

# Finding Scholarships for Online Study

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A sense of perseverance is the main tool needed for scholarship-searching. However, fear not – there is money out there and it will be found! Although the process of searching and applying for scholarships is time-consuming, there is a definite sense of achievement once you do find that all-elusive source of funding.

The websites and organisations listed here provide you with a jumping-off point. Although having them laid out may make it appear easy to find scholarships, in reality looking through this guide is only the first step. It is, however, an important step as once you are in the world of “postgraduate funding” you will find institutions and people willing to help you along the way.

In my research I have found people extremely approachable and always ready to reply to my e-mails – even if the replies may be negative. So don’t hesitate to send out e-mails and ask questions.

According to Funders Online (<http://www.fundersonline.org/>), an estimated 90 percent of funding requests are immediately declined. Do not give up.

One of the most under-utilised sources of funding may well be right under your nose: local authorities and embassies or councils usually have scholarships available so I would suggest these as a starting point.

Students from the developing world are always in a wonderful position – people *want* to help you. You just need to approach them with a can-do attitude and tell them *why* they should give *you* their money and how you’re going to make the world of diplomacy a better place with it!

The biggest hurdle faced by Diplo students may be the fact that Diplo courses are distance learning. Many funding agencies do not have a special category for such courses. However, many organisations and agencies are open to

suggestions and I strongly believe Diplo's relationships with funding organisations will grow through student activism in this regard.

Before you begin your search I suggest reading the following pages which offer useful general advice:

- Scholarship Advice: How to Get a Scholarship to a UK University  
(<http://scholarshipadvice.blogspot.com/2007/02/how-to-get-scholarship-to-uk-university.html>)
- Scholarship Experts: Finding Scholarships on the Internet  
([http://www.scholarshipexperts.com/scholarships/articles/Scholarship\\_Advice/Finding\\_Scholarships.jsp](http://www.scholarshipexperts.com/scholarships/articles/Scholarship_Advice/Finding_Scholarships.jsp))
- Scholarship Help  
(<http://www.scholarshiphelp.org/>)

The best source of information is definitely those who have gone through the process themselves, so you can also search for blogs or other postings on this topic. There are also a number of Facebook groups that will put you in touch with people going through the same search. You might start with the Scholarships for Africans (<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=8266068419>). Even if you are not from Africa you can still talk to people about their experiences and share advice.

Ultimately hard work, patience and faith are needed in The Great Scholarship Search. But do not fear, as I said, there is money out there and it will be found!

All the best,

Your Scholarship Researcher  
Kimberley

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## How to use this guide

This guide contains several kinds of information:

- websites which offer general information on how to find and apply for scholarships, including scholarship listings or search engines;
- scholarships which are available internationally;
- scholarships (organised by region) which are limited to applicants from a particular region or country.

In each case we have tried to include some relevant information on the opportunities, but you will need to follow the links to visit the websites and read the information presented carefully. You may also need to write to the agency or organisation for further information. If you need a letter confirming that you have submitted an application for a Diplo course or a letter of acceptance to go along with your scholarship application please contact us at [admissions@diplomacy.edu](mailto:admissions@diplomacy.edu). Before you request this please check to ensure you are eligible for the scholarship in question and that you fully understand the application process and requirements.

The guide is by no means exhaustive – it's only a starting point. If you know of relevant scholarship opportunities we have missed or if you succeed in obtaining a scholarship please let us know so we can add it to the list to help future applicants!

## 1. GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION AND SEARCH ENGINES

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### **International Scholarship Resources – Scholarship, and Grant Information Listings**

[www.scholarship.net](http://www.scholarship.net)

Extensive scholarship search engine.

### **FastWeb**

<http://www.fastweb.com>

Another extensive scholarship search engine.

### **The Community of Science**

<http://www.cos.com/>

Although primarily focused on sciences, this site provides some useful services including access to a number of scholarship opportunities. It also offers funding alerts (weekly email notifications on funding opportunities), a database of published scholars and a workbench to manage your CV, among other services.

### **The American Political Science Association**

<http://www.apsanet.org>

A professional organisation for the study of political science that serves 15,000 members in over 80 countries.

- Its page on grants, fellowships and other funding opportunities: [http://www.apsanet.org/section\\_191.cfm](http://www.apsanet.org/section_191.cfm)
- Targeted International Membership: a page for scholars in middle and low-income countries. Offers lower annual rates to these scholars: [http://www.apsanet.org/content\\_15955.cfm](http://www.apsanet.org/content_15955.cfm)

### **SRA International – Grants Web**

<http://www.srainternational.org/sra03/grantsweb>

An extensive funding site – most of the links are for American funding, however there are some links for other countries.

**Funders Online**

<http://www.fundersonline.org/grantseekers/>

An extremely useful site dedicated to giving access to online funding information. Especially useful as it gives excellent tips on how to go about your scholarship search.

**Think East**

<http://www.eastchance.com/indexCat.asp?q=sch>

A general search engine – although most of the scholarships are American it is still worth a look.

**Next Student – College Funding Made Easy**

<http://www.nextstudent.com/>

Another very American site, but worth a visit.

**Scholarship Experts**

[http://www.scholarshipexperts.com/scholarships/articles/scholarship\\_advice.jsp](http://www.scholarshipexperts.com/scholarships/articles/scholarship_advice.jsp)

Offers useful advice on finding scholarship online.

## 2. INTERNATIONALLY AVAILABLE SCHOLARSHIPS

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### Rotary – Ambassadorial Scholarships

The world's largest privately funded international scholarships programme, with around 800 scholarships awarded for study in 2005-06. Through grants totaling approximately US\$500 million, recipients from about 70 countries studied in more than 70 nations. The programme aims to further international understanding and friendly relations among people of different countries and geographical areas and sponsors several types of scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students as well as for qualified professionals pursuing vocational studies.

- General information on the programme:  
<http://www.rotary.org/en/StudentsAndYouth/EducationalPrograms/AmbassadorialScholarships/Pages/rifdefault.aspx>.
- Applicants should apply through their local Rotary Clubs. Contact details for these can be obtained on the Club Locator website:  
<http://www.rotary.org/EN/ABOUTUS/SITETOOLS/CLUBLOCATOR/Pages/rifdefault.aspx>.
- Deadlines vary and need to be checked with each club.
- Scholarship opportunities appear to change every year – applicants are advised to continue checking.
- According to the terms of the scholarships, applicants are expected to act as Rotarial Ambassadors while on the course and are advised to check the terms carefully:  
<http://www.rotary.org/en/StudentsAndYouth/EducationalPrograms/AmbassadorialScholarships/Pages/Howtoapply.aspx>.
- Application forms: [http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en\\_pdf/139en.pdf](http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/139en.pdf).

**Aga Khan Foundation**

<http://www.akdn.org/akfisp/HTML/index.html>

The Aga Khan foundation awards a limited number of postgraduate scholarships each year to outstanding students from developing countries who have no other means of financing their studies. Scholarships are 50% grant and 50% loan basis and are awarded once a year in June or July. See the website for full details.

**The Open Society Institute and Soros Foundations Network**

<http://www.soros.org/grants>

A search engine which helps users to find their way to appropriate opportunities from the scholarships, grants and fellowships provided by the Open Society Institute.

**International Research Funding Sources**

<http://www.coe.tamu.edu/~international/fundsrcs.htm>

A list of American intuitions providing funding for different kinds of research and educational activities.

### 3. REGIONAL OR COUNTRY BASED SCHOLARSHIPS

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#### *Europe*

##### **Malta Government – Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth and Sport**

[http://www.education.gov.mt/mgss\\_pg.htm#dl](http://www.education.gov.mt/mgss_pg.htm#dl)

A post-graduate scholarships scheme available to Maltese citizens or those permitted to work in Malta. Currently distance learning programmes are not supported but it may be worth inquiring as this may change.

- Application form: [http://www.education.gov.mt/ministry/doc/pdf/mgss/postgraduate/Application\\_PG\\_Scheme\\_2008.pdf](http://www.education.gov.mt/ministry/doc/pdf/mgss/postgraduate/Application_PG_Scheme_2008.pdf).

##### **Irish Tax Relief for Tertiary Education**

<http://www.revenue.ie/index.htm?/leaflets/it31.htm>

Irish students are eligible for tax relief in respect to fees paid for postgraduate studies lasting at least one year, including Diplo courses.

##### **Cyprus State Scholarships**

[http://www.cyscholarships.gov.cy/ikyk/ikyk.nsf/index\\_gr/index\\_gr?OpenDocument](http://www.cyscholarships.gov.cy/ikyk/ikyk.nsf/index_gr/index_gr?OpenDocument)

(See the website for further information – not available in English.)

##### **Italian Scholarship Opportunities**

Italian applicants are advised to check with their local authorities for postgraduate scholarships including support for online courses. The following websites (Italian language) can act as a guideline/ starting point for applicants.

- <http://bollentispiriti.regione.puglia.it/index.php/contratto-etico-giovanile-le-borse-di-studio-di-bollenti-spiriti>.
- <http://www.newsfood.com/Articolo/Regioni/2008-03/20080326-Alta-formazione-post-laurea-contributi-estero.asp>.



## *Americas*

### **Trinidad and Tobago Scholarships**

<http://www.gov.tt/citizen/service.aspx?id=%7BE5DEE2F5-5F8D-472A-8B84-8CB391A8388C%7D>

A listing of scholarships available for post-secondary study at home and abroad for citizens of Trinidad and Tobago. The scholarships are funded by international organisations, foreign governments and the government of Trinidad and Tobago and are all coordinated through the Scholarships and Advanced Training Division of the Ministry of Public Administration and Information. See the website for further information and application instructions.

### **Organisation of American States (OAS) Scholarships**

Available to citizens or permanent residents of OAS member states: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela. For more details on the programme and applications see the OAS website:

- OAS Professional Development Scholarships: <http://www.educoas.org/portal/en/oasbecas/aboutpd.aspx?culture=en&navid=282>. Although this has fairly specific areas of study the “strengthening of democratic institutions” may apply to the Diplo course.
- OAS Academic Scholarships: <http://www.educoas.org/portal/en/oasbecas/types.aspx?culture=en&navid=44>.

## *Asia*

### **Scholarships in India**

[www.scholarshipsinindia.com](http://www.scholarshipsinindia.com)

This website lists many scholarships for study in India and abroad and appears to be regularly updated with new opportunities.

### **Education Info India.com**

[www.educationinfoindia.com](http://www.educationinfoindia.com)

An Indian education portal that mainly provides information on Indian universities, but it also covers international opportunities.

- International scholarships section: <http://www.educationinfoindia.com/scholarships/scholarships.html>.
- Of particular interest is the list of scholarship-providing organisations that potential students can contact directly: <http://www.educationinfoindia.com/scholarships/others.htm>

### **India Education**

[www.indiaedu.com](http://www.indiaedu.com)

A portal for information on education in India.

- Provides an extensive page on international fellowships available to Indian students: <http://www.indiaedu.com/scholarship/international-fellowships/index.html>

### **Commission on Higher Education - Philippines**

<http://www.ched.gov.ph/scholarships/foreign.html>

Offers some information on scholarship opportunities.

### **The Asian Institute of Technology**

<http://www.ait.ac.th/>

The Institute “promotes technological change and sustainable development in the Asian-Pacific region through higher education, research and outreach.”

- The website has a comprehensive section on current scholarships within the region. These scholarships are worth looking at as they may change from year to year – however as of now they say none cover distance learning: <http://www.ait.ac.th/current-scholarships>

### **China Scholarship Council**

<http://www.csc.edu.cn>

This website offers information in Chinese and English about opportunities and scholarships for Chinese citizens wishing to study abroad and foreign citizens wishing to study in China.

### **Filipino Scholar**

<http://www.filipinoscholar.com/content/>

A portal that lists a huge number of courses and scholarships for Filipino students, but many are international opportunities open to applicants from a wide variety of countries.

### *Africa*

#### **Science in Africa**

<http://www.sciencein africa.co.za/Funding.htm>

This is an online magazine that contains links to sites with funding – although its focus is mainly on science scholarships and grants it is worth a browse.

#### **The Association of African Women Scholars**

<http://www.iupui.edu/~aaws/contacts.htm>

This association maintains a large database of links to other sites of relevance to African women scholars. Although funding is not a priority on the site, the links will provide scholars with access to other funding possibilities.

#### **Africa Grants and Fellowships**

<http://www-sul.stanford.edu/africa/grants.html>

Provides an extensive, annotated list of links to of grant and fellowship opportunities.

### *Arab World*

#### **The League of Arab States**

<http://www.arableagueonline.org/las/index.jsp>

Information in Arabic only (English site is under construction) but should offer information on funding possibilities.