



# OAS – ALMA COLLEGE

## 2017 Scholarship Opportunity for Citizens of OAS Member States



**Scholarship Application Deadline**  
**November 15, 2017**

The General Secretariat of the [Organization of American States](#) (GS/OAS), through the OAS Partnerships Program for Education and Training (PAEC) of the Department of Human Development, Education and Employment (DHDEE), and [Alma College](#) (the College), are offering unlimited partial scholarships to qualified candidates of the Americas to participate in its undergraduate programs.

### ▼ SCHOLARSHIP OVERVIEW

<b>PROGRAMS:</b>	<a href="#">Undergraduate Degree</a> Programs covered by this scholarship are listed in Annex I below
<b>MODALITY / COUNTRY:</b>	Onsite / Michigan, United States
<b>LANGUAGE:</b>	English
<b>DURATION:</b>	1 - 4 years
<b>CALENDAR:</b>	<b>The College's admission deadline</b> November 1, 2017 for classes beginning January (Spring) 2018  <b>The OAS scholarship application deadline</b> November 15, 2017
<b>BENEFITS:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alma College shall waive USD 36,000 (90%) of the tuition fee per year for the duration of the program of study for the top three (3) awardees and the OAS shall provide a one-time tuition allowance of USD 2,500 to the top three (3) awardees who receive the 90% tuition waiver from Alma College.</li> <li>Alma College shall waive USD 30,000 (75%) of the tuition fee per year for the duration of the program of study for the remaining awardees and the OAS shall provide a one-time tuition allowance of USD \$4,000 to top seven (7) awardees who receive the 75% tuition waiver from Alma College</li> <li>Alma College shall waive USD 30,000 (75%) of the tuition fee per year for the duration of the program of study for the remaining awardees.</li> </ul>



## ▼ ABOUT THE PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

The OAS General Secretariat (GS/OAS) is the central and permanent organ of the [Organization of American States](#) (OAS). Through its Department of Human Development, Education and Employment (DHDEE), GS/OAS supports [OAS member States](#) in creating policies and executing programs that promote human capacity development at all educational levels. By enabling formative opportunities to citizens, DHDEE strengthens democratic values and security under the framework of regional integration. DHDEE does this: (i) by supporting the efforts of OAS member states to improve the quality of and equity in education; and (ii) by assisting the citizens of the Americas in realizing their full potential by giving them access to knowledge and skills through training that improves the standard of living for individuals, families and communities in the region.

[Alma College](#) (the College) offers a personalized education that allows you to create new knowledge through academic research, expand your horizons with global study initiatives, supplement your academic studies with relevant experiential learning opportunities and indulge your artistic and athletic yearnings while completing your degree on time. Your Alma experience will include opportunities to put the ideas and theories that you discuss in the classroom to work in real world settings through internships, research fellowships, campus leadership, academic travel or service to others.

## ▼ ABOUT THE PROGRAM

1. Applicants are encouraged to contact the College for more information, please go to the College’s website: <https://www.alma.edu/admissions/>
2. Before applying for admission at the College, students are encouraged to read the program description, and ensure that the study area fulfills their expectations and interests. Please visit: <https://www.alma.edu/admissions/> to understand admission requirements to the programs of study.
3. Applicants can contact Mr. James Crawley at [crawleyje@alma.edu](mailto:crawleyje@alma.edu) for more information about the College’s admission process and program details.

## ▼ SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

### SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

- Alma College shall waive:
  - USD 36,000 (90%) of the tuition fee per year for the duration of the program of study for the top three (3) awardees.
  - USD 30,000 (75%) of the tuition fee per year for the duration of the program of study for the remaining awardees.
- The OAS shall provide:
  - a one-time tuition allowance of USD 2,500 to the top three (3) awardees who receive the 90% tuition waiver from Alma College.
  - a one-time tuition allowance of USD \$4,000 to top seven (7) awardees who receive the 75% tuition waiver from Alma College

- ✓ Scholarship benefits are subject to the academic performance of the scholarship recipient and based on the availability of funds. In order to receive these benefits, the scholarship recipient should not be reported with an unsatisfactory academic performance due to absences or failing courses.
- ✓ The scholarship benefit to be provided by the OAS will only be applied to the first year of the scholarship period at Alma College. The remaining tuition and fees to be paid to the College will be higher in year two and beyond of the scholarship period / Program of study.



## ▼ EXPENSES NOT COVERED BY THIS SCHOLARSHIP

Expenses not covered by the scholarship, and which are the sole responsibility of the scholarship recipients, are:

<p><b>FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⊗ Remaining tuition and/or school fees</li> <li>⊗ Immigration and visa fees;</li> <li>⊗ Research expenses;</li> <li>⊗ Study materials;</li> <li>⊗ Living expenses;</li> <li>⊗ Round trip airfare; and</li> <li>⊗ Any additional fees not included in the OAS-Alma Scholarship offer.</li> </ul>
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- ✓ The tuition discount from the College shall be spread across the Spring 2018 and Fall 2018 semesters only and is based on the 2017/2018 year, which is expected to increase each year as tuition increases.
- ✓ The scholarship recipients will be responsible for payment of the remaining tuition fees and any other costs as needed to the College.
- ✓ Applicants can also apply for the [Rowe Fund](#) which is an educational loan program of the OAS that helps citizens from Latin America and the Caribbean to finance their studies in accredited universities across the United States.

## ▼ ELIGIBILITY

To be considered for this scholarship opportunity, an applicant must:

- Provide an unconditional admission letter from Alma College.
  - *This scholarship opportunity is open to current students from OAS member states at the College and new applicants who wish to begin in Spring (January) 2018 at Alma College.*
- Submit a complete scholarship application with all required supporting documents
- Be a citizen and/or permanent legal resident of any [OAS member state](#), except the *United States*.

The following applicants are ineligible:

- ⊗ Current OAS scholarship holders
- ⊗ GS/OAS staff and their immediate relatives or GS/OAS consultants
- ⊗ OAS Permanent officials and their immediate relatives.

## ▼ SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION CRITERIA

- ✓ The merits and overall credentials of the candidate, including his/her academic and professional background;
- ✓ Geographical distribution of the applicants, taking into account the greater needs of the smaller and relatively less developed economies;
- ✓ Applicants whose essays portray the highest potential for impact upon return to their countries of origin; and
- ✓ Gender diversity.



## ▼ SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS

### Step 1 > Gather required supporting documents

To apply for an OAS – Alma scholarship, the candidate must fill out the OAS online application form and attach the following required supporting documentation:

1. ID – scan or photo of [passport page](#) that contains the applicant’s full name, date of birth, and country of citizenship.
2. Admission letter – unconditional admission letter from Alma College.
  - ✓ In addition to the unconditional admission letter from the College, current students from OAS member states at the College should include a signed note from their academic advisors which indicate their academic status at the College.
3. [Transcript](#) or record of grades – copy of High School transcript or Associate’s degree transcript or transcript from current institution. Transcripts must be translated by a sworn translator if English is not the original language of the transcript.
4. Certificate or Diploma – copy of high school certificate or Associate’s degree diploma or letter of enrollment from current institution
5. Two (2) Recommendation Letters – one of the [recommendation letters](#) should be provided by a university professor and the other should be provided by current or most recent employer that includes: the letterhead of the University/Institution, the Professor’s/Employer’s position within the University/Institution, date and signature.
  - ✓ Applicants with no work experience may substitute the recommendation letter from the employer with a recommendation letter from a second professor.
6. Essays – applicants are required to write and include two (2) essays as part of the OAS-Alma College online scholarship application form and must be written in English. Both essays should be no longer than 2 pages.

<p><b>Essay No. 1</b></p> <p>Describe how acquiring this academic degree will directly impact and enhance your professional skills in your current job position or future career.</p>	<p><b>Essay No. 2</b></p> <p>Explain how you intend to apply the acquired knowledge and experience in the specific field of study that you will pursue to the development of your country or region.</p>
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7. Curriculum vitae – in English and no specific format is required. Do not include copies of diplomas, certificates or awards; only include text.
8. Proof of English Proficiency, if applicable – students whose native language is not English will be required to submit one of the following as proof of English proficiency:
  - ✓ A copy of an official transcript verifying completion of studies in an English speaking university or college in the last five years;
  - ✓ A test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a score of 570 or higher for the paper based test, 230 for computer-based test, or an internet-based TOEFL (IBT) score of at least 79;
  - ✓ IELTS 6.5, or the equivalent.



9. Proof of Additional Funds – proof that you have **sufficient funds** of approximately USD 11,160 to 15,660 to cover remaining tuition and fees and other costs not covered by the scholarship by including **one, or a combination**, of the following documents with your scholarship application:
- a copy of a rental agreement on property showing you as the property owner;
  - a copy of a bank statement or bank letter;
  - a letter from an employer showing a monthly or yearly salary to be received based on study leave with pay;
  - a letter showing a student loan or additional scholarship(s), grants, financial aid.

**NOTES:**

- ✓ All documents must be in English or officially translated to English by a certified translator.
- ✓ The date stated on the TOEFL or IELTS certificate must be within two years of your proposed start date.
- ✓ Applicants can also apply for the [Rowe Fund](#) which is an educational loan program of the OAS that helps citizens from Latin America and the Caribbean to finance their studies in accredited universities across the US by awarding **interest-free loans** of up to US\$15,000 dollars.
- ✓ The recommendation letters provided for admission consideration to the College can also be used for the OAS scholarship consideration. However, if you choose to provide new recommendation letters directly to the OAS, the letters should be addressed to the OAS Scholarship and Training Programs, Department of Human Development, Education and Employment.

**Step 2** > **Apply online**

Applicants must complete and submit the OAS-Alma College Online scholarship Application Form, and upload all the required supporting documents listed above and both essays in **one (1) single PDF file (no larger than 5MB)**. If the file is larger than 5MB, you will be unable to submit the online scholarship application form. The application system does not allow for more than one document to be uploaded. Do not include any additional documents besides those indicated above.

[\*\*Click here for the Online Scholarship Application Form\*\*](#)

**ONLY COMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED**

**▼ SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION PROCESS:**

- Selection Committee** Alma College and the OAS will select the scholarship awardees, based on the [criteria](#) listed above.
- Notification of selected candidates** The OAS will contact selected candidates by email with the scholarship offer and instructions for the scholarship acceptance. Applicants who are not selected will not be contacted.
- Publication of Scholarship Results** The names of the scholarship recipients will be published on the OAS Scholarship website at [www.oas.org/scholarships](http://www.oas.org/scholarships) in November 2017



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## ▼ **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT:**

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- ✓ The scholarship will be formally awarded only after the selected awardees have signed an OAS/Alma Acceptance Form, in which the awardees formally accept the scholarship and agree to its terms and conditions.
- ✓ Refrain from activities that are inconsistent with the status of an OAS Scholarship recipient, abiding by the regulations referred to in the Acceptance Form.
- ✓ Comply with all the academic guidelines and admission requirements requested by Alma and submit to the updates of these guidelines and requirements made by the academic authorities at Alma.
- ✓ Comply with the provisions indicated in the "Financial responsibilities of awardees."
- ✓ To retain the scholarship, Scholarship recipients should not have low academic performance (GPA must be at least equivalent to 3.5/4.0 or 3.0/4.0 (based on the scholarship offer, due to absence from the program and/or course failure.
- ✓ The scholarship can be declined by the scholarship recipient before the start date of the program without financial penalties. However, if the scholarship offer is declined after that date without proof of force majeure, the OAS and Alma may require the Scholarship recipient to reimburse all funding granted to her/him with the scholarship at the time in which the declined offer is processed.
- ✓ Commitment to return to work in their sponsoring country or legal residence in one of the OAS member states, or at an international organization, for at least the length of the duration of the scholarship. Failure to comply with this commitment, the GS/OAS and/or the College could seek reimbursement for the total value of the scholarship awarded.

## ▼ **SCHOLARSHIP CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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Questions about this scholarship opportunity should be sent to [scholarships@oas.org](mailto:scholarships@oas.org) with the subject "OAS-Alma College Scholarship Program"

## ▼ **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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[www.oas.org/scholarships](http://www.oas.org/scholarships)



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## ANNEX I:

### List of Eligible Undergraduate Programs Covered under the OAS /Alma College Scholarship Program

1. Accounting
2. Anthropology
3. Art and Design\*
4. Athletic Training
5. Biochemistry\*
6. Biology
7. Biotechnology
8. Business Administration
9. Chemistry
10. Communication
11. Computer Science
12. Dance
13. Economics
14. Educational Studies
15. Early Childhood Education
16. Elementary Education
17. Environmental Studies\*
18. Finance
19. Health Care Administration
20. History
21. Integrative Physiology and Health Science\*
22. International Business Administration
23. Management
24. Marketing
25. Mathematics
26. Music
27. Neuroscience\*
28. New Media Studies\*
29. Philosophy\*
30. Physics
31. Political Science\*
32. Psychology\*
33. Public Health
34. Religious Studies
35. Secondary Education
36. Sociology
37. Special Education
38. Theatre\*
39. Women's and Gender Studies

\*Scholarship Recipients of Bahamian citizenship who apply to the OAS/Government of The Bahamas Scholarship program can only pursue the undergraduate programs of study offered by the College in the areas indicated by the asterisks (\*).

Scholarship Recipients of Bahamian citizenship who do not apply to the OAS/Government of The Bahamas Scholarship program can pursue any of the programs of study included in this scholarship announcement.