

Embassy of France in South Africa

Masters Scholarships

2017 - 2018



The Embassy of France invites students who wish to continue their tertiary education at Masters Level in France to apply for its bursary programme for the academic year **September 2017 – 2018**.

This programme forms part of the commitment between France and South Africa to establish fruitful partnerships between their universities while building a vast network of academic and professional contacts.

Students can either apply for the first year of a Master's degree (M1) or, if they have an honours degree, the university may admit the student into the second year of a Master's degree (M2) in order to complete their degree after one year. The duration of the grant is therefore **one year, once renewable** should a student originally admitted in M1 continue with the M2 programme.

Eligibility:

- **Citizenship of South Africa or Lesotho. International students may apply if they have a previous degree from a South African university.**
- **Bachelor's or Honour's** degree (depending on academic year the student is enrolling for), completed or to be completed by the time the student would depart for France. (Minimum requirement is at least a B-degree, i.e. B.Tech, B.A, B.Com, BSc, etc.)
- **At least three selected French institutions** of the candidate's choice. Students should apply for admission to these universities concurrently to the bursary application (if you have not been accepted at an institution yet). You may contact Campus France to assist you with this process, but **it remains the student's responsibility to contact and apply** on time to universities (**see Terms and Conditions below**).
- Applications from **all academic disciplines** will be considered. Applications in the following disciplines are particularly encouraged: Energy, transport, environment and biodiversity, social and political sciences, space and earth science, materials & nuclear physics, as well as food security. However, different application requirements and procedures may apply for **French Language Practice** (i.e. translation, interpreting or French language teaching): It is advisable that you contact the relevant person before submitting your application: Mr. Damien Guyard, Attaché for French Language Cooperation (damien.guyard@diplomatie.gouv.fr).
- **No knowledge of French language required**, depending on the availability of English programs in the student's field and the study program applied for.

**Applications deadline:
24 March 2017.**

Shortlisted candidates will be contacted by mid-April 2017. Interviews will be held in April 2017 in Pretoria (students unable to attend in person will be interviewed either telephonically or via video-conference).

Application procedure:

Applications are to be submitted **via e-mail only**, to pretoria.bourses@campusfrance.org, **before or on 24 March 2017 at 17:00. No late applications** will be accepted.

Application format:

Students are expected to submit the following **in PDF only** (Jpeg, Word, or any other format will not be accepted). You are thus expected to e-mail a **maximum of 6 attachments, clearly marked (i.e. Name Surname CV):**

1. Fully completed and signed application form (please print out the pdf form, fill in neatly by hand, sign and scan).
2. Motivation letter (no longer than two pages).
3. Curriculum vitae (no longer than two pages).
4. Copy of passport. If the student does not yet have a passport, a copy of their identity document (ID, driver's licence, etc.) may be submitted.
5. Copy of all degree certificates and academic transcripts, chronological according to date of completion (both for complete and incomplete qualifications).
6. Acceptance letter from university in France (if you have already been accepted) or written proof (i.e. confirmation e-mail) that you have commenced the application process to at least two universities.

Note: It remains the student's responsibility to ensure that all of these documents are submitted correctly. If any of the above documents are not received, the student's application may be considered as incomplete. **Please follow these guidelines strictly, and do not submit any other documents than those required, as these will be discarded.**

Full bursaries include:

- annual tuition fees (within reason)
- round-trip airfare
- health insurance
- a monthly stipend towards living expenses
- Schengen visa fees

(Please note that partial bursaries may also be awarded to allow for as many students as possible to obtain funding.

The Embassy strongly encourages co-funding opportunities: *If a student is able to obtain additional funding and declares this openly and honestly, it may improve the student's chances of obtaining funding through this program).*

Selection criteria:

- Academic achievement
- Motivation
- Coherence of application – the structure and content of the motivation letter, as reflected in the student's academic, professional and personal objectives, choice of institution, etc.
- Previous practical activities or experience in the relevant academic or professional field.

Terms and conditions: Please note that we try to accommodate as many students as possible in this programme, but that we have to insist on the following terms and conditions due to an increasing number of applications. Requests for exceptions can unfortunately not be entertained:

- **Nationality requirement:** Students from South Africa or Lesotho. International student who hold a degree from a South African university.
- **Limited number of scholarships:** Even though we try to award scholarships to as many students as possible, an application for this scholarship or admission to a French institution does not guarantee that you will receive funding through this programme.
- **Allocation of funds:** The allocation of funds and the offer of full or partial scholarships remain at the discretion of the selection panel, and once an offer is made no negotiations will be entered into.
- **Incomplete applications:** Incomplete, incorrect or late applications may be discarded. Please read and follow the instructions on the application procedure very carefully.
- **Decision is final:** The decision of the selection panel is final and it will not be possible to consider any further requests or ad hoc applications outside of this programme, as the funds will have been allocated for the year.
- **Admission to a French institution of higher education (i.e. public universities, schools and private institutions):**
 - Students are expected to apply for admission to one or more French institution in France. The institution may not be a foreign university based in France, must be accredited and recognized by the French government (student must receive a French degree), and the course must be based in France (funding may not be provided for studies at a French institution or on its campus outside of France).
 - Students are expected to apply for admission to a French institution either before or after the submission of their scholarship application, and even though the Campus France office will assist them as far as possible to obtain contact with French institutions, it remains the student's responsibility to ensure that admissions applications are completed and submitted on time, according to the institution's requirements.
 - A student does not need to be admitted to an institution in France by the time of applying for this scholarship, but should they receive the scholarship, they have to be admitted to a French university in order to benefit from the funding. If the student is successful in obtaining a scholarship, he / she will be offered the funding, and will be expected to obtain admission before mid June 2017. If the student is unable to confirm admission by this date, the offer will be withdrawn and will be presented to the next student on the waiting list (provided that he / she has been admitted to a French institution at that time).
 - If a student is offered a scholarship but is unable to obtain admission at any institution by the stated deadline, the student forfeits the scholarship for that year and will not be placed on a waiting list or receive a preferential evaluation or automatic offer in the following year. The student may however submit a new application for the same scholarship in subsequent years.

To request application forms or any additional information regarding the scholarship programme and studies in France, contact:

University cooperation officer
Tel no : +27 (0) 12 425 1721
E-mail : pretoria@campusfrance.org