

German Egyptian Research Long-Term Scholarship to the Federal Republic of Germany “GERLS”

As an outcome of success achieved during the German-Egyptian Year of Science & Technology 2007, a cooperation agreement has been concluded between the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research of the Arab Republic of Egypt “MHESR” and the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD), from funds made available by the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Egyptian Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research to create a programme offering up to 81 postgraduate scholarships for Egyptian doctoral candidates.

The target group of this programme comprises Egyptian researchers holding M.A. / M.Sc. degrees which should generally not be older than 3 years.

1. Background and objective

Within the framework of the long-standing cooperation between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Federal Republic of Germany; and in partial fulfillment of the MHESR and DAAD aims and objectives; as well as in consideration of the funding resources and regulations of both parties, the aforementioned parties have agreed to create the “German Egyptian Research Long Term Scholarships” (GERLS).

2. Aim and duration of doctoral studies in Germany

Each year a group of researchers will be sent to Germany for doctoral scholarships in the scientific fields and priorities agreed upon by DAAD and MHESR.

The GERLS programme will be administered by the DAAD in close cooperation with the MHESR and German universities. Generally speaking, the scholarships within this programme are awarded for 12 months, subject to extension up to 42 months.

Candidates can select adequately structured PhD courses or PhD supervisors in Germany themselves in order to join the GERLS programme. However, dual funding from universities offering such courses and the GERLS programme are not permitted. DAAD Cairo Office and MHESR will support the candidates whenever necessary.

GERLS Info sheet

Please refer to the “Guide for Applicants” for detailed information and special information sheet for pre-selected candidates.

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The following definitions will be used throughout this sheet:

“Full Ph.D.” Scholarship:

Target: in all fields of study except the ones mentioned under Specialization.
Degree: Ph.D. will be awarded by a German university.
Duration: up to 42 months.

“Channel” Scholarship:

Target: in all fields of study except the ones mentioned under Specialization.
Degree: Ph.D. will be awarded by an Egyptian university.
Duration: up to 24 months.

“Specialization” scholarship:

Target: for the study of medicine, fine and applied arts, architecture and music
Degree: without resulting in a degree
Duration: up to 24 months.

Special case:

Applicants from the fields of **arts, music and architecture form a special case.** These applications will not undergo the selection process in Egypt but will be sent by the DAAD Cairo office to Germany directly to be evaluated by a specialized independent selection committee. These selection activities in Germany will be implemented according to the procedures of the German Specialized Arts and Music Committee and in competition with candidates from other countries. The funding of these scholarships, however, is part of the GERLS programme.

For more information, please refer to the additional information sheets.

3. Time line of the programme:

- ***Call for application:*** from 01.07.2010 till 31.10.2010
- ***Pre-selection Procedures:*** November/ December 2010
- ***Final selection Procedures:*** January/February 2011
- ***Start of Language course in Egypt:***
 - ***For Channel and Specialization:*** March 2011
 - ***For Full PHD:*** May 2011
- ***First Travel Date for the start of the language course in Germany:***
 - ***For Channel and Specialization:*** June 2011, start of semester October 2011
 - ***For Full PHD:*** October 2011, start of semester April 2012
- ***Kindly note that all above mentioned dates are subject to change without prior notice.***

4. Programme priorities

- The programme is open for all subjects; nevertheless, preference will be given to the following fields: water, renewable energies, medical sciences, material sciences, biotechnology, ICT, social sciences and humanities.
- Applicants from the field of social sciences are encouraged to apply.

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11, Saleh Ayoub Street, Zamalek, Cairo Opening hours: Sunday to Thursday 10.00 – 12.00

e-mail: info@daadcairo.org website: <http://cairo.daad.de>

Tel.: 2735 27 26 Fax: 2738 41 36

5. Application package

Candidates are encouraged to apply online using the webpage designed for the GERLS programme. Hardcopy applications are also permitted in exceptional cases.

In order to apply for a GERLS scholarship, the online/hardcopy application should contain the following documents:

a) Requirements from Research institution / University staff members:

- 1- C.V including a complete list of publications, if available. (To be pasted or typed in the field appointed for it on the electronic application form.)
- 2- Copy of passport. (To be uploaded in the field appointed for it on the electronic application form)
- 3- A recent photo. (To be uploaded in the field appointed for it on the electronic application form)
- 4- Acceptance letter or an email from a German professor showing that the research project under preparation is feasible and can be conducted in Germany under his supervision. The acceptance letter should state the title, time frame and objectives of the project. (To be uploaded in the field appointed for it on the electronic application form). The acceptance letter should not be elder than six months.
- 5- Official endorsement letter from the applicant's home institution. (Template of which is available on the GERLS site.) A signed and stamped template or any other letter offered by the applicant's institution is acceptable.
Please upload copy of signed and stamped letter in the field appointed for it on the electronic application form.
- 6- Official statement of employment (بيان حالة) issued from the applicants' institution/ university. The statement should indicate that the applicant is affiliated to this institution/ university at the time of application under the current position and should reflect a complete history of employment (a minimum of two employment years are a must). Please upload copy of signed and stamped letter in the field appointed for it in the electronic application form.
- 7- Proof of language abilities: English international TOEFL (minimum score 550 points paper based, 213 computer based, 80 internet based) or IELTS (band 6)
- 8- Proof of PhD registration in one of the Egyptian universities for the candidates who apply for Channel or Specialization System.
- 9- Proof of the Ethical commission's approval on working on animals/ human beings if the type of research includes such experiments (If applicable).
- 10- Summary of Master thesis on one page

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b) Requirements from non-university staff members:

1. C.V including a complete list of publications, if available. (To be pasted or typed in the field appointed for it on the electronic application form.)
2. Copy of passport. (To be uploaded in the field appointed for it on the electronic application form)
3. A recent photo. (To be uploaded in the field appointed for it on the electronic application form)
4. Acceptance letter or an email from a German professor showing that the research project under preparation is feasible and can be conducted in Germany under his supervision. The acceptance letter should state the title, time frame and objectives of the project. (To be uploaded in the field appointed for it on the electronic application form.) The acceptance letter should not be older than six months.
5. A motivation letter from the applicant,
6. A declaration from the applicant to assure that he/ she will settle the matter of his/ her needed vacation with his/ her company/ university. It is the responsibility of the applicant to acquire the needed leave form from his/her institution.
7. An endorsement/support letter, signed by the employer, to assure his/ her support and agreement if possible.
8. Official statement of employment (بيان حالة) issued from the applicants' institution/ university. The statement should indicate that the applicant is affiliated to this institution/ university at the time of application under the current position and should reflect a complete history of employment (a minimum of two employment years are a must). Please upload copy of signed and stamped letter in the field appointed for it on the electronic application form (if available).
9. Proof of language abilities: English international TOEFL (minimum score 550 points paper based, 213 computer based, 80 internet based) or IELTS (band 6)
10. Proof of PhD registration in one of the Egyptian universities for the candidates who apply for Channel or Specialization System (if available).
11. Proof of the Ethical commission's approval on working on animals/ human beings if the type of research includes such experiments (If applicable).
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All applicants will be able to retrieve their pre-selection result via the website on the date indicated in the time line. The pre-selection results will be announced on the following Website:

<http://www.mhesr-initiatives.org/gerls/>
<http://cairo.daad.de>

Please check the electronic application for more details.

Please note that incomplete applications or those received after the deadline will not be considered.

6. Selection of the candidates

The candidates will be selected in two rounds. First, a pre-selection procedure will identify the group of applicants to be invited for the second phase consisting of a personal interview with the GERLS bi-national independent selection committee. Pre- and final selection of the candidates should be conducted according to, but not limited to the following criteria:

- Excellent study achievement.
- Good command of languages: English language command is required, while German language command is a plus.
- Scientific merits, including:
 - A -Quality of the proposal
 - B -The benefit to Egypt
 - C -Preparation and feasibility of the project
 - D -Quality of the acceptance letter

7. Stipend:

The GERLS scholarship includes:

- A monthly basic stipend of 1000 Euros for a Ph.D. candidate, plus individual surcharges and standard annual allowances.
- A monthly family allowance if applicable.
- An allowance for health insurance.
- German language course and cultural preparation course.

Such amounts are subject to change and will always be adapted according to the general regulations for DAAD scholarships.

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8. German language courses

Each scholarship holder is entitled to receive German language and intercultural training, partly in Egypt and in Germany (up to two months of German language courses in Egypt followed by a course of up to six months in Germany) at a suitable institution before the beginning of study.

A) Funding during the language course in Egypt includes:

- A per diem of 30 EGP (100 EGP for scholarship-holders from outside Greater Cairo area) per course day. Scholarship-holders are expected to manage their accommodation in Cairo by themselves.

B) Funding during the language course in Germany includes:

- The costs of accommodation.
- The costs of health, accident and liability insurances.
- Travel allowance from the language center to the host institution or university at the end of the language course in Germany.
- The return costs from the language course location to the host university or institution for a preparatory visit may be paid.

9. Please note that:

- Scholarships granted to applicants from private universities/ freelancers / ministries will be limited in numbers.
- There are no quotas for individual institutions or disciplines.
- Priority will be given to younger scientists.
- Final selection phase will be based on the interviews, which will take place in January/February 2011 at the DAAD premises; however the exact date will be defined later by the DAAD Cairo office.
- The DAAD is not in the position to inform the applicants about the reasons of the committee's decision.
- If the research proposal requires a field study to be conducted in Egypt, kindly refer to the field study information sheet and indicate it in the online application.
- Among the reasons for disqualifying an application are the following :
 - a) Wrong history information and misleading information about previous applications.
 - b) Incomplete application.
 - c) Submitting two different proposals or two different accounts in one cycle.
 - d) Dual application with other programmes (Kindly refer to the dual application matrix).
 - e) Dual nationality of applicant
 - f) Hand made changes and corrections in the acceptance letter.
 - g) Plagiarism (e.g. copied data from the internet without stating the references).
 - h) Fraud documents.
 - i) Residing outside Egypt for more than six months at the time of application.

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- GERSS Alumni targeting a PhD title are encouraged to apply for the GERLS programme after returning back to Egypt provided that they fulfill the requirements of the GERLS programme.
- GERLS candidates who have been accepted finally but could not make use of the scholarship due to justifiable reasons or budget limitations will be exempted from the pre-selection procedure and will be automatically invited to the interview of the call following the year of their application provided that they are applying with the same proposal and a new acceptance letter with a recent date. Normal application procedure is, however, mandatory for these candidates
- Applicants should indicate any changes in their proposal and what has been developed and/or changed since the last call
- GERLS scholarship holders and applicants whose spouse has been granted a DAAD or MHESR scholarship should inform the DAAD accordingly.
- Candidates should pass the language course in Egypt and Germany as well. The needed level to be reached in Germany is B2, unless otherwise prescribed by the host university.
- Medicine candidates should be employed by their home university 2 years after residency period.
- Changes in the submitted proposal will require the approval of the independent selection committee and a new endorsement letter of the home university.
- The award of scholarships is subject to the availability of funds.

An incomplete application is the responsibility of the applicant.

This info sheet is also available on the following websites:

<http://www.frcu.eun.eg/scu/eng/Higher-Education.htm>

<http://www.mhesr-initiatives.org/gerls/>

<http://cairo.daad.de>

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Opening Hours of the DAAD Cairo Office: Sundays till Thursday 10.00- 12.00

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