



## NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Governed by the General Regulations of the National Scholarships Program - August 11, 2020

### POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS ABROAD

#### STRATEGIC AREAS

#### CALL FOR APPLICATIONS – 2020

#### CONDITIONS

##### 1. PURPOSE OF THE CALL

The purpose of this call is to strengthen the capacities of Uruguayan human resources through the funding of postgraduate programs abroad for students with outstanding scholarly achievement in the strategic areas defined by the National Strategic Plan for Science, Technology and Innovation (PENCTI).

Applications may be submitted in one of the following options:

- Cooperation agreements associated with the call (doctoral or master's degrees)
- Doctoral programs proposed by applicants.

##### 2. IN WHAT AREAS WILL FUNDING BE AWARDED?

Proposals may be submitted in the following (a) sectors/core problems and opportunities or (b) prioritized technological areas:

<b>(a) SECTOR/CORE PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES</b>
Software, Information Technology Services and Audiovisual Production
Human and Animal Health (includes Pharmaceutical)
Agricultural and Agro-Industrial Production
Environment and Environmental Services
Energy
Education and Social Development
Logistics and Transport
Tourism

<b>(b) PRIORITIZED TECHNOLOGICAL AREAS</b>
ICT
Biotechnology
Nanotechnology



### 3. WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS?

Applicants must fully comply with the following requirements:

- a) Being a Uruguayan citizen or a foreign citizen residing in Uruguay with proven ties in the country. In the latter case, a period of residence in Uruguay of not less than 2 years will be required (the term of residence is determined as the period immediately preceding the date of application for the scholarship).
- b) Holding a university degree or equivalent degree.
- c) . Presenting a work plan in the application form provided by ANII. It will be valued that the work plan includes activities to be carried out in the productive sector or in public organizations whose tasks include the implementation of public policies.
- d) Presenting a plan for post-graduation reinsertion, related to the theme of the postgraduate program.
- e) Clearly demonstrating that his/her pursuit of the program is duly substantiated by his/her academic or professional background.
- f) Having his/her curriculum vitae (CV) entered into the CVUy database at the time of filing his/her application.
- g) At the close of the call, having been accepted in a doctoral program in a foreign country. Proof of such admission must be presented with the application. Conditional admission may be accepted due to language accreditation or funding. In the case of master's degrees, registration in/admission to the postgraduate program may be accepted.
- h) Not having been disqualified by a resolution of ANII's Board of Directors due to failure to comply with any program offered by ANII.

This call does not apply to postgraduate distance learning programs.

No funding will be provided for postgraduate MBA programs.



## WHAT TYPE OF POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMS WILL BE FUNDED?

Funding is available for two types of master's or doctoral degree programs abroad: full and sandwich.

**FULL:** The program is carried out exclusively in a foreign country.

**SANDWICH:** The program is fulfilled by performing some of the activities in a foreign country and others in Uruguay. The endorsement of a Uruguayan institution related to the activities to be performed in Uruguay and a national co-supervisor is required.

If the application is submitted under a specific cooperation agreement, the applicant must verify that the sandwich postgraduate program is accepted under the related agreement.

Preference will be given to doctoral degree programs under the sandwich scheme.

The thematic and academic relevance of the postgraduate program to which the applicant applies must be substantiated in relation to other offers existing in Uruguay.

In both categories, the maximum term for the doctoral degree program funding will be 36 months. In duly justified exceptional cases doctoral studies may be funded for a period of up to 48 months, starting from the start date of the postgraduate program. The maximum term for the master's degree program funding will be 24 months from admission to the master's degree program. If the application is submitted under a specific cooperation agreement, the maximum term will be established by the cooperation agreement.

The applicant must present the research topic or the training plan (as appropriate) and must state the reasons for undertaking the postgraduate program.

## 4. WHAT DOES ANII FUND?

The items to be funded may include:

- A round-trip ticket in economy class to the postgraduate program site. On an exceptional basis, and with adequate justification, additional tickets may be funded for sandwich programs proposals.
- Living expenses in the foreign country.
- Monthly grant amount during stay in Uruguay.
- Health insurance in the foreign country.
- Postgraduate program tuition.

The ticket and stay of the supervisor may be included when applications under agreements so establish.

The maximum amount to be granted for overseas stays will be USD 1,000 (one thousand United States dollars) per month. For activities in Uruguay, planned or not, the monthly amount of the scholarship will be the current amount for the national postgraduate scholarship in Uruguayan pesos.



Health insurance and tickets will be budgeted separately and may amount to a maximum of USD 5,000 (five thousand United States dollars) for the entire scholarship period.

The maximum amount to be granted considering all the items requested and the doctoral program funding will be USD 60,000 (sixty thousand United States dollars). If funding is requested for more than 36 months, the amount may be increased to an additional maximum of USD 20,000 (twenty thousand United States dollars). The maximum amount to be granted for master's degree programs will be USD 40,000 (forty thousand United States dollars). If required, the beneficiary shall have additional funding to cover any additional costs of the program.

During his/her stay in Uruguay, the beneficiary is expected to devote 30 hours per week to the program activities. The accumulation of hours with any other activity shall not exceed 60 hours per week.

## **5. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS**

This call is administered as a call for applications, with opening and closing dates.

Applications must be submitted within the timeframe of the call through the corresponding application form. The applicant must attach the updated certificate of academic achievement for the undergraduate program, and where appropriate, the updated certificate of academic achievement for any postgraduate programs in course and/or completed.

In the budget, the applicant must state whether he/she has any other sources of funding, both domestic and foreign, for his/her postgraduate studies.

Applications for funding of a doctoral degree program where a master's degree is a prerequisite may be submitted. The funds required for pursuing master's studies will be included in the budget proposed for the doctoral program. Proof of admission must specify the continuity of both study plans and that the final degree to obtain will be of doctorate.

Any work resulting from or related to the selected proposals must be deposited in the open access digital repository of the institution in Uruguay of the person responsible for the proposal, or, if this is not possible, in the institutional repository of ANII.

See Open Access Regulations at [www.anii.org.uy](http://www.anii.org.uy)

## **6. EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS**

The evaluation of applications will be carried out by the Scholarships Evaluation and Monitoring Committee (CESBE), whose members are appointed by the Board of Directors of ANII and approved by the National Council for Innovation, Science and Technology (CONICYT).

The evaluation criteria include at least the following:

1. Pertinence
2. background of the candidate and application reasons stated;
3. chosen institution(s) where the postgraduate program will be carried out.

4. training plan/research topic;
5. potential contribution to:
  - the development of strategic areas, as described in item 2 of these conditions;
  - the development of national R&D+I or the productive structure of the country;
  - the public policies carried out by the Uruguayan government; and
6. labor reinsertion plan.

The Board of Directors will select the successful candidates upon consideration of the following issues,:

- up to 30% of applications will be funded for each strategic area
- priority will be given to applicants aged 38 or younger on the closing date of the call.
- that the applicant does not hold a postgraduate degree similar to the postgraduate program stated in the scholarship application,
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## **7. SIGNING OF AGREEMENT AND MONITORING OF SCHOLARSHIPS**

Once the successful candidate is selected, he/she will need to submit a final work plan.

The financial support terms will be set out in an agreement executed and signed by the beneficiary and ANII, which, among other matters, will state the beneficiary's commitment to return to Uruguay upon completion of his/her studies, as established by the current regulations.

### **8.1 DISBURSEMENT MECHANISM**

Disbursements shall be made in accordance with the schedule agreed upon with the scholarship holder and pursuant to the agreement in force where applicable (notwithstanding the provisions of item 9 of this call). The budgetary items corresponding to the stay shall not exceed the amount required for 6 months of living expenses, and the airline tickets and medical insurance amounts shall be reimbursed upon the presentation of purchase invoices or another documentary evidence acceptable to ANII. The release of funds shall be subject to the delivery and approval of the relevant semi-annual progress reports. The final payment shall be retained until the submission of the final report and documentary evidence of the completion of the postgraduate program.

### **8.2 MONITORING OF SCHOLARSHIPS**

The scholarship holder shall submit progress reports within the stated terms and prepared in accordance with the guidelines defined by ANII and under the agreement in force where appropriate. These reports must detail the activities carried out and will be evaluated by the scholarship holder's advisor.

## **9. DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN CALL CONDITIONS AND COOPERATION AGREEMENTS**



Reference is made in these conditions to cooperation agreements associated with the call. Notwithstanding any issues in such agreements required to be verified, it is hereby stated that such agreements may contain provisions inconsistent with the conditions of this call for applications, and that these conditions may be more restrictive than the terms of such cooperation agreements.

In case of discrepancy between the provisions of the cooperation agreements and the conditions of this call for applications, the latter shall prevail. If you have any question, please contact an ANII representative.