

Information for applicants

Orange Knowledge Programme

Orange Knowledge Programme (OKP)

On 1 July 2017 the Netherlands Fellowship Programmes (NFP) entered a new phase as a new programme under the name Orange Knowledge Programme (OKP). OKP is initiated and fully funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Aim of OKP

The Orange Knowledge Programme aims to advance the development of the capacity, knowledge and quality of both individuals as well as organisations in the field of Technical and Vocational Education and Training and Higher Education and in other fields related to priority themes in the OKP partner countries.

The scholarships are awarded in a very competitive selection to highly motivated professionals who are in a position to introduce the newly-acquired skills and knowledge into their employing organisation.

For whom: criteria

An OKP scholarship is intended to supplement the salary that you should continue to receive during the scholarship period. The scholarship is a contribution towards your costs of living and costs such as tuition fees, visa, travel, insurance etc. You have to cover any difference between the OKP scholarship amount and the actual costs yourself.

You must meet a number of criteria that support the aim of the OKP to be eligible for a scholarship.

The criteria for scholarship applicant are as follows:

- The scholarship applicant works for one of the following types of national and/or local organisations: ministries, secondary or higher vocational or academic education institutions, universities, private sector, commissions or NGOs. The scholarship applicant **may not** work for:
 - a bilateral or multilateral organisation;
 - a non-governmental organisation that is internationally active and is focused on representing social interests, such as development cooperation, nature and environmental protection, health or human rights.¹
- The scholarship applicant is a professional who, in light of his/her (1) role, (2) multiple years of relevant work experience and (3) networks within a theme relevant to local development, is in a position or through his/her employer could be put in a position to apply what he/she has learned in practice.
- The scholarship applicant holds the nationality of and is resident and working in one of the countries on the OKP Country list (see the document 'Country List for Short courses and Masters - OKP' on www.studyinholland.nl/okp)

¹ 'Non-governmental organisation' means: a non-profit-making organisation, not created by a government authority and not legally or operationally linked to a government authority, which has legal personality under civil law.

- The scholarship applicant holds a valid identity document.
- The scholarship applicant has been admitted to the course or programme for which he/she wishes an OKP scholarship.
- The scholarship applicant has provided a government statement with the scholarship application, if this is required by the local government (see the document 'government statement requirement' on www.studyinholland.nl/okp).
- The scholarship applicant demonstrates that the requested co-funding percentage is available to fund the study.
- The employer of the scholarship applicant supports the scholarship application through a positive reference, declares that it will continue to pay the salary of the scholarship recipient during the programme and after his/her return will give the scholarship recipient an opportunity to apply what he/she has learned in practice.

With regard to eligible courses and programmes:

- The scholarship application is relevant to sustainable development in the country or region where the requesting party is located, and is relevant to the theme concerned. The scholarship application is in line with the Country Plan of Implementation or Country Focus for the country concerned. (see the document 'Country focus' on www.studyinholland.nl/okp For the Country Plan of Implementation check <https://www.nuffic.nl/en/subjects/institutional-collaboration-projects/>)
- The course/programme for which the scholarship applicant is applying for a scholarship is registered at www.studyfinder.nl (OKP-qualified 'yes').
- The course/programme for which the scholarship applicant is applying for a scholarship is full time, unless it is an e-learning course.
- The course/programme for which the scholarship applicant is applying for a scholarship is offered in English, French or Spanish.
- The course/programme for which the scholarship applicant wishes the OKP scholarship is a Master's degree programme or short course that meets the requirements set out above.

The scholarship applicant must not receive more than one OKP scholarship for courses/programmes that take place at the same time. If the scholarship applicant submits two or more scholarship applications for courses/programmes that take place at the same time:

- The scholarship application that was registered first in the scholarship application system will be processed;
- The other scholarship application(s) will be declared not eligible.

How to apply

Before you apply, make sure you review the eligibility criteria carefully and check whether your employer is willing to nominate you for the scholarship.

When you are certain that you are eligible for an OKP scholarship, you can start making the necessary preparations for your application.

Follow these steps to apply:

1. First find a course or master's programme that is eligible for the scholarship. You can find the eligible courses in our study programme database www.studyfinder.nl, specifying in the search criteria: 'OKP qualified: Yes'.
2. Contact the Dutch higher education institution that is offering the course for information on:
 - a. the course content;
 - b. the scholarship application deadline (deadlines can differ per Dutch institution);
 - c. the scholarship application and selection procedures;
 - d. the online application form and the required application documents.
3. Prepare your application and the supporting documents².
4. Submit your online application via the Dutch institution offering the course.

For any questions on the application or selection procedure please contact the Dutch institution directly.

Selection procedure

The Dutch institution can nominate your application for an OKP scholarship if your application meets the OKP eligibility criteria. The selection procedure is as follows:

- The Dutch institution submits a grant request to Nuffic requesting funding for eligible scholarship applications.
- The applicable Netherlands Embassy will check the individual applications on their eligibility and will assess the applications based on the eligibility criteria and the Embassy country focus area(s).
- Only eligible applications will be taken in to further consideration. Applications that do not meet the eligibility criteria will be rejected.
- The selection will be determined by the available deadline budget, the number of applicants and the quality and suitability of the applications.
- Candidates whom have been nominated will be informed of the outcome of the selection by the Dutch institution.

When to apply

We will publish the definite deadlines dates on www.studyinholland.nl/okp.

² With your online application, you will be asked to upload a valid passport copy, a current statement from your employer, and depending on your country of employment; a government statement