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MINISTRY
FOR EDUCATION and
EMPLOYMENT

MALTA GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS POST-GRADUATE SCHEME

AWARDS 2014

Regulations

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 Postgraduate education forms an increasingly important part of our country's economic and social agenda. It is a key element in lifelong learning. For this purpose, the Malta Government Scholarships Post-Graduate Scheme for 2014 (MGSS-PG 2014) aims at providing more opportunities to promote further specialisation at higher levels of education particularly at all qualifications at MQF level 7 (including Masters) and Doctoral level (MQF Level 8).
- 1.2 The Ministry for Education and Employment is cognisant of study trends; the role of the Applicant in society; and the exigencies of our economy within a globalised perspective. The MGSS-PG scheme is proactive and therefore it continues to respond to such exigencies.
- 1.3 MGSS-PG is a highly competitive scheme. Therefore it is essential that applicants follow the Regulations, complete the Application Form and prepare oneself for the interview.

2 Aims and Objectives

- 2.1 The key objectives of the MGSS-PG 2014 are to:
 - assist exceptional applicants to pursue further levels of academic research;
 - encourage and promote further participation at a postgraduate level of academic research, both locally and internationally;
 - contribute towards research in identified areas of national priority;
 - increase the capacity and level of research, innovation and development activity in Malta
 - assist applicants to find better jobs.

3 Explanatory Notes

- 3.1 **Academic Record** shall mean an official document issued by a Higher Education Institution [HEI] (including a University). The document shall show the marks / grades obtained by the applicant and where it is the norm, the final grade / classification.
- 3.2 **Agreement** shall mean a legally binding document to be signed by the Scholarship Awardee as beneficiary of the Scholarship and the Director for Lifelong Learning. These Regulations shall be construed as forming part of the Agreement. The Agreement has to be signed by not later than three (3) months after the commencement of studies or the publication of rankings, whichever comes last unless otherwise justified. The monetary amounts shown in the Agreement shall be disbursed only if the proper documentation (invoices and receipts) are submitted and verified for eligibility and correctness. In the event of any inconsistency or discrepancy between the Agreement and these Regulations, these Regulations shall prevail in all cases and the Agreement shall be amended to the extent of the discrepancy or inconsistency with these Regulations is rectified.
- 3.3 **Appeals Board** shall mean a Board appointed by the Minister for Education, entrusted with assessing and delivering final decisions in respect of petitions submitted by Applicants and Awardees contesting decisions taken by the MGSS Board and the Director of Lifelong Learning as administrator of MGSS Scholarship Scheme on the interpretation of these Regulations. Any decision taken by the Appeals Board shall be regarded as final and irrevocable for all intents and purposes of the MGSS Scholarship Scheme.
- 3.4 **Applicant** shall mean a person that submits a scholarship application.
- 3.5 **Awardee** shall mean a person who is awarded a scholarship.
- 3.6 **Awarding Body** refers to an organisation recognised by the Regulatory Authorities whose purpose is awarding accredited qualifications.
- 3.7 **Bench Fees** shall mean fees being educational costs related to the execution of studies or research activity, but which are not covered by the tuition fee, and not related (but not limited) to general maintenance, travel, conference attendance (including registration fee), buying of books, registration to access libraries, use/buying of computer, energy charges, sports' membership or living costs/personal salaries of the Scholarship Awardee. As part of the Agreement, the Director of Lifelong Learning reserves the right to ask the Scholarship Awardee to obtain a justification or breakdown of costs from the Higher Education Institution on the claim/s declared. All Bench Fees need to be declared in writing in the ULA. Any increase in, or any additional Bench Fees cannot be claimed by the Scholarship Awardee or the HEI (including University) if not included in the ULA submitted by the closing date.

When the awardee pays the Bench Fee, he/she must produce an original invoice and an official receipt or equivalent (i.e. receipted invoices where applicable) from the HEI / University, in which case the payment will be made directly to the Awardee.

- 3.8 **Commencement Date** of scholarship shall mean the date as specified in the ULA being the start date of the course and on which payments to the Awardee commences. The Commencement Date may be amended at Agreement stage if the Director Lifelong Learning has proof that the start of the course is different from that included in the ULA submitted by the closing date.
- 3.9 **Completion Date** shall mean the date when the Studies (see Clause 3.28) are completed and the final result is published.
- 3.10 **Course duration** is established by the HEI (including a University). When it does not cover a whole month, the funds disbursed will be pro rata to the nearest month. For further definition of how a month is calculated please consult Clause 3.26 of these Regulations.
- 3.11 **Directorate for Lifelong Learning** is the entity within the Ministry for Education and Employment which administers the MGSS-PG 2014.
- 3.12 **Doctoral Programme** shall mean a research-related programme of higher education that:
- follows a higher education degree and leads to a doctoral degree by HEI (including a university), or,
 - in those Member States of the European Union (henceforth called EU) where there is accordance with national legislation and practice, by a research centre.
 - is referenced at MQF Level 8 on the academic level.
- 3.13 **ECTS** shall mean European Credit Transfer System
- 3.14 **End Date** shall mean the date as specified on the ULA or the date specified on the Transcript as issued by the HEI (including a University) whichever date is the earliest. Payments are calculated to cover the period from the Commencement Date to the End Date.
- 3.15 **Full-time studies** shall mean studying full time on-campus at the HEI (including a University). For computation of study abroad allowance for full-time students please see Clauses 3.29 and 12.5.1 of these Regulations.
- 3.16 **Full-time / distance learning programmes.** The HEI (including a University) has to establish that part of the programme which is on campus and that which is by distance learning. If the HEI (including a University) does not provide such information within two weeks from being notified by the MGSS Board, the course shall be considered by distance learning. For definition of full-time studies please refer to Clause 3.15 of these Regulations.
- 3.17 **Higher Education Institution (HEI)** (including a University) shall mean an entity providing higher education and recognized by the competent national authority of a participating country as belonging to its system of higher education and is a recognised body with Degree awarding powers.
- 3.18 **ISCED** shall mean International Standard Classification of Education.
- 3.19 **Joint Degree** shall mean a single degree issued by at least two HEIs (including Universities) offering an integrated programme and recognized officially in the countries where the degree-awarding institutions are located. For the purpose of these Regulations, when an applicant applies for a Joint Degree, a leading HEI (or University) has to be identified. The MGSS Board shall only recognise that leading one HEI (or University).
- 3.20 **Maintenance Grant** shall mean a grant which is awarded as part of the Scholarship and in accordance with all conditions laid in these Regulations and in the Agreement.
- 3.21 **MGSS Board** shall mean a Board appointed by the Minister responsible for Education, entrusted with the ranking of Applicants for the awarding of Scholarships and overseeing the administration and implementation of the scheme.
- 3.22 **MGSS-PG 2014** shall mean the Malta Government Scholarship Post-Graduate Scheme. The Scheme launched in 2014 is governed by these Regulations.
- 3.23 **MQF (Malta Qualification Framework)** shall act as a translation device to make national qualifications more readable across Europe, promoting workers' and learners' mobility between countries and facilitating their lifelong learning.
- 3.24 **MQF Level 7 Qualification shall mean any qualification referenced at Level 7 by the National Commission for Further and Higher Education (NCFHE). Among the qualifications referenced at MQF Level 7, there are: Postgraduate Certificates, Postgraduate Diplomas and Masters.**
- 3.25 **On-campus** shall mean attending physically at the HEI (including a University), excluding learning or studying from any other place that is not designated as being part of the campus of HEI (or University). The Board may ask the HEI (or University) to confirm the physical presence and the duration on-campus of the Awardee. In the fault of submission of such a declaration within two weeks notice, the course shall be taken as being a part time / distance learning course and the pertaining conditions are applied.
- 3.26 **Per Annum** shall mean twelve (12) calendar months. This means that when a course is of duration of for example nine (9) calendar months, the grant shall be awarded pro rata over that number of months. For avoidance of doubt in calculating the meaning of a month, the Awardee must spend fifteen (15) or more consecutive days in order to be eligible for funds covering a month.

- 3.27 **Scholarship** shall mean a grant of financial aid to an Awardee to further his / her education. At the end of the Scholarship, the Awardee is to submit documentary proof that s/he has completed successfully the programme of studies for which the Awardee has been awarded a Scholarship. This proof is to be forwarded to the MGSS Board by not later than two (2) months from the conclusion of the course for which the scholarship would have been granted and availed of.
- 3.28 **Studies** shall mean all work required to be undertaken and completed by the Awardee to the satisfaction of the HEI (including University) in which the Awardee is registered. The studies shall be the same originally applied for in the Application Form, as awarded by the MGSS Board and as agreed in the Agreement.
- 3.29 **Study Abroad Allowance** shall mean an additional allowance awarded to an Awardee who would be abroad (that is outside the Maltese territory) studying on campus at a HEI (including a University) throughout a full-time course. A 'Confirmation of Residence Form' shall be completed by the Awardee to confirm the place where the studies and / or research are or will be taking place. When an Awardee spends part of his / her studies in Malta, the Study Abroad Allowance is paid on a pro rata basis. In such case the allowance is paid at the end of the academic year at a maximum rate of two hundred euro (€200) per visit abroad (supported by boarding passes and a letter of confirmation from Higher Education Institution [including a University]) up to a maximum of €2,400 over a 12-month period. For definition of how a month is calculated please consult Clause 3.26 of these Regulations.
- 3.30 **Transcript** shall mean the same as **Academic Record**.
- 3.31 **Tuition Fee** shall mean enrolment, administration, registration, and / or examination fees charged by a HEI (including a University) so that the Applicant follows an eligible course. Tuition Fees covered shall be those charged directly by a HEI (including a University) as approved by the MGSS Board. Any subsequent increase in tuition fees cannot be claimed by the Awardee or the HEI (including the University) if not included in the ULA submitted by the closing date. Tuition Fees shall be paid only upon presentation of an **original invoice and original receipt**. If the invoice is issued by a University's representative in Malta, the invoice shall clearly state separately the tuition fee and commission (if any). The MGSS Board shall pay for such tuition fees and bench fees ONLY. **Please refer also to Unconditional Letter of Acceptance definition below.**
- 3.32 **Unconditional Letter of Acceptance (ULA)** shall mean a letter issued to the Applicant by the Registrar (or a delegated high authority) of the HEI (including a University) which shall have the following details:
- A clear statement by the HEI (or University) that it is **unconditionally** accepting the Applicant to follow a recognised programme of studies.
 - The **Commencement Date** of studies. Where the exact date is not specified, this is taken as the last day of the month mentioned in the ULA.
 - The **End Date** of studies. Where the exact date is not specified, this is taken as the first day of the month mentioned in the ULA.
 - The **Tuition Fee** (if applicable) which shall be indicated on the ULA and not through an electronic link. Applicant shall note that the Agreement to be signed at a later stage shall include only the information on the ULA. The MGSS Board shall not accept amendments to the Agreement other than those which reflect the information and/or data clearly stated in the original ULA.
 - The **Bench Fees** (if applicable).
 - **Modality** of study (that is whether it is distance learning or part-time or full-time studies); and
 - Any other information required by the Director for Lifelong Learning or the MGSS Board. (Please consult Clause 4.2)

ALL APPLICANTS shall be obliged to submit the Unconditional Letter of Acceptance by **9 September 2014** not later than **1600hrs**. Applicants who commenced their studies before the date of applications are obliged to submit a letter which contains the same information as above as well as the stage at which the applicant is at the date of application.

It is the duty of the Applicant to ensure that when s/he chooses a HEI (including a University), this institution is in a position to issue such an ULA with all the above details. This has to be in the form of an original letter, signed by the Registrar of the University (or delegated high authority). Scanned, PDF copies or other electronically transmitted formats shall be accepted PROVISIONALLY in terms of Clause 9.2, unless the MGSS Office receives it directly from the HEI (or University). In any event the original ULA must be produced before the signing of the Agreement.

In the event where the HEI (including a University) issues solely electronic copies of the ULA, the ULA shall be emailed directly by the HEI (or University) to the MGSS Office. Scanned or emailed copies of the ULA forwarded to or by the Applicant cannot be accepted. No additional costs shall be entered in the Agreement other than those stated in the ULA submitted by 9 September 2014 by 1600hrs.

4 Eligibility

- 4.1 In order to apply for the MGSS, an Applicant shall, by the closing date of Applications, that is 30 May, 2014:
- 4.1.1. (a) Be a Maltese citizen who has been residing in Malta for the past five (5) years. Provided that a Maltese citizen who has been residing outside Malta for study, health or work purposes or any other purpose which the MGSS Board may consider, will still be eligible to apply and this period of time during which the citizen was abroad **shall not** be taken into consideration for the purpose of calculating the five (5) year requirement, or
- (b) Be a Maltese Citizen who is a worker or self-employed person in Malta, or
- (c) Be a national of an EU/EEA state or a family member of such EU/EEA national (as defined in LN 191 of 2007 and in LN 205 of 2004 respectively for EU and EEA nationals), provided that such person has obtained permanent residence in Malta in accordance with LN 191 of 2007 and in LN 205 of 2004 respectively for EU and EEA nationals, or
- (d) Be a national of an EU/EEA state who is in Malta exercising his/her Treaty rights as a worker, self-employed person or person retaining such status in accordance with LN 191 of 2007; or
- (e) Be a third country national that has been granted long-term residence status under LN 278 of 2006.
- 4.1.2 (a) Be applying for a new course starting throughout 2014 for a programmes of studies equivalent at MQF Level 7, provided that, if the course leads to a Masters, the results are published **after 31 October 2015**;
- (b) Be applying for a new course starting throughout 2014 for a programme of studies leading to a Doctoral Degree equivalent at MQF Level 8¹.
- (c) Be already in a course at MQF Level 7 or MQF Level 8, BUT the **End Date of studies is in 2015 or after**. In such case, the Applicant is eligible for funding for the remaining **years commencing from the date of publication of rankings**. The Applicant is still obliged to submit a ULA as per Clause 3.32 by 9 September, 2014, by not later than 1600hrs, whereby the HEI (including the University) must declare as well the number of academic years remaining to complete the programme of studies and a progress report of the Applicant carried so far. The amount of funding which is eligible is worked out pro rata in accordance with Article 13, based on if the scholarship was awarded to cover the whole programme of studies.
- 4.1.3 Applicants already in possession of a qualification at MQF level 7 may apply provided that:
- (a) The other MQF level 7 qualification was not obtained as a result of a Government and / or EU co-funded scholarship / grant awarded in the period 2006 – 2014; and
- (b) The MQF level 7 course applied for is in a different area of specialisation from the first one.
- 4.1.4 Applicants applying for programme of studies leading to MQF Level 8 shall not be in possession of another qualification at MQF level 8. For avoidance of doubt, applicants with a doctoral degree from the Faculty of Laws and Faculty of Medicine and Surgery from the University of Malta are eligible to apply under this scheme, and may apply for a Scholarship at both MQF level 7 and MQF Level 8.
- 4.1.5 An Applicant is not eligible to apply for a Scholarship under this scheme if applying for a course at MQF Level 7, undertaken at the University of Malta, which course does not have tuition fee **and** the Applicant is eligible for stipend while undertaking the whole course.
- 4.1.6 (a) If applying for a Scholarship in which the programme of studies leads to MQF Level 7, the Applicant shall hold by **9 September, 2014 (1600 hrs)** a ULA from at least one recognised HEI (or University) for a course at MQF Level 7 and HEI (or University) as indicated on the Application Form.
- (b) If applying for a Scholarship in which the programme of studies leads to MQF Level 8, the Applicant shall hold by **9 September, 2014 (1600 hrs)** the following:
- a first cycle Degree (MQF level 6); and / or
 - a second cycle Degree (MQF level 7) at Masters level; and
 - a ULA from at least one recognised HEI (or University) for a course at MQF Level 8 and HEI (or University) as indicated on the Application Form.
- 4.2 An Applicant who is not in possession of a ULA on the closing date of Applications may also apply, provided that the ULA is submitted by **9 September 2014 not later than 1600hrs**.
- 4.3 An Applicant who is following a programme of studies leading to MQF level 7, but part of the course is referenced at MQF Level 6 shall not be eligible to apply under this scheme but shall be eligible to apply for a scholarship under MGSS–Undergraduate. Applications for MGSS–Undergraduate will be open from September to November 2014.

¹ For further information about the National Qualification Framework, contact the National Council for Further and Higher Education. For comparative purposes, MQF Level 7 is equivalent to ISCED Level 7 and MQF Level 8 would be equivalent to ISCED Level 8. For more information on the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED 2011), visit the link: <http://www.uis.unesco.org/Education/Documents/isced-2011-en.pdf>

- 4.4 An Applicant cannot apply for both scholarship schemes 'MGSS PG' and for 'MASTER it!' simultaneously. In the eventuality that an applicant submits two (2) applications both scholarship Schemes administered by DLLL for the same course in the same University, the application for MGSS PG is automatically disqualified.
- 4.5 It is the responsibility of Applicants, in possession of qualifications awarded by foreign HEIs (including Universities), to produce an evaluation report on comparability of qualifications issued by the Malta Qualifications Recognition Information Centre (MQRIC) within the National Council for Further and Higher Education (NCFHE) (as per Education Act – Act XXIV of 1988 in accordance with the Mutual Recognition Of Qualifications Act – *Act XVIII of 2002*). A copy of the said report issued by the MQRIC, or the designated authority in case of warrants, shall be attached to the application, with the original presented at the interview. Applicants not in possession of this report may still apply, provided that they submit a copy of the report to the receiving MGSS Board as soon as it becomes available and in any case by not later than 9 September 2014 by 1600hrs.
- 4.5.1 Applicants whose qualifications are obtained from a foreign HEIs (including Universities) listed on the website of MQRIC as Approved Institutions (<http://www.ncfhe.org.mt>), are not required to produce the evaluation report on comparability of qualifications as long as the course is listed as one of the regular courses of the University.
- 4.6 Applications submitted for full time studies by employees of the Public Service/Public Sector require the endorsement of the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry concerned through the Head of the relative Department subject to written confirmation whether paid leave of absence for the duration of the course has been granted. These conditions shall apply to those with have approved paid leave of absence for the duration of the course.
- 4.6.2 4.6.1 An Applicant who has fees waived by the University or paid by any other source (whether public or private), and retains the salary during the studies, is not eligible to apply under this scheme. In the case of an Applicant who is employed on full-time basis and receiving paid leave of absence, the grant shall cover tuition fees and/or bench fees only. The conditions laid in Article 12 applies.
- 4.7 Applicants in possession of other national / ESF (or a combination of both) public grants or national/ESF/Commonwealth (or a combination) scholarships for the same course or programme shall be deemed ineligible for the MGSS scheme. In the event that an Applicant is granted a MGSS Scholarship and the Director for Lifelong Learning becomes aware after the grant of such MGSS Scholarship, that the Scholarship Awardee had, at any point in time, whether prior to the award of the MGSS Scholarship, or after such award, accepted any such national/ESF public grant or national/ESF/Commonwealth scholarship, the Scholarship Awardee shall be liable to refund the Amount/s up to then granted to him / her in full, and this without prejudice to any other legal action which may be taken with in his regard.
- Provided that any scholarships or any other supplementary grants awarded to the Awardee shall be notified to and approved by the MGSS Board, whether such are awarded to the Applicant prior to the MGSS Scholarship or throughout the duration of the Scholarship. For the sake of clarity, any scholarships or supplementary grants awarded at any time to the Applicant in relation to the course of studies for which the Scholarship shall be granted can be approved by the MGSS Board. Applicant shall also consult Clause 13.3 and Sub-Clauses 13.3.1, 13.3.2, 13.3.3 and 13.3.4.
- 4.8 An Applicant, who is awarded a scholarship for a new course shall commence the studies by through 2014 but not later than 31 December 2014.
- 4.9 An Applicant who is currently in possession of a MGSS Scholarship or any other scholarship scheme is not eligible to start another scholarship before the termination of studies being pursued by the first scholarship. In the case of an Applicant who is in possession of a MGSS-UG scholarship because part of the programme of studies is referenced at MQF Level 6, is eligible to apply, provided that the applicant is commencing that part of the programme of studies that is referenced at MQF Level 7. If awarded a scholarship under MGSS-PG, the Awardee shall forfeit automatically the MGSS-UG scholarship.
- 4.10 An applicant shall become ineligible for a scholarship if at any time s/he is in breach of any part of the Regulations.

5 Types of Scholarships and Priority Areas of Study

5.1 The Malta Government Scholarships Post-Graduate Scheme shall support one of these types of scholarships:

Level	Start Date	Modality	Max. Duration	Publication of Results
MQF Level 7 Excluding Masters starting 1 April 2014 and results are published by 31 October 2015 ² .	Throughout 2014	Full-Time	4 Years	No restrictions but consult footnote at the end of this page.
		Part-Time	5 Years	
		Distance Learning	5 Years	
MQF Level 7	Before 2014	Full Time	4 Years	2015 or after.
		Part-Time	5 Years	
		Distance Learning	5 Years	
MQF Level 8 (PhD)	Throughout 2014	Full Time	5 Years	No particular restrictions.
		Part-Time	7 Years	
		Distance Learning	7 Years	
MQF Level 8 (PhD)	Before 2014	Full Time	5 Years	2015 or after
		Part-Time	7 Years	
		Distance Learning	7 Years	

In all cases, Joint Degrees or split-site programmes may be considered as long as documentation is provided indicating the lead degree awarding institution. See Clause 3.19.

5.2 Applicants may apply in any Area of Study.

5.2.1 It has been established that a number of areas of study shall be considered as High Priority Areas of Study because the country needs urgently more people specialising in these sectors. For this purpose, the MGSS Board shall during the interview award:

- (a) three (3) additional marks to applicants following courses at MQF level 7 courses and falling under the mentioned areas as on Page 16 and 17; OR
- (b) five (5) additional marks to applicants following courses for Doctoral programmes and falling under the mentioned areas as on Page 16 and 17.

5.3 The MGSS Board may receive further recommendations from the Ministry for Education and Employment with regards to the list of Priority Area of studies according to national needs and criteria. This will be incorporated in the selection criteria to be used by the MGSS Board.

6 Tenure and Placement

6.1 Awards shall be tenable at any local or international HEI (including a University) for a specific programme of study or research. Only those institutions recognised by the Maltese authorities shall be taken into consideration by the MGSS Board.

6.2 It shall be the responsibility of Applicants, applying for qualifications awarded by foreign HEIs (including Universities), to produce an evaluation report on comparability of qualifications issued by the Malta Qualifications Recognition Information Centre (MQRIC) within the National Council for Further and Higher Education (NCHFE) (as per Education Act – Act XXIV of 1988 in accordance with the Mutual Recognition Of Qualifications Act – Act XVIII of 2002). A copy of the said report issued by the MQRIC, shall be attached to the application, with the original presented at the interview. Candidates not in possession of this report may still apply, provided that they submit a copy of the report to the receiving department as soon as it becomes available and in any case by not later than 9 September 2014 by not later than 1600hrs (Local Time).

6.2.1 Applicants whose course is at a foreign University or Higher Education Institution listed on the website of MQRIC as Approved Institutions (<http://www.mqc.gov.mt/mqric>), are not required to produce the evaluation report on comparability of qualifications as long as the qualification was obtained after following a regular course of study.

² An applicant whose course leads to a Masters and the results are published by 31 October 2015, has to apply under the MASTER it! scheme, which has the same deadline but different Regulations and Application Form.

6.3 The MQRIC may be contacted as follows:

Malta Qualifications Recognition Information Centre (MQRIC)
National Council for Further and Higher Education (NCFHE)
Bice Mizzi Vassallo School,
Alamein Road ,
Pembroke PBK 1776
Tel. No.: (+356) 27540051 / 21801890 / 27540026 / 21801411
e-mail: ncfhe@gov.mt
www.ncfhe.gov.mt

7 Choice of Institution

- 7.1 Applicants are, expected to identify on the Application Form up to five (5) institutions that they consider most appropriate. Applicants shall have at least one Unconditional Letter of Acceptance (ULA) in writing from an institution listed in their preferences on the Application Form by not later than 9 September 2014 by 1600hrs (Local Time). If more than one ULA is submitted by 9 September 2014, the Applicant shall state in writing which University she/he is choosing. This written statement is to be delivered to the MGSS Office by not later than 12 September 2014 (noon). Failure to submit such a statement, the MGSS Board assumes that the University as listed on the Application Form are in the order of preference of the Applicant.
- 7.2 Many courses have strict admission deadlines and Applicants must take the necessary steps to secure admission to their preferred institutions in advance of any scholarship application to the Malta Government Scholarships Scheme Board. Applicants shall note that a number of university departments will require an Applicant to demonstrate a valid GMAT or GRE score before an offer of admission can be made. Applicants shall check admission requirements carefully at the time of application.

8 Administration of MGSS

- 8.1 The MGSS Post-Graduate Scheme is administered by the Directorate for Lifelong Learning within the Ministry for Education and Employment.
- 8.2 The MGSS Board, set up by the Minister responsible for Education, shall operate the process of selection. The MGSS Board shall be responsible for all matters concerning the selection and determination of appropriate awards according to the regulations.
- 8.3 All correspondence is to be addressed to:
- Malta Government Scholarships Scheme Board
Ministry for Education and Employment
Room 165, Directorate for Lifelong Learning
Great Siege Road,
Floriana, VLT2000.
Malta
Tel. No.: (+356) 2598 2250 / 2598 2230
Fax: (+356) 2598 2123
E-mail: pgscholarships.mede@gov.mt
Website: www.myscholarship.gov.mt

9. Application Forms

- 9.1 Applicants are invited to apply using the appropriate Application Form. This form is available from:
- Customer Care Office, Directorate for Educational Services, Ministry for Education and Employment, Great Siege Road, Floriana, VLT2000
 - Downloaded from the website www.myscholarship.gov.mt

9.2 The Applicant shall complete **in full and sign one application form** and submit it to the MGSS Board together with the following:

Documents to be submitted	Deadline
1 signed Application Form	30 May 2014, noon
1 Original & 3 Copies of the three Appendices: i.e. Appendix I, II and III – see 9.2.1	30 May 2014, noon
1 copy of Identity Card (front and back)	30 May 2014, noon
1 copy of Special Identity Card, in case of applicants with Disability, issued by KNPD – Kummissjoni Nazzjonali Persuni b'Dizabilita' (where applicable)	30 May 2014, noon
Documentation to support the special circumstances that the person will be passing through (where applicable)	30 May 2014, noon
1 copy of the MQRIC evaluation report (where applicable)	extended to 9 September 2014, 1600hrs
1 copy of Applicant's University / Higher Education Institution transcripts (detailed)	extended to 9 September 2014, 1600hrs
1 copy of Unconditional Acceptance Letter from Higher Education Institution / University applied for, as per Clause 3.32	extended to 9 September 2014, 1600hrs
Official document that course is part of the route leading to MQF level 7, as per Clause 4.3 (where applicable)	extended to 9 September 2014, 1600hrs

9.2.1 Applicants applying for a scholarship to support studies leading to a PhD shall submit a Proposal (Appendix 1) that is not less than 500 words and not more than 1,000 words. Applicants are expected to elaborate further during the interview. Applicants applying for a MQF level 7 shall submit a Proposal (Appendix I) of not more than 300 words indicating clearly the content of their course and/or research. In case of Appendix II and III, the word limit is approximately 300 words.

9.2.2 All times shown in the Table above refer to Local Time.

9.3 The MGSS Board shall penalise Applicants who fail to submit a proper Appendices with the Application Form.

9.4 Applications for scholarships are required to arrive at the:

Customer Care Offices
 Directorate for Educational Services
 Ministry for Education and Employment
 Great Siege Road
 Floriana. VLT2000, Malta.
 Tel: +356 2598 2463
 Free phone: 1571

9.5 Only ONE (1) Application Form shall be considered by the MGSS Board. If an applicant submits more than one application, the last one submitted by the deadline shall be taken into consideration.

9.6 No changes to the application are accepted after submission.

9.7 Late applications shall not be considered by the MGSS Board.

9.8 All Applicants are to request an acknowledgement for receipt of application from the receiving office if the form is submitted by hand. Alternatively, applications sent by mail are to be sent by **registered post**. The Applicant has to ensure that the application is received by the respective deadline. The MGSS Board nor the Directorate for Lifelong Learning assumes any responsibility for Applications not sent by registered mail and / or applications sent by normal post / express delivery and arrive late at the Customer Care Offices.

9.9 The deadline for submitting the Application Form is **Friday 30 May 2014 at noon (Local Time)**. Table at 9.2 above shows that other documents shall be submitted by the same date.

10 Selection Process

10.1 The role of the MGSS Board is to evaluate and select candidates according to pre-established criteria (Article 12).

10.2 Each application is considered as follows:

- the MGSS Board shall, where and as necessary, appoint an expert with expertise in the subject area concerned to evaluate the application;
- the MGSS Board itself shall consider the application and any advice submitted by appointed experts.

- 10.3 Eligible Applicants shall be called for an interview. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to make sure to be available on the date and time communicated to him/her for the interview. No alternative arrangements shall be made to change the date and time of the interview unless there is an exceptional circumstance (supported by written proof) that warrants the change in such date and time. The aforementioned exceptional circumstance shall be examined and such alternative date and time may be communicated by the Board, at its discretion.
- 10.4 In the case of applicants who are unable to attend for the interview at the given date and time due to being abroad, such interview shall take place via SKYPE only at the given date and time. It is the Applicant who has to ensure to be at a place where such facilities are available and that the video and audio link on his/her ends, are adequate to ensure a proper interview throughout. The MGSS Board does not assume any responsibility if the interview fails to materialise properly due to any technical reason. An alternative date for interview may be given by the MGSS Board depending on the circumstances which lead to the failure of such an interview.
- 10.5 The Ministry for Education and Employment has also appointed an Appeals Board to deal with objections raised by Applicants after they are informed in writing with the decisions of the MGSS Board.
- 10.6 The Appeals Board shall only address appeals from the MGSS Board's decisions on matters related to procedure or interpretation of the regulations in terms of eligibility, awards, and other decisions related to the granting of a Scholarship. Under no circumstance shall the Appeals Board change the score of Applicants deriving from interviews by the MGSS Board, nor change the ranking of an Applicant as a result of such score.
- 10.7 If an Applicant disagrees with the MGSS Board or any other procedure under these Regulations, the Applicant or Scholarship Awardee may present a petition to the Malta Government Scholarships Scheme Appeals Board within five (5) working days from the date when the MGSS Board or the Secretary of the Board communicates decision/s to the Applicant in writing.
- 10.8 The decision of the Appeals Board is final.

11 Selection Criteria

11.1 Applications shall be considered on the basis of the following selection criteria:

- Academic merit of the candidate³.
- The quality of the proposal.
- The relevance of the area of study vis-à-vis national priorities.
- The likely impact of the work on the development of Malta.
- The availability of such expertise in the academia or in the economy.
- Previous experience
- Direct relationship Priority Area of Studies⁴
- The modality of study. Preference shall be given to programmes in the following order *ceteris paribus*:
 - First preference – Full time programmes;
 - Second preference – Part time programmes;
 - Third preference – Distance learning programmes.

Provided that students who are persons with disabilities and do not have any possibility of following a full or part-time programme of studies unless through distance learning, shall be given first preference in the same way as those who apply to follow full-time programmes.

For those who are short-listed, the MGSS Board may consult further with KNPD (Kummissjoni Nazzjonali Persuni b'Dizabbilta') to evaluate the nature of disability with respect to undergoing further studies and whether this disability shall be considered for the purpose of this Article.

11.2 An Applicant is considered to have passed the interview if the Applicant obtains a pass mark (that is 50% of the allotted marks). However, a pass mark does not guarantee that a scholarship has been awarded.

³ Applicants in possession of a Masters Degree and are applying for a scholarship at Masters level, shall not be awarded marks for this degree.

⁴ Refer to Clause 5.2.1.

12 Value of Awards

12.1 Value of award for **full-time MQF level 7 Programme** in Malta or outside Malta:

Level	Modality	Maximum Amount
MQF 7	Full Time	Tuition Fee + Bench Fee + Maintenance Grant = €8,000 per annum. If Maintenance Grant is awarded, this cannot exceed €2,500 per annum.
	Part- Time	Tuition Fee + Bench Fee = €8,000 for the whole duration of course.
	Distance Learning	
MQF 8 (PhD)	Full Time	Tuition Fee + Bench Fee + Maintenance Grant = €10,500 per annum. If Maintenance Grant is awarded, this cannot exceed €2,500 per annum.
	Part- Time	Tuition Fee + Bench Fee = €12,000 for the whole duration of course.
	Distance Learning	

12.2 The MGSS Board may consider extension for completion of studies. During the extension period, no funds will be allocated.

12.3 Payments of Scholarship grant are effected as follows:

- For full-time studies, the payment for tuition fee and / or bench is affected at the beginning of each Academic Year. The payment of maintenance grant (if applicable) is split in two instalments: 50% at the beginning of an academic year and the remaining 50% after a satisfactory mid-academic year report by the supervisor is presented. During the final year of studies, the second instalment of the maintenance grant (if applicable) is affected on presentation of the final official results. The results are to be presented to the MGSS Office.
- For part-time and distance learning programmes, the payment is split equally on the number of course years. Payments are effected to the Awardee at the beginning of each Academic Year, except for the last instalment. Authorisation of the last instalment is effected when the Awardee presents the final official results to the MGSS Office.

12.4 At the end of each academic year, the Awardee shall ask the Supervisor to present an annual report on the progress registered. It is following the presentation of a satisfactory report that any payments are affected.

12.5 **Additional Allowances⁵** are awarded to Awardees when following full-time programmes. These **Additional Allowances** are over and above the funds quoted above.

12.5.1 Study Abroad Allowance.

For an Awardee selected by the MGSS Board and who is following full-time studies in a foreign HEI (including a University) outside Malta, a **Study Abroad Allowance** of Euro 2,500 per annum is awarded. In order to be eligible for this amount, the awardee has to reside abroad (that is outside Malta) throughout the programme of studies. Proof of residence abroad must be provided from time to time. The Board reserves the right to ask the applicant for any further evidence of residing abroad and if such further evidence is not forthcoming, the Board may decide to demand a refund of this allowance if already paid. The Awardee is entitled to such an allowance after s/he presents an Original Boarding Pass, an e-ticket showing details of flight and destination as well as completing the declaration on the form entitled "Confirmation of Residence Form" which is to be filled on signing of the Agreement. If the Awardee spends part of the studies abroad, please consult Clause 3.29 of these Regulations on how this Allowance is worked out.

12.5.2 Scholarship Awardees with Children:

For an Awardee with children or otherwise has legal custody of children, a child allowance is payable at the rate of Euro 1,170 per annum for the first child, and Euro 700 per annum for any additional child under the age of 16, provided they are residing with their parent/s. This grant is payable in addition to the amounts above specified. This allowance is paid to one of the awardees when both parents / legal guardians are in receipt of an award from this or any other scholarship scheme by the Malta Government, or partly-financed by the Malta Government. Proof of where is the residence of the child/children has to be presented in order for this allowance to be paid.

⁵ When both members of a marriage / legal civil union are in receipt of any national/ESF/Commonwealth (or a combination) of scholarships, only one will qualify for additional allowances.

12.5.3 Scholarship Awardees who are married / in Legal Civil Union:

An Awardee who is married / in Legal Civil Union, and awarded a Scholarship leading to a Doctorate programme in a foreign HEI (including a University) whose campus is outside Malta and the studies are performed outside Malta on full time basis, an Additional Allowance of €2,330 per annum is payable provided that both members of this legally recognised union are residing together at the same address in Malta on the closing date of Applications, and continue to reside together abroad during the programme of studies. Proof that Awardee and the other spouse / legal civil union member is living abroad has to be provided from time to time throughout the whole scholarship. This additional allowance shall be paid pro-rata when spouse / the member of the legally recognised union is not abroad throughout the whole programme of studies. Please consult Clause 3.29 of these Regulations on how this Allowance is worked out.

12.5.4 Gozo Residents studying at the University of Malta:

Awardees residing permanently in Gozo, following full-time MQF level 7 or full-time Doctoral studies at the University of Malta, shall be entitled to an Additional Allowance of Euro 1,050 per annum for the duration of the course. In order to benefit from this additional allowance, applicant shall present a School Leaving Certificate and/or Secondary School Certificate and Profile from a Gozo Secondary School and/or Gozo Sixth Form which certificate/s shows that the applicant attended at least three (3) years in a school in Gozo. Moreover, the ID Card must also show that the residence of the Awardee is in Gozo.

12.5.5 Awardees with Disability:

Scholarship Awardees with a disability taking up full-time on-campus studies abroad may also request in advance an additional subsidy to contribute towards the added expense incurred in relation to their impairment. Every such request shall be evaluated by the MGSS Board on a case by case basis. The maximum amount that the MGSS Board can refund is Euro 2,000 per annum, against original receipts to support the reimbursement.

Awardees with a disability that may hinder their free movement, who take up studies on part time / distance learning, at a foreign HEI (including a University) and may be required to attend visits abroad as an integral part of their studies, may be eligible for a maximum refund of €2,000 for their entire studies against original receipts to support the claim/s. Such cases will be examined by the MGSS Board and the eligibility for such funding will be determined on a case by case basis.

- 12.6 The MGSS Board, in consultation with the Minister responsible for Education, may adopt different grants on a case by case basis, where extraordinary circumstances warrant such conditions.
- 12.7 The income from this scholarship scheme shall not be subject to income tax.

13 General Conditions of Award

- 13.1 Awardees shall be expected to seek prior visa approval (where applicable) for any proposed studies abroad.
- 13.2 In the case of Awardees on full time MQF level 7 or full time Doctoral studies that do not have any tuition and/or bench fees, the grant shall be limited to maintenance grant, provided that the Awardee is not in receipt of paid leave of absence.
- 13.3 Supplementary awards or grants by MGSS scholarship for the same course of programme of studies must be declared at the point of interview or before formally accepting the other awards or grants. All declarations require approval from the MGSS Board. Any unapproved awards additional to Malta Government Scholarship Scheme for the same course or programme shall be deemed to be in breach of the Agreement and cancellation of award and refund of all funds granted by then shall be required by the Ministry for Education and Employment.
- 13.3.1 When a Supplementary Scholarship award or Supplementary Grant covers in full Tuition Fee and/or Bench Fee, then MGSS shall not cover for the Tuition Fee and/or Bench Fee.
- 13.3.2 When a Supplementary Scholarship award or Supplementary Grant covers part of the Tuition Fee and/or Bench Fee, then MGSS shall cover the remaining part of the Tuition Fee and/or Bench Fee not covered, provided that the thresholds in Article 12 are not exceeded.
- 13.3.3 When a Supplementary Scholarship award or Scholarship Grant is not intended to cover Tuition Fee and/or Bench Fee, then the MGSS Board shall reserve the right to revise the amount of the MGSS grant.
- 13.3.4 When a course at the University of Malta is eligible for any Grant (including Maintenance Grant and/or Stipend) the amount of the grant is deducted from the eligible Scholarship Grant.

Award stage

- 13.4 Applicants will be notified of their ranking by the MGSS Board, through the official website (www.myscholarship.gov.mt) and by an e-mail.
- 13.5 The MGSS Board reserves the right to review the provisional award if any information reveals that the Applicant is ineligible for the Scholarship.

- 13.6 Formal confirmation of an award will be issued when the Awardee provides all necessary original documentation and agrees to the terms and conditions of the award stipulated in the Agreement.
- 13.7 Whoever is awarded a Scholarship shall sign the Agreement by a prescribed date, failing which, the Scholarship could be awarded to others according to their respective ranking.
- 13.8 Applicants shall be expected to take up the award from the date stated in the Agreement.
- 13.9 Shall any conflict arise between the interpretation of Clauses in the Regulations and the Agreement, it is what is contained within the Regulations which shall prevail. In such case, the Agreement shall be amended.
- 13.10 If for any reason, the Applicant cannot start on the date stated in the Agreement, or requires a different start date, the MGSS Board reserves the right, on notification of such intention, to review the Agreement's start date or cancel the award should the changes imply postponing the start date by later than 31 December 2014.
- 13.11 The MGSS Board reserves the right to publish the names of successful Applicants. These names may be published on the website and/or publications of the Ministry for Education and Employment and/or the Directorate for Lifelong Learning or any other Government entity. In applying for an award, the Applicant gives consent for such publication in the event that her or his application is successful.

Contracted award stage

- 13.12 Awards are to fund the degree stipulated within the Agreement and funding will not be extended to enable Awardees to complete an additional or higher qualification other than that for which the selection was made.
- 13.13 Any intellectual property including patents directly arising from or derived from the research work funded by the Scholarship and carried out by the Applicant shall be covered by an Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) agreement that acknowledges that the research work carried out is partially funded by the Malta Government Scholarship Scheme
- 13.14 The Malta Government Scholarship Scheme shall not seek to obtain any rights in intellectual property owned by the University and/or the Awardee.
- 13.15 On award of a Scholarship, the MGSS Board shall make information obtained available to public authorities for accountability purposes.
- 13.16 An Awardee who is found to have given false information or who have in any manner withheld information that would have influenced the awarding of the Scholarship and/or grants in accordance with these Regulations, shall be immediately disqualified and shall be asked to reimburse any expenses and money granted. The Director for Lifelong Learning may proceed with a criminal liability suit without prejudice to any civil action for damages against such Awardee.

Employment during full-time studies

- 13.17 Full time Scholarship Awardees shall need to seek approval beforehand from the MGSS Board of any commitment of employment during the duration of their studies. Unapproved employment shall be deemed to be a breach of these Regulations and the Agreement signed between the Scholarship Awardee and the Director for Lifelong Learning and shall lead to the termination of the Scholarship and the obligation on part of the Scholarship Awardee to reimburse all the Amounts awarded until such time.
- 13.18 Without prejudice to Clause 13.17 above, Awardees retaining more than twenty (20) hours per week of employment (including those on contract for service) contemporarily to their studies/research shall be deemed to be in breach of their obligation towards full-time studies resulting in a cancellation of the Scholarship award and refund of any Amounts granted by then. For the purpose of these Regulations, an Awardee who is on approved paid or unpaid leave shall not be deemed to have retained the said hours per week of employment contemporarily to the studies/research. For the sake of clarity, any Awardee who notwithstanding the fact that s/he was granted paid or unpaid leave, engages himself/herself in employment (including on a contract for service) or any other work exceeding twenty (20) hours per week, shall be in breach of this Clause and the provisions of Clause 13.17 shall *mutatis mutandis* apply. Applicants and Scholarship Awardees are to inform and seek approval of the MGSS Board in advance. Provided that this Clause does not apply for those students awarded a Scholarship for a MQF level 7 / Doctoral studies on a part time basis or distance learning.

Progress and completion

- 13.19 Awardees receiving awards for courses shall every six months ask their faculty supervisor to submit a short statement confirming progress and attendance of the Scholarship Awardee. Failure to receive this by the MGSS Board could lead to a halt in payments of further instalments of the award.
- 13.20 A final report following the completion of the thesis and the award of the qualification will be required by the MGSS Board within one (1) month from the award of the qualification.

- 13.21 Copies of all publications by Scholarship Awardees, including a publication arising from the thesis, shall be sent in electronic format to the MGSS Board, within thirty (30) days of being made public. A hard copy of the thesis shall also be sent to the MGSS Board on publication. Publications (excluding thesis) may become freely and electronically available on open access supported by the Ministry for Education and Employment.
- 13.22 All publications arising from the degree being sponsored by Malta Government Scholarship Scheme shall reflect the following acknowledgement on the first pages of the thesis: "The research work disclosed in this publication is partly/funded by the Malta Government Scholarship Scheme".
- 13.23 Scholarship Awardees shall be expected to write a minimum of one article on their work/studies in the Maltese public media within sixty (60) days of their graduation, during which they publicly acknowledge that the degree was carried out following the award of a Malta Government Scholarship.
- 13.24 In special and valid circumstances that may arise, Scholarship Awardees may ask the MGSS Board to review the date of completion of their scholarship specifying the reasons for such extension. Each case will be considered on its own merits.

14 Termination prior to completion of programme

- 14.1 Scholarship Awardees who for any reason discontinue their studies shall inform the MGSS Board in writing immediately.
- 14.2 The MGSS Board shall on thirty (30) days written notice terminate the award if the Scholarship Awardee's -
- progress is deemed unsatisfactory by the HEI (including the University);
 - discontinues the Studies; and/or
 - is in breach of any provision of these Regulations, and does not remedy the breach within thirty (30) days of receipt of written notice requiring him/her to do so.

Provided that in the case of persons with a disability or persons going through a period of special circumstance, the MGSS Board shall review any such case on its own merits.

- 14.3 Scholarship Awardees who have their award terminated under conditions stipulated in Clause 14.2 will be required to refund the entire award including additional funds (if applicable), within three (3) months of failing the course or failing to complete the course of studies.
- 14.4 Scholarship Awardees who cannot pursue further their studies due to unforeseen health situations or exceptional circumstances as approved by the MGSS Board shall not be deemed to be in breach of these regulations.

In such situations, the Scholarship Awardee must provide justifiable explanation as to why the course was not completed or why the Scholarship Awardee failed to obtain the qualification. Documented evidence, medical certificates and testimonials must accompany each claim. The MGSS Board reserves the right to demand for a reimbursement of part of the funds disbursed and is in no way bound to waive all the scholarship amount. The MGSS Board also reserves the right to appoint its own expert, be it medical or otherwise to advise and assess the case of the claimant.

15 Further Information

- 15.1 For further queries, please contact:

Malta Government Scholarships Scheme Board
Ministry for Education & Employment
Room 165, Directorate for Lifelong Learning
Great Siege Road,
Floriana VLT2000, Malta.

Tel. No.: (+356) 2598 2250 / 2598 2230
Fax: (+356) 2598 2123
E-mail: pgscholarships.mede@gov.mt
Website: www.myscholarship.gov.mt

PRIORITY AREAS OF STUDY

In terms of Clause 5.2.1

- Aerospace:** Aeronautics, aircraft maintenance and composite structures.
Aerospace engineering.
Aviation Science.
Airport Planning and Management
Meteorological studies.
Maritime Law and Business.
Marine Technology.
- Education:** Quality of curricula.
S & T curricula.
Quality assurance.
Specialisation in inclusive educational services and special needs.
Educational Psychologists.
Counseling.
Career Guidance.
Literacy.
Education Planning.
Vocational Education.
Applied Linguistics.
Teaching Foreign Languages.
Educational Assessment.
Adult Education and Basic Literacy.
Education Statistics and Measurement
Research and Design in Education
Ethics
- Environment:** Energy efficiency and alternative energy (solar energy, solar cooling, wind energy, bio-energy/biofuel, energy from waste and energy efficient buildings).
Water (conservation of rainwater, consumption efficiency, regeneration of the aquifer and efficient desalination).
Waste (Waste Rehabilitation Technologies).
Soil erosion
Marine Sciences, Marine Management, Maritime affairs and fisheries.
Maritime Law and Business
Climate change.
Physical sciences, in particular seismology and atmospheric monitoring.
Environmental Law.
Rural and Urban Planning
- Crops and Food Biotechnology:** Food and water safety and Quality. Including production, packaging, testing and preserves.
Increasing Nutritional Value and higher concentrations of known nutrients and disease-fighting compounds.
Higher Quality Crops with Pathogen-resistant properties
Better Packaging To Reduce Spoilage
Reduced Health Risk of certain foods
Research on crops for use in the production of fuels and plastics
- Health Biotechnology:** eHealth, telemedicine and bio-informatics as relating to local health, including diabetes, asthma, obesity, heart disease, cancer.
Bio-imaging and nuclear medicine.
Medical Devices.
Clinical trials and pharma process development.
Development of human genetics and genealogy databases to support clinical trials including, pharmacogenetics. Biotechnology particularly bio-generic production and contract research as a follow-on for generic pharma industry.
GMO research and analysis.
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Health Biotechnology (Cont.):	Health and Well Being Technologies including Alternative Medicine and Natural Remedies, Aromatherapy, Holistic Therapy' (eg natural resources to overcome pains and aches using honey, olive extracts, herbs etc). Orthodontics. Nursing and Midwifery Public Health Health and Wellness Infectious Diseases Mental Health and Mental Health Counselling Burns, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Otology Stem cell Clinical Embryology Palliative Care Gerontology and Geriatrics
Financial Services:	Actuarial. Economics. Banking. Stock Exchanges and Financial Markets. Stock Strategies. Investments. Emerging Markets.
ICT:	Software development related to bridging technologies in security, hardware, telecommunications, health, marine and specialised applications. Software technologies related to hardware and other telecommunications equipment related to satellites, switches, GIS. ICT and security. Microelectronics / Microsystems / Nanoelectronics. Hardware Software. Telecommunications and Satellite Software. Specialised applications such as GIS. R&D in the Marine Software industry. Digital Marketing
Digital Games Production:	Digital Entertainment including animation for movies, scientific displays. Edutainment. Design and Computer Games Design Mobile and Web Applications
High Value Added Manufacturing:	Digital manufacturing. High tech materials. Nanotechnology. Production Design. Manufacture Engineering.
Social science & Humanities:	Science education and popularization. Science-society studies. Research and innovation policy. Innovation Economics and econometrics. Research and Innovation Statistics. Knowledge transfer. Intellectual property management. Technology entrepreneurship. Human Resource Management Women and Gender Studies
Tourism	Hospitality and Tourism Management Culinary Arts Event Planning Logistics