



**HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
AND RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS**

**STATE SCHOLARSHIPS FOUNDATION
(I.K.Y.)
DIRECTORATE OF SCHOLARSHIPS**

CALL FOR APPLICANTS
PROGRAMME 2014-2015
SCHOLARSHIPS IKY –EEA FOR POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH OR PART OF THE
DOCTORAL (Ph.D) STUDIES IN NORWAY, ICELAND, LIECHTENSTEIN (EEA) IN THE
FIELD OF “INTEGRATED MARINE AND INLAND MANAGEMENT OF WATER
RESOURCES”

The Programme of Scholarships will be funded by EEA-FM 2009-2014 (85%) and the Public Investment Programme of Hellenic Republic (15%).

The State Scholarships Foundation (I.K.Y), on implementation of the Ministerial Decision No 11434/17-10-2014 (Off.Gaz.:2850/B/22-10-2014, On Line Publication Number(ΑΔΑ):7ΞΠΤ9-ΨΞΞ), announces 22 scholarships for the academic year 2014-2015, for postdoctoral research or part of doctoral studies in Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein.

The State Scholarships Foundation, will manage the Small Grant Scheme II “Grants to graduates of higher education in the field of marine and inland water resources management in donor states institutions or universities” in the framework of the implementation of the Programme “GR02 - Integrated Marine and Inland Water Management” which is financed from European Economic Area (EEA) Financial Mechanism 2009-2014 grants and will be managed from Special Agency for Coordination Of Environmental Projects (SACEP) of Ministry of Environment Climate Change.

Scholarship component of the programme GR02 supports PhD students or postdoctoral researchers to carry out part of the doctoral (PhD) studies or postdoctoral research in one of the European Economic Area (EEA) donor countries – Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein- in

fields of knowledge relevant to the sector of “Marine and Inland Management of Water Resources such as: **“Water Resources Technology - Management”, “Environmental Technology”, “Marine Land Planning - Coastal Areas Management”, “Environmental Management”, “Marine Ecology/Biology – Hydrobiology”, “Science of Water Resources, Protection and Management”, “Aquacultures”, “Marine Environment”, “Marine Technology”, “Drilling for Hydrocarbons”, “Renewable Energy Sources in Marine Environment – Hydro energy Production”, “Environmental Sciences”**”.

The procedure to be followed includes: a) submission of the applications and eligibility check from IKY, according to the criteria described below at Chapter A, b) process of point system and selection of beneficiaries from the Evaluation Committee, according to the criteria described below at Chapter C, c) nomination of scholars and beginning of the student and financial monitoring from IKY.

The amount of 600.000 € will be dedicated for grants of 5.000 € (min) to 30.000 € (max), which will support about 22 scholars, implemented within 18 months. Since the total funding of the grants depends on scholars’ time of studies , in case there are remaining unspent amounts, the number of scholarships may be increased accordingly, up to the amount of 600,000, viz the total budget of the Small Grant Scheme II. Scholars will be selected from the ranked list. Furthermore, in case that the current announcement won’t deplete the total amount, IKY may address a new call for scholarships within a three months period.

CHAPTER A: REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY

To have a participation right, applicants should:

- a) Be Greek nationals or non-Greek nationals legally residing in Greece for at least five years.
- b) Hold a graduate degree/ diploma from a Greek University/ Technological Institution (T.E.I.) or from a foreign recognized Higher Educational Institution.
- c) Have good knowledge of the English language (Level B2). A relevant certificate is required according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

- d) Male candidates should have completed required military service or be legally exempted, or have been granted lawfully deferment, for the time period until the completion of their scholarship. Candidates who have been granted deferment of military service, should investigate the possibility of obtaining a deferral sufficient for the completion of the programme and submit a relevant solemn declaration .
- e) Have not undertaken studies or received a previous scholarship, for the same level of studies (that is doctoral thesis or postdoctoral research).
- f) Have ensured an acceptance letter by a university or by an acknowledged scientific/research center (international organization, approved scientific centre etc.) of the host countries for conducting a part of their Ph.D or Postdoctoral research. (Unconditional offer from the host Institution in the Donor State).

In addition, **the Ph.D candidates** should also have an attestation from a Greek University defining the three members committee and the subject of their thesis appointed before the application deadline of the relevant announcement, whereas the **Postdoctoral candidates** should hold a doctorate diploma from a Greek University, or from a foreign recognized Higher Educational Institution.

No suspension of the beginning of the scholarship, or in the meantime thereof, is approved, for any reason whatsoever.

The candidates can submit only one application in the framework of the present call.

The applications, which are not correctly and thoroughly completed and are not accompanied by the required certificates, will not be taken into consideration.

IKY shall cancel the granting of any scholarship, in case it is proven- even at a later point in time- that the typical criteria for the candidateship are not met, and shall claim the return of any amount paid.

CHAPTER B: APPLICATION WITH CANDIDATESHIP CERTIFICATES - APPLICATION DEADLINE: January 9, 2015

For the candidateship to be valid, the candidates have to complete without any omission and send no later than January 9, 2015, an application - solemn declaration, which is exclusively available at the website of I.K.Y. www.iky.gr, accompanied by all the hereunder defined certificates.

The application has to be sent only per registered post (Section of Examination, 41, Ethnikis Antistaseos Ave, 142 34, Nea Ionia). The fact that the application has been filed within the

given deadline shall derive from the clear stamp set by the Post and the proof of submission of the envelope at the post.

No alteration to the data of the application is feasible after the expiry of the application submission deadline. No certificate sent after the end date for the applications submission, in any way, shall be acceptable.

For the acceptance of the application the following certificates should be necessarily submitted along with the application:

- i. A Higher Education Institute degree (University/ T.E.I) with the grade inscribed¹.
- ii. Transcripts of their basic degree.
- iii. Master's Degree (if available).
- iv. Transcripts of their Master's degree (if available).
- v. A certificate of at least good knowledge of the English language (Level B2 according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages).
- vi. A certificate of knowledge of a language of one of the host countries (if any).
- vii. A copy of an Identity Card or a Passport or relevant official paper that proves the five years permission of residence in Greece.
- viii. For the male candidates a certificate concerning the military service. Candidates who have been granted deferment of military service, should also submit a solemn declaration (Law 1599/1986) that the deferment is sufficient for the completion of their studies.
- ix. A CV in greek and in english.
- x. An official letter of acceptance by a University or an acknowledged scientific/research organization from one of the host countries ascertaining the acceptance of the candidate for conducting part of the doctoral studies or postdoctoral research at the particular University or acknowledged scientific/research centre, its subject, the start date and the expected completion date, as well as, the supervisor professor from the host institution. It should be noted that the date of arrival to the host Institute cannot be prior to November 1st , 2014.
- xi. A solemn declaration according to the provisions of L. 1599/1986 that a) the candidate has not already received a previous scholarship for Ph.D or Postdoctoral studies and b) the candidate hasn't accomplished studies of the same level.

In addition, candidates who intend **to conduct a part of their PhD studies** should also submit:

- 1) A certificate of the General Assembly of the Department of the Greek Institution stating the three Members Supervisory Committee, as well as the subject of the

¹ A candidate, holder of a degree/ diploma awarded by a foreign Higher Education Institution has also to submit a certificate of equivalency of the Hellenic National Academic Recognition and Information Center (D.O.A.T.A.P. - Department A' or B').

Ph.D research (according to the provisions of the Law 2083/92). Certificate's date cannot be after the application deadline of the relevant announcement.

- 2) A justified report signed by the three Members Supervisory Committee describing the research that will be held in the host Institute, the necessity of this mobility and the expected benefits, in the framework of the proposed PhD research (up to 2.000 words)²

Candidates who intend **to conduct their Postdoctoral research** should also submit:

- 1) The title of Doctorate nomination or certificate of successful defense of the doctoral dissertation³.
- 2) A justified report with the title of the Postdoctoral research, short description of the subject and the targeted benefits from it (up to 2.000 words)²

Applications, which do not fall under the announced scientific sectors and specialties and are not accompanied by the above required certificates or have not been submitted dully according to the manner and within the deadline provided for in the present announcement **shall not be evaluated**.

IKY shall review the applications for compliance with administrative and eligibility criteria. Applicants whose applications are rejected at this stage shall be informed and given a 3 days' time to appeal that decision.

CHAPTER C: EVALUATION PROCESS AND SELECTION OF THE SCHOLARS

Each eligible application will be reviewed by the Evaluation Committee. The Evaluation Committee will be consisted of two members (external experts from Higher Education Institutions). If the difference between the separate scores given by the two experts is more than 30% of the higher score, a third expert will score the application independently. In such cases the average score of the two closest scores shall be used for the ranking of the applications.

² Specifications of format of proposal of doctoral or postdoctoral research (up to 2000 words in length): proposal has to have the following structure: a) summary, b) introduction, c) theoretical background d) research issues / assumptions e) methodology f) time schedule g) indicative bibliography (not incl. in word count).

³ Candidates who hold a doctoral degree (Ph.D) from a foreign university should necessarily submit a certificate of equivalence of their title by the Hellenic National Academic Recognition and Information Center (D.O.A.T.A.P.-Department A or B). D.O.A.T.A.P proceeds to correspond grading or evaluation of the studies' titles of overseas educational institutions to the greek titles and issues the relevant certifications of correspondence. In case the degrees do not have a grade or other qualifier, D.O.A.T.A.P specifies its estimate through relevant other evidence or documentation of the institution of origin and if this is not feasible, assumes the degrees as bearing the lowest grade of the relevant Greek University.

Experts are selected from the register of evaluators of IKY through an existing procedure, based on objective and qualitative criteria, and following specific invitation, which I.K.Y. has addressed to the Higher Education Institutions (Universities/ T.E.I.) of the country. The Administrative Board of I.K.Y. appoints the members of the Evaluation Committee.

The evaluation of the candidates shall be based on the following criteria:

Selection Criteria and Grading Scales

- a. Relevance of undergraduate and postgraduate courses with the field of Knowledge that the candidate has chosen in his application (0-5 points).
- b. Grade of the Bachelor degree/diploma multiplied by 2 (10-20 points).
- c. Candidate's motivation letter (1-18 points).
- d. Level of knowledge of the English language (1-5 points). Good knowledge gets one point, very good knowledge gets three points and excellent knowledge gets five points.
- e. Level of knowledge of the language of one of the host countries. (0 or 2 points).

Candidates collecting during the evaluation process less than 16 points will not be included in the list of candidate scholars of the programme.

At the end of the evaluation process, a nominal shortlist of selected scholarship candidates by descending order will be made out. This approved list from the Selection Committee is provided to the Administrative Board of IKY for validation and is publicized on the official website of IKY (www.lky.gr) for further information of the candidates.

The following should be noted:

- a) Prerequisite for the commencement of the scholarship's payment is the conclusion of a respective contract with I.K.Y., which sets out the obligations and the terms and conditions of the scholarship.
- b) Objections regarding the process and the shortlist of scholars can be submitted in writing and exclusively with recommended letter in the address of IKY not later than three days after the publication of the programme results.
- c) In case of equality in marks of grades, the selection of the candidate/s shall be made by the Evaluation Committee.

With the submission of their application, all candidates accept completely the terms of the present call as well as the fact that the process can be interrupted, postponed or repeated as it is or adjusted, with decision of IKY. The submission of application, as well as the nominal shortlist of selected candidates and its validation, does not involve at any way obligation of IKY to sign a contract with the selected candidates.

CHAPTER D: SCHOLARSHIP DURATION

The duration of the scholarship is up to 18 successive months and is subject to satisfactory progress of the candidate.

The start date of the scholarship cannot be prior to 1st November 2014 and the date of completion of scholarship cannot be after the 30st of September 2016.

At completion of their studies, the scholars must submit to the IKY the following:

- a) Certification from a university or an acknowledged organization of one of the donor states referring analytically the date of arrival and departure of the scholar, as well as the title of the department or laboratory in which he worked,
- b) Detailed final report of proceedings signed by the supervisor of the doctoral or postdoctoral research in the host institution or organization and
- c) Publication of one paper (it may be a review or original research), in refereed journals, related to the subject of the scholarship.

The following are highlighted:

The scholars are compelled to cite in any work/research that derives from the funded program: “Part {of the doctoral thesis/ of the postdoctoral research} {of article/ scientific work} {scientific statement} was realized via the program “Scholarships of IKY in the Marine and Inland Management of Water Resources” and was co-funded by EEA grants– Financial Mechanism 2009-2014 (85%) and the General Secretariat for Investments and Development (15%).

CHAPTER E: FINANCIAL ALLOWANCES-ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES

The financial allowances refer to the gross amounts to be paid to the scholars, i.e. the amounts which the scholar receives per category of chosen expense before the lawful withholdings in favor of the Greek Public State (3,6% stamp duty of scholarships).

The total funding for each scholar cannot be over 30.000 euros for a period of 18 months at maximum. Specifically, the scholarship covers the following costs:

- a. Monthly living expenses of one thousand and five hundred euros (1.500 euros)
- b. A lump sum of three thousand euros (3.000 euros) which is given to scholars as support of initial expenses and may cover travel costs, insurance, conference fees, study material etc.

Any further issues, which may arise during the implementation of this call for applicants and which are not included in the present regulation, are settled with Decisions of the Administrative Board of IKY.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information you may address to IKY,
(Ethinikis Antistaseos Ave 41, 14234, Nea Ionia).

For the evaluation procedures:

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The President of the
Administrative Board of IKY

Effie Basdra