



Guidelines for post-graduate scholarships

The Institute of Missiology of missio e.V. grants scholarships for postgraduate studies. The number of scholarships is determined both by the financial possibilities of the Institute and by our endeavours to distribute these means among the countries of the Global South, according to the local needs.

1. Conditions for granting a post-graduate scholarship

- 1.1 The MWI gives scholarships to students coming from Africa, Asia and Oceania and to students who live and work permanently in these continents. Applications are to be sent directly from the home country six months before the student takes up his/her studies or language course. The application deadline is every year of January 15th.
- 1.2 A scholarship is granted for MA, licentiate and doctoral studies in theology, philosophy and related subjects. The MWI preferably subsidizes studies done in the home country or home region of the student.
- 1.3 The candidates are expected to prepare for a task in teaching, science and/or research or a leading task within their local churches.
- 1.4 The students must have successfully finished an academic graduate study recognized by the university where they want to do their higher studies.
- 1.5 The student should not take up his/her studies until he/she has sent in his/her application and until the MWI has taken its decision. Otherwise, a scholarship application cannot be considered.
- 1.6 As a rule, only three students from one diocese or from one province of a religious community can be subsidized at a time.
- 1.7 In Europe and North America only doctoral studies can be financed. Qualifications and degrees required by the university (as precondition for the admission to a certain course) have to be acquired by the student in his home country before he/she takes up his/her studies abroad. The teaching language of the university is to be learned beforehand, preferably in the home country. For studies in Germany, the MWI provides scholarships within the Albertus Magnus Theological Scholarship Program founded by the German Bishops Conference.

- 1.8 If the study costs are higher than the maximum scholarship granted by the MWI, the balance has to be secured by a local contribution and/or a contribution from a third person/institution.
- 1.9 The candidate should not be older than 40 years.
- 1.10 Priority is given to female applicants (lay as well as religious) and to projects that promote or deal with the empowerment of women or with the safeguarding of children or vulnerable adults.

2. Amount, duration and description of the various types of scholarships¹

2.1 The amount of the scholarship will be determined according to the study fees at the university chosen, to (adequate) living costs (the living costs are calculated on the basis of the costs of living index in the country where the studies will be done), and to a fixed sum for expenses directly connected with the studies. Usually, members of international congregations are granted partial scholarships only.

2.2 The period of time for which a scholarship is granted, depends on the regular number of semesters/study years required by the university. The maximum duration for all higher studies except doctoral studies is three years.

A scholarship for a doctoral study is given for three years. If the PhD degree cannot be achieved in these three years, an extension by one year can be granted. In this case the student has to send in an application in which he/she explains the reasons which made it impossible to finish his/her studies within three years. The student has to show reliably that he/she will be able to obtain the degree after another year at the latest. A request for an extension needs a written confirmation of the thesis supervisor.

A scholarship can be cancelled before its date of expiration in case of serious violations of the conditions under which the scholarship has been granted.

During their studies priest students should not engage themselves in regular pastoral work in order to avoid an undue prolongation of their studies.

2.3 A grant for research and field work, which has to be proven as necessary for the success of the studies, can only be given on the basis of a separate request. A detailed plan of the work to be done, a cost and financing plan, as well as a recommendation of the thesis supervisor have to be sent in together with the application.

Scholarships for field and research studies can be granted for a limited period. The amount of the regular post-graduate scholarship will be taken into account.

¹ For those who study in Germany the following rules and the application procedure are modified according to the regulations of the Albertus Magnus Program which are binding for the MWI.

2.5 A grant for the publication of the academic final thesis can be applied for separately. An expert opinion on the importance of the publication for the local church should be presented.

3. Application procedure

3.1 The applicant is the student him-/herself, the local church authority or the academic institution which sends him/her for his/her higher studies. Applications have to be sent directly to the MWI.

3.2 The application has to be submitted via the Offline Client and contain the following documents/information:

- a short curriculum vitae
- certificates on previous academic qualifications
- an attestation of the university certifying that the student will be accepted for the intended studies
- subject (i.e. exegesis, dogmatics)
- expected duration of studies
- beginning of studies
- intended graduation
- explanation of the connection between the intended studies and the future engagement
- financing plan
- recommendation for the application by the local church authority or the responsible academic institution implying a guarantee for the later employment of the student.
- Safeguarding Policy of the local church authority or the academic institution which sends him/her for his/her higher studies

3.3 Travelling expenses to and from the place of studies are not financed by the MWI. When applying for the scholarship the student has to prove that the travelling expenses will be covered.

4. Commitments of the student

4.1 After a positive decision, the student is obliged to send in, together with the signed contract, the declaration of Self-commitment for protection of children, young people, and vulnerable people (signed by the student) and the certificate of clearance (signed by the relevant church authority). He/She furthermore confirms to know the safeguarding procedures and guidelines of the place of studies and (if applicable) the house of accommodation.

4.2 Upon arrival at the place of studies, the student is requested to forward his/her address and any further change of address to the MWI.

4.3 At the end of each study year, the student is requested to send in a brief report confirmed by his/her supervising professor on his/her studies to the MWI.

- 4.4 Together with the study report, the student gives a financial report on the use of his/her money. The student is expected to inform the MWI about any extra activities and extra income.
- 4.5 The MWI organises meetings for its scholarship holders in Europe. The student is requested to take part in the meetings he/she is invited to.
- 4.6 After completion of studies the student gives a final report and one copy of his/her thesis to the MWI. And he/she informs the Institute about his/her future work and address.

5. Payment modalities

- 5.1 The scholarship is paid in annual instalments.
- 5.2 The first instalment is paid after the student has signed the modalities, inserted his/her bank account and returned one copy to the MWI. By his/her signature the student accepts the conditions stipulated in the contract.
- 5.3 The payment of further instalments of the scholarship depends on the fulfilment of the conditions listed under 4.1-4.4.

For further questions, please contact the relevant desk officer or

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