

German Egyptian Research Long-Term Scholarship to the Federal Republic of Germany “GERLS”

Special Call for the Public University and Research Institute Staff members

As an outcome of success achieved during the German-Egyptian Year of Science & Technology 2007, a cooperation agreement has been made between the Ministry of Higher Education of the Arab Republic of Egypt “MoHE” and the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD). Funds made available by the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Egyptian Ministry of Higher Education have been allocated to create a program offering up to 70 postgraduate scholarships for Egyptian doctoral candidates.

1. Applicants' profile

- ⇒ Holding an M.A./ M.Sc. degree, which generally should not be older than three years.
- ⇒ A minimum of two employment years at one of the public Universities/ research institutions is a must.
- ⇒ Applicants should not be older than 32 years.

2. Background and objective

Within the framework of the long-standing cooperation between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Federal Republic of Germany, and in partial fulfillment of the MoHE and DAAD aims and objectives; as well as in consideration of the funding resources and regulations of both parties, the aforementioned parties have agreed to create the “German Egyptian Research Long Term Scholarships” (GERLS).

3. Aim and duration of doctoral studies in Germany

Each year a group of researchers will be sent to Germany for doctoral scholarships in the scientific fields. Priorities will be agreed upon by DAAD and MoHE.



The GERLS program will be administered by the DAAD in close cooperation with the MoHE and German universities. Generally speaking, the scholarships within this program are awarded for 12 months, subject to extension up to 42 months.

Candidates can select adequately structured PhD courses or PhD supervisors in Germany themselves in order to join the GERLS program. However, dual funding from universities offering such courses and the GERLS program are not permitted. DAAD Cairo Office and MoHE will support the candidates whenever necessary.

The following definitions will be used throughout this sheet:

“Full Ph.D.” Scholarship:

Target: in all fields of academic studies including medicine.
Degree: Ph.D. will be awarded by a German university.
Duration: up to 42 months.

“Channel” Scholarship:

Target: in all fields of study except the ones mentioned under Specialization.
Degree: Ph.D. will be awarded by an Egyptian university,
Duration: up to 24 months.

“Specialization” scholarship:

Target: for the study of fine and applied arts, architecture and music
Degree: without resulting in a degree
Duration: up to 24 months.

Special case:

Applicants from the fields of **arts, music and architecture** form a special case. Their applications will undergo an additional selection in Germany. Such additional selection activities in Germany will be implemented according to the procedures of the German Specialized Arts and Music Committee and in competition with candidates from other countries. A personal interview could be conducted at the time of the final selection procedures in Egypt. The funding of these scholarships, however, is part of the GERLS program.

For more information, please refer to the additional information sheet for Artists.

4. Time line of the program:

- **Call for Application:** As of 01.09.2013 to 31.10.2013
- **Opening DAAD Portal for Application:** As of 01.09.2013
- **Pre-Selection Procedures:** from November 2013 to end of January 2014
- **Final Selection Procedures:** March 2014
- **Final Selection Results:** April 2014
- **Start of Preparation Phase in Egypt:** April 2014
- **First Travel Date for the start of the language course in Germany:**
 - **For Full PHD:** October 2014
 - **For Channel and Specialization:** November/December 2014
- **Start of the Academic Semester in Germany:** April 2015

Kindly note that all above mentioned dates are subject to change without prior notice.

5. Language Requirements

5.1 English Language Requirements:

- All applicants have to submit proof of English language skills/abilities.
- This proof shall be either IELTS (band 6) certificate or institutional TOEFL ITP (minimum score 550) or international TOEFL IBT (minimum score 80).
- Sufficient proof of English skills is an eligibility criteria.

5.2. German Language Requirements:

- The German language is not considered as an entry requirement by the time of the application; however, it is a plus.
- All final selected candidates will receive an intensive language course for a period of two months.
- A placement test will be conducted to all applicants who have knowledge of German language and have indicated this in their application form.
- Applicants from the field of German studies and German school graduates will be exempted from the language course in Egypt and in Germany.

6. Application package

- Candidates have to apply online through the DAAD portal as of **1st September 2013**.
- You are kindly asked to search for the GERLS program under the following link: www.funding-guide.de, register yourself on the DAAD Portal and then fill in the application form electronically (For more information, please refer to the guide “**How to apply online?**”).
- **3 copies of the application form as well as all required documents have to be sent to the DAAD Cairo office via post latest by the deadline 31st October 2013.**
- **Please note, an application is only valid when it has been submitted electronically together with all required documents via the DAAD Portal and not via email and sent as hard copies in 3 sets to the DAAD Cairo office before the deadline.**

In order to apply for a GERLS scholarship, the online application should contain the following documents:

- 1- General Required Information (Form is available on the DAAD website)
(<http://cairo.daad.de/en/scholarships/phd/>)
- 2- A research proposal (Form is available on the DAAD website)
(<http://cairo.daad.de/en/scholarships/phd/>)
- 3- Timeline of the research
- 4- CV with a maximum of 3 pages. We recommend using the europass specimen form at <http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/>).
- 5- A complete list of publications, if available.
- 6- Acceptance letter or an email from a German professor showing that the research project under preparation is feasible and can be conducted in Germany under his supervision. The acceptance letter should state **the title, time frame** (exact duration and starting date of supervision according to the program timeline should be stated) and **objectives of the project**. The acceptance letter should not be older than six months at the time of application.
- 7- A signed and stamped official endorsement letter from the applicant's home institution (**template of which is available on the DAAD website** <http://cairo.daad.de/en/scholarships/phd/>).
- 8- A signed and stamped official statement of employment (بيان حالة) issued from the applicants' institution/ university. The statement should indicate that the applicant is affiliated (employed) to his/her institution/university at the time of application under the current position and should reflect a complete history of employment (a minimum of two employment years are a must).



- 9- Proof of PhD registration in one of the Egyptian universities for the candidates who apply for **Channel or Specialization system**.
- 10- Proof of the ethical commission's approval in Germany in case the project is involving experiments on animals/ human beings (If applicable).
- 11- Proof of English language abilities: either IELTS (band 6) certificate or institutional TOEFL ITP (minimum score 550) or international TOEFL IBT (minimum score 80).
- 12- Summary of Master's thesis maximum one page.
- 13- Copy of passport
- 14- Awarded certificates: Bachelor University transcript, Master's University transcript, Bachelor, Master's and School leaving certificate
- 15- Two recommendation letters **3 sets each** to be submitted in a sealed envelope in hard copies only to the DAAD Cairo office (**template of which is available on the DAAD website: <http://cairo.daad.de/en/scholarships/phd/>**).

All applicants will be able to retrieve their result via the DAAD Portal according to the timeline of the program.

***Please check the electronic application form for more details starting from 01.09.2013.
Please note that incomplete applications or those received after the deadline will not be considered.***

N.B Applicants from the field of Archaeology and Islamic studies could submit the application in German language; however applicants from the field of German studies have to submit the application in German.

7. Selection of candidates

The candidates will be selected in two rounds. First, a pre-selection procedure will identify the group of applicants to be invited for the second phase consisting of a personal interview with the GERLS bi-national independent selection committee. Pre- and final selection of the candidates will be conducted according to, but not limited to following criteria:

- Excellent study achievement.
- Good command of languages: English language command is required, while German language command is a plus.



- Scientific merits, including:
 - A -Quality of the proposal
 - B -The benefit to Egypt
 - C -Preparation and feasibility of the project
 - D -Quality of the acceptance letter

8. Stipend:

The GERLS scholarship includes:

- A monthly basic stipend of 1000 Euros for a Ph.D. candidate, plus individual surcharges and standard annual allowances.
- A monthly family allowance, if applicable.
- An allowance for health insurance.
- German language course and cultural preparation course.

Such amounts are subject to change and will always be adapted according to the general regulations for DAAD scholarships.

9. German language courses

9.1 In Egypt:

- Each scholarship holder is entitled to receive German language and intercultural training in Egypt up to two months before the candidates' travel to Germany.
- Distribution among language centers will be defined by the DAAD Cairo office.
- After the elapse of language course a unified final exam will be conducted at Goethe Institute Cairo/ Alexandria.
- For the candidates who didn't pass the final exam the DAAD may offer the possibility to attend the second crash course at the Goethe Institute and therefore a second test.
- In that case, the decision will be taken by the DAAD. The test fees should be covered by the candidate whereas the crash course fees will be covered by DAAD. Subject to the availability of fund.
- A per diem will be provided to the scholarship holders according to the distance between the scholars' home University/Institute and language course center.
- Scholarship holders are expected to arrange for their own health and liability insurance for these courses.



9.2 In Germany:

- Each scholarship holder will receive an intensive German language course in Germany up to 6 months.
- All scholarship holders are expected to achieve the B2 German language level.
- Failing in the language course will have consequences that will be borne by the scholarship holder.
- During the language course duration the following aspects will be covered:
 - The costs of accommodation.
 - The costs of health, accident and liability insurances.
 - Travel allowance from the language center to the host institution or university at the end of the language course in Germany.
 - The return costs from the language course location to the Host University /Institution for a preparatory visit may be paid.

10. Please note that:

- Applicants from the field of Music, Architecture & Fine arts have to submit their portfolio at the DAAD Cairo office right after the application deadline 31st of October 2013. For more details, kindly refer to the respective information sheet.
- Applicants from the field of medicine cannot do any clinical training within this scholarship, no license to practice medicine in Germany is possible.
- There are no quotas for individual institutions or disciplines.
- Priority will be given to younger scientists.
- Final selection phase will be based on the interviews, which will take place in the first quarter of 2014 at the DAAD premises in Cairo; however, the exact date will be defined later by the DAAD Cairo office.
- The DAAD is not in the position to inform the applicants about the reasons of the committee's decision.
- If the research proposal requires a field study to be conducted in Egypt, kindly refer to the field study information sheet and indicate it in the application.
- **Among the reasons for disqualifying an application are the following :**
 - a) Wrong history information and misleading information about previous applications.
 - b) Incomplete application.



- c) Submitting two different proposals or two different accounts in one cycle.
 - d) Dual application with other programs (kindly refer to the dual application matrix).
 - e) Dual nationality of applicant.
 - f) Hand made changes and corrections in the acceptance letter.
 - g) **Plagiarism** (e.g. copied data from the internet without stating the references). For more information please refer to “Research Ethics Guideline” <https://www.facebook.com/daad.cairo.office/posts/689698161044103>
 - h) Fraudulent documents.
- Detecting plagiarism in any application during pre- and/or final selection phase, will lead to disqualification of the application from the respective GERLS call.
 - Applicants, whose research require transferring samples to Germany; have to pay attention to the Transfer Material Agreement (MTA) and the procedures to be followed accordingly.
 - Generally applicants should not reside outside Egypt for more than six months at the time of application.
 - The application for the GERLS scholarship program is limited to 3 trial times.
 - GERSS Alumni targeting a PhD title are encouraged to apply for the GERLS program after returning back to Egypt provided that they fulfill the requirements of the GERLS program.
 - Applicants should indicate any changes in their proposal and what has been developed and/or changed since the last call
 - GERLS scholarship holders and applicants whose spouse has been granted a DAAD or MoHE scholarship should inform the DAAD accordingly.
 - Candidates should pass the language course in Egypt and Germany as well. The required level to be reached in Germany is B2, unless otherwise prescribed by the host university.
 - Medicine candidates should be employed by their home university 2 years after residency period.
 - Changes in the submitted proposal will require the approval of the independent selection committee and a new endorsement letter of the home university.
 - The award of scholarships is subject to the availability of funds.

An incomplete application is the responsibility of the applicant.



11. Further Information and Inquires:

11.1 Information:

This info sheet is also available on the following website:

- <http://cairo.daad.de>

11.2 General & Technical Inquires:

General inquiries concerning documents submitted or program description as well as technical inquiries should be directed to Mr. Adel Younis

E-Mail: GERLS@daadcairo.org

Tel.: 27352726 – 27384127 Ext. 124

Fax: 27384136

Kindly note that your inquiries will be only answered during the working days (Sundays-Thursdays) and working hours (9:00 – 17:00). We don't operate on Fridays and Sundays. Please avoid last minute submission of application.

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We would like to draw your attention that DAAD is offering proposal writing workshops for doctoral candidates on the DAAD premises. For interested applicants, kindly check our website: <http://cairo.daad.de> or send us an e-mail: kairo.akademie@daadcairo.org.