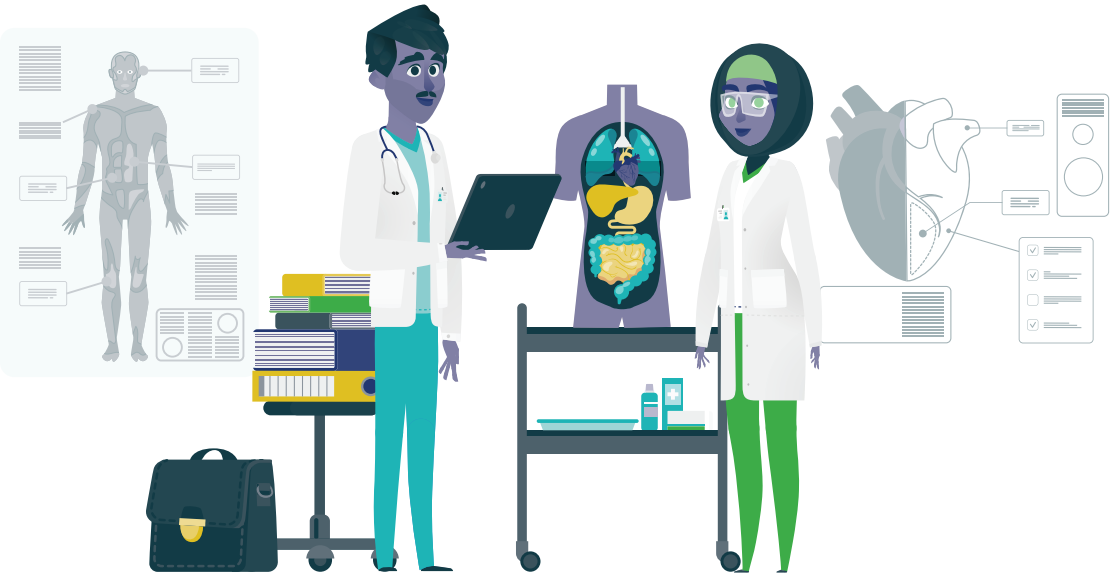
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR MUSLIM COMMUNITIES IN NON-MEMBER COUNTRIES (SPMC)



BACKGROUND

Muslim communities in many developing countries that are not members of IsDB generally lag behind in education, especially in technical education and professional specialization. This is an obstacle that must be overcome if the communities are to improve their socioeconomic conditions, preserve their cultural and religious identities and make meaningful contributions to the development of their countries.

To respond to their development needs, IsDB established the Scholarship Program for Muslim Communities (SPMC) which was launched in 1983 with 53 students from India, Sri Lanka and Kenya.



OBJECTIVE

The objective of the SPMC is to provide opportunities for academically meritorious and financially needy young Muslim students to pursue undergraduate or first-degree studies and to train them as professionals with dedication and commitment to develop their communities and countries.

CONCEPT OF THE PROGRAM

The SPMC is more than just a straight financial assistance to eligible needy students. It is also a tool for improvement of socioeconomic conditions of Muslim communities through the scholars it produces. It is basically a human development program, since the scholarship is in effect an interest-free loan (Qard Hasan) to the students and a grant to the Muslim communities to which they belong (since repayment is not made to IsDB but to a local trust).

Under the program, the students are required to repay the loan after graduation and employment, in easy instalments, to the IsDB Education Trust (IET), a Waqf set up (or to be set up) in the students' countries. The students are also required to play an active role in community development.



The repaid fund is recycled to provide more scholarships to other eligible students from the same community to complement the direct IsDB scholarships and to sustain the program in the long run. On the other hand, the community development services rendered by the IsDB graduates will contribute to the socioeconomic development of the community and country.

The Scholarship Program is also a joint effort between IsDB and the Muslim communities, as IsDB engages a national NGO to serve as the Counterpart Organization (CPO) for the program implementation.

IsDB and its partners have a vision to develop the human potential of Muslim communities. That is why IsDB has been consistently making commitments to these communities ever since the inception of the program in 1983. In brief, IsDB wishes to develop the mind as well as the character of the IsDB students and the community itself, which is the ultimate target of IsDB's investment.

IsDB also expects its students to play a leading role in guiding and assisting the development of their communities, both morally and materially. Therefore, IsDB expects them to be good citizens and competent professionals at the same time.

In summary, all these features are linked together in an integrated whole to constitute the basic concepts that characterize the SPMC as a distinct Community Development Program (loan to individual students, grant to the community, repaid loan as the funding base for Waqf (IET) to complement as in-country scholarship



program, local implementation by community organizations as Counterpart Organizations and the emphasis on in-country study and post-study community development services).

As a growing number of IsDB-sponsored students are graduating, the need to support the postgraduation community activities (i.e., loan repayment collection and management, local scholarship program, community services, formation of IsDB Graduate Associations (IGAs), etc.) are becoming more vital. Indeed, the ultimate IsDB objective of socioeconomic development depends on this aspect. Thus, the roles of IETs and IGAs are becoming more crucial, as the program takes local roots and expands with refunds.

FIELDS OF STUDY

At present, the program focuses on medicine, engineering, agriculture, and other related fields such as dentistry, pharmacy, veterinary science, nursing, nutrition study, computer science, forestry, fishery, Islamic Finance, Media , Law and Entrepreneurship.

INSTITUTIONS OF STUDY

Consistent with the concept of the program, scholarships are provided for studies at recognized government universities in the students' own countries.

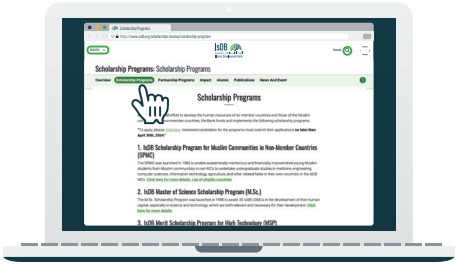
ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The program is intended to be for academically meritorious but financially needy Muslim students with a strong desire to engage in social services and community development. They must also be able to meet the following eligibility criteria:

- In need of financial assistance without which study may have to stop
- Maximum age of 24 years.
- Not 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 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.
- Completed senior secondary education (or the equivalent of approximately 12 years of education) with good grades in major science subjects.
- Provided evidence of language proficiency in the university medium of instruction as relevant. The language proficiency must be supported by a document or certificate, e.g., for English, by a recognized language certificate such as TOEFL or IELTS or by having passed the required level test conducted such as by the British Council or equivalent system in French or other languages.
- Provided certified English or French translation of all documents in case they are initially in other languages.
- Be medically fit and willing to undergo medical examination after selection.
- Having secured admission in one of the disciplines covered under the program at a recognized college or university in their own country is required.
- Not living in a country other than his/her home country.
- Not a beneficiary.

NOTES:

- The IsDB 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 scholarship 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

The program covers the following items:

- Tuition fees, payable to the universities directly.
- Monthly stipend commensurate with the cost of living in the country of study.
- Books/clothing allowance, the equivalent of three months monthly stipends,
- Once a year Cost of medical treatment (either at the university or local state hospital)
- For students who are selected to study abroad, IsDB also provides return economy class tickets to and from the countries of study (once at the beginning and at the end of study) as well as an installation allowance.

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.
- Courses that do not meet the minimum credits required to earn the graduate degree.
- 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 participate in the development of their communities, through their respective professions.
- Devote themselves to their studies on a full-time basis and without interruption and provide IsDB with reports on their academic studies and activities on a regular basis.
- Repay the loan after gainful employment, in easy instalments, to a local IsDB Education Trust set up in his/her country.
- 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 IsDB as an Islamic institution.



ROLES OF COUNTERPART ORGANIZATIONS (CPOs)

The program is a joint effort between IsDB and Muslim communities, as IsDB engages a national NGO to be the Counterpart Organization (CPO) for the program implementation. The CPO in each country is requested to support the implementation of the program in terms of announcing the call for applications, verifying applicants' information and documents and supporting the preselection process (which includes interviewing applicants to assess their commitment and financial need and validate their school certificates/ transcripts, university admission and other relevant documents).

The CPO is also required to set up a local IET with guidance from IsDB to facilitate the loan refund and to launch and manage the post-study program to support community services and development.

IsDB EDUCATION TRUSTS

To ensure the continuity of the program in the long run, IsDB (in cooperation with the Counter Party Organization (CPO)) has established IsDB Educational Trusts (IET) to deal with scholarship loan refunds, to develop local programs using collected/repaid loans and to assist the graduates and graduate associations in their community development activities/ services.

The trustees of an IET are drawn from various Muslim organizations and personalities and its core members consist of some of the active members of the CPOs. As such, it is expected that the IET will function in the community as the final CPO for the implementation of the program in the long run. This is consistent with the concept of the program as a community-based scholarship and development program.

IsDB GRADUATE ASSOCIATIONS (IGAs)

As a growing number of IsDB-sponsored students are graduating, the need to support the postgraduate community activities (i.e., loan repayment collection and management, local scholarship program, community services and formation of IsDB Graduates Associations (IGAs)) are becoming more vital. Indeed, the ultimate IsDB objective of socioeconomic development depends on this aspect.

Thus, the roles of IsDB Education Trusts (IET) and IsDB Graduate Associations (IGAs) are becoming more crucial as the program takes local roots and expands with refunds.





LIST OF ELIGIBLE MUSLIM COMMUNITIES IN NON-MEMBER COUNTRIES

1. Australia
2. Cambodia
3. The Philippines
4. The USA
5. Ethiopia
6. Fiji
7. Croatia
8. Ghana
9. India
10. Kenya
11. Liberia
12. Macedonia
13. Zambia
14. Malawi
15. Mauritius
16. Myanmar
17. Namibia
18. Nepal
19. Vietnam
20. Russian Federation
21. Rwanda
22. Singapore
23. South Africa
24. Sri Lanka
25. Tanzania
26. Thailand
27. Trinidad-Tobago



Islamic Development Bank
8111 King Khaled St
Al Nuzlah Yamania
Unit 1 Jeddah 22332-2444
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

scholar@isdb.org
www.isdb.org/scholarships
https://isdbscholarships.smartsimple.com