

October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020

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## Call for Scholarship Applications 2021-2022

### “In-Country/In-Region Scholarship Programme” Sub-Saharan Africa at University of Abomey-Calavi, Doctoral school of agronomic and water sciences in Benin - Strengthening Higher Education and Research in West and Central Africa

**Background:** DAAD through the “In-Country/In-Region Scholarship Programme” funded by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), offers scholarships for PhD and Master studies. The programme aims at fostering strong, internationally oriented higher education systems in Sub-Saharan Africa with the capacity to contribute to sustainable development.

As part of this programme, the Faculty of Agronomic Sciences of the University of Abomey-Calavi offers a Master and a doctoral study programmes in biometrics, an area with strong relevance to national development of Sub-Saharan African countries.

**Application fields:** Master in Statistics (*Major Biostatistics*)  
& Doctorate in Agronomy (*Major Biometrics*).

**Language of application:** All applications MUST be submitted in English.

**Target group:** graduates and postgraduates from Sub-Saharan Africa with a first academic degree if applying for the Master’s programme, or with a Master’s degree if applying for the doctoral programme **who want to pursue studies in biostatistics/biometrics** in their home country or in another Sub-Saharan African country.

**Number of scholarships:** 2 Doctorates & 2 Masters from Benin  
5 Doctorates & 6 Masters from other Sub-Saharan countries

**Eligibility criteria –** To be admitted in the Master programme, applicants must hold a bachelor or a master degree in agricultural/biological sciences or in mathematics/statistics with prerequisites in Statistics. For the doctoral programme, applicants must hold a Master’s degree in these fields. In addition, applicants must fit DAAD eligibility criteria, available below.

**How to apply –** The application process contains two steps

**First step:** Applicants must apply for their studies at the University of Abomey-Calavi, Doctoral School of Agronomic and water Sciences following guidelines (documents and how to apply) below (candidates for the Master’s programme):

- Motivation letter to the Director of Doctoral School of Agronomic and Water Sciences of the University of Abomey-Calavi
- Application for registration to the Director of Doctoral School of Agronomic and Water Sciences of the University of Abomey-Calavi
- Certified copies of academic degrees (from the baccalaureate)

- Certified copies of academic transcripts ((from the baccalaureate). Please supply the official explanation of the grading system.
- Two letters of recommendation (from at least Associate Professors) from the institutions attended by the applicant
- Certified copy of the birth certificate
- Curriculum vitae

Application file for doctoral candidates includes:

- Motivation letter to the Director of Doctoral School of Agronomic and Water Sciences of the University of Abomey-Calavi
- Application for registration to the Director of Doctoral School of Agronomic and Water Sciences of the University of Abomey-Calavi
- Certified copies of academic degrees (from the baccalaureate)
- Certified copies of academic transcripts ((from the baccalaureate). Please supply the official explanation of the grading system.
- Concept note of the research project (not more than 10 pages) from the applicant
- Curriculum vitae of the applicant including if possible, a list of scientific publications
- Two letters of recommendation (from at least Associate Professors) from the institutions attended by the applicant
- Certified copy of the Birth Certificate

**How to submit your application at the first stage:** Please, send your applications to [contact.labef@gmail.com](mailto:contact.labef@gmail.com) with a copy to [donou.marcel@gmail.com](mailto:donou.marcel@gmail.com) with the subject "*DAAD\_Application for MBIost 2021-2022*" for Masters candidates and "*DAAD\_Application for PhD Biometrics 2021-2022*" for PhD candidates. For more information, please visit [www.labef-uac.org](http://www.labef-uac.org).

**UAC Deadline for the First step: 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020.**

**Second step:** DAAD reserves the right of final selection. Only the pre-selected candidates are asked to log into the DAAD portal, register themselves and submit an DAAD application.  
**DAAD Deadline: 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021.** More details are available below.

## Contact

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# **„In-Country/In-Region Scholarship Programme“ Benin**

## **Call for Scholarship Applications 2021 at the University of Abomey-Calavi, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences in Benin (FSA/UAC)**

**Funded by the German Federal Ministry for  
Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)**

**Application Closing Date at DAAD (for pre-selected candidates only):  
10<sup>th</sup> February 2021**



## Programme Objectives

The programme aims at fostering strong, internationally oriented higher education systems in Sub-Saharan Africa with the capacity to contribute to sustainable development. To this end, scholarships are granted for development-related Master or doctoral studies for individuals who plan to pursue a career in teaching and / or research at a higher education institution in Sub-Saharan Africa.

By training future academic and professional leaders, the programme contributes to the following **long-term impacts**:

- Qualified professionals' involvement in the solution of development-related problems in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Graduates strengthening education and research in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Structural strengthening and regional networking of partner institutions and partner universities

To achieve these long-term impacts, the following outcomes have been formulated as programme objectives:

**Programme objective 1:** Graduates have qualified to take over responsible positions in their, or for their, region of origin

**Programme objective 2:** The participation of women and underprivileged groups is reinforced

**Programme objective 3:** Organizational, financial and personal capacities of partner institutions are strengthened

As part of the „In-Country/In-Region Scholarship Programme“ DAAD offers scholarships for PhD and Master studies. The programme is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and aims at university staff in the first line, without neglecting the public sector demand of academically trained personnel.

The target group for scholarships are graduates and postgraduates from Sub-Saharan Africa with a first academic degree if applying for a Master's programme, or with a Master's degree if applying for a doctoral programme who want to pursue Master's or PhD courses either

- in their home country

**(In-Country scholarships** are aimed at students who study in their home country or in the country for which they have a residence permit.)

- or -

- in another Sub-Saharan African country

**(In-Region scholarships** are aimed at students who want to participate in a study programme in a country of their home region (here: Sub-Saharan Africa /outside their home country).

It has been agreed upon that DAAD cooperates with the University of Abomey-Calavi, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences by offering up to 5 In-Region and 2 In-Country scholarships for PhD studies and up to 6 In-Region and 2 In-Country scholarships for Master studies at University of Abomey – Calavi, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences for the intake 2021.

The awarding of scholarships will be subject to the provision of funds.

Application requirements

Applicants

- have successfully completed generally a three-year university degree (Master candidates) or a two-year university degree (doctoral candidates) with above average results (at least: Second Class/Upper Division)
- clearly show motivation and strong commitment
- have thorough knowledge of the language of instruction
- have generally completed their last university degree not more than 6 years ago at the time of application
- must be nationals or permanent resident of a Sub-Saharan African country
- should generally be a) staff member of a public university, b) candidate considered for teaching or research staff recruitment, c) from the public sector and/or d) Alumni of the DAFI-programme

*Female applicants and candidates from less privileged regions or groups are especially encouraged to participate in the programme.*

Scholarships are initially granted for one year and can be extended to a maximum of the regular period of study upon receipt of an application for extension. Scholars must demonstrate satisfactory progress before an extension is granted.

Eligible fields

The In-Country/In-Region Scholarship Programme supports studies in subject areas with strong relevance to national development.

The scholarships at the University of Abomey – Calavi, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences are available in the following fields:

- Master Statistics, Major Biometry
- PhD Agronomy, Major Biometry

Place of tenure

University of Abomey – Calavi, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences, 04 BP 1525 Cotonou, Benin.

Duration and Commencement

The duration

- of the PhD programme is generally up to three years and is usually starting in September 2021;
- of the Master programme is generally two years and is usually starting in September 2021.

Please note that the maximum duration of the scholarship is based on the time that is left until the scholarship holder has reached the regular period of studies in that programme; i.e., if you apply for a DAAD scholarship starting in your second year of studies of a three-year programme, the maximum duration of the scholarship will be two years.

Application and Selection Procedure

**The application process contains two steps. Please be aware of the two application deadlines.**

First step:

Applicants must apply for their studies at University of Abomey-Calavi, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences using the contacts and the method that is prescribed by the institution. The University of Abomey-Calavi, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences has set its own deadlines.

Additionally, once you submit your application to UAC, please send a short notification to DAAD that you have applied with the subject "Your Surname\_First name\_UAC" to the email address of the DAAD contact person given below.

In some countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, a document from the Qualifications Authority must be submitted for admission to the universities (e.g. from SAQA in South Africa). Please note that the application for these documents may take long and that it is the applicants responsibility to get informed at an early stage in order to receive the documents from the respective authorities in time.

University of Abomey-Calavi, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences will screen, pre-select (according to DAAD selection criteria) and short-list the applicants. A detailed report consisting of the shortlisting procedure, the entire list of applicants, the ranked shortlist and the shortlisting panel members will also be availed to DAAD. The ranked shortlist will contain preferably triple (at least double) the number of scholarships that have been attributed to the institution.

DAAD reserves the right of final selection.

### Second step:

University of Abomey-Calavi, Faculty of Agronomic Sciences will provide the shortlisted candidates with the link to the DAAD-Portal. Only the pre-selected candidates are asked to log into the DAAD portal, register themselves and submit an DAAD application. **DAAD Deadline: 10th February 2021.**

Documents to be submitted (in English):

- DAAD application form duly filled in (available in the DAAD-Portal)
- Hand signed curriculum vitae (please use the European specimen form at <http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu>), including a list of publications (if applicable).
- Recommendation letter by university teachers (Master 1, PhD 2)
- Letter of admission for the host university / institution / network
- Certified copies of university degree certificates including transcripts
- Letter of motivation and a timetable (if applicable: mentioning the planned research stay in Germany, see "Additional benefits")
- Copy of the passport
- If applicable, information on the UNHCR registration as refugee

PhD candidates have to submit the following **additional documents**:

- Declaration of acceptance from the academic supervisor
- Detailed and precise PhD proposal, including detailed work and timetable (if applicable: mentioning the planned research stay in Germany, see "Additional benefits")
- Abstract of the proposal on one page (please include name and title of proposal)

Scholarship funding

The scholarship covers:

Item	Payment	Amount
<b>Tuition Fees*</b>	annually	451,200.00 XOF (In-Country students) 710,000.00 XOF (students from other Ecowas member states) 635,000.00 XOF (In-Region students from non-Ecowas states)
<b>Study and research allowance</b>	annually	460 EUR (Master) 920 EUR (PhD)
<b>Printing allowance</b>	once at the end	400 EUR (Master) 800 EUR (PhD)
<b>Monthly Scholarship (Accommodation, Food etc.)</b>	monthly	300 EUR (Master In-Country) 450 EUR (Master In-Region) 500 EUR (PhD In-Country) 550 EUR (PhD In-Region)
<b>Travel allowance (In-Region only)</b>	twice (beginning/end of scholarship)	<i>The flat rate travel allowance will be specified in the letter of award</i>
<b>Insurance (In-Region only)</b>	annually	<i>If applicable; Further information regarding the health insurance will be specified in the letter of award.</i>

\*Please note that in some cases not all fees and costs that are mentioned on the official fee structure of the host institution can be covered by DAAD in full, e.g. if the agreement with the funding organization prevents us from funding certain items in the fee structure or if items that are included in the fees are supposed to be covered through the individual scholarship benefits.

The scholarship will either be disbursed by the host institution or will be paid directly to the scholarship holder’s banking account. Further details will be announced after admission to the scholarship programme on the Admission Letter.

Additional benefits

DAAD In-Country/In-Region scholarship holders are also

- a) encouraged to apply for a **research stay in Germany** for 3 up to 6 months. Please note: **The short-term research stay in Germany should preferably be announced in the application for the regular scholarship** and can only be awarded if the necessary financial means are available.

The short-term research scholarship includes:

- a monthly scholarship payment for living costs
- health/accident/personal liability insurance
- a flat-rate travel allowance

- b) invited to apply for different Summer Schools in Germany (four weeks)

All further details regarding additional benefits and the additional application processes will be provided after admission to the scholarship programme.

Contact and advice

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