



**CHILEAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY**

**HORIZONTAL COOPERATION SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM**

**REPUBLIC OF CHILE - NELSON MANDELA**

**2018 CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**



**MAY 2017**

**CHILEAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY**

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# **A. Introduction.**

The Chilean International Cooperation Agency (AGCI) is offering scholarships for accredited Master's degree studies at Chilean Universities and other higher education institutions, for the 2018 academic year. These scholarships are offered for professionals who are citizens of **South Africa, Mozambique, and Angola.**

The AGCI Horizontal Cooperation Scholarships Program began in 1993, and to date more than 1,000 Latin American and Caribbean professionals have completed postgraduate programs in the different fields offered by Chilean universities and higher education institutions; in 2015 the scholarship program was extended to citizens of South Africa, Mozambique, and Angola.

# **B. OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAM.**

The purpose of the AGCI Scholarships Program is to contribute to the training of advanced human resources through participation by professionals in Master's degree programs taught at Chilean universities and higher education institutions that are accredited to a high level of excellence.

# **C. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP.**

The scholarships are granted, depending on the duration of the selected study programs, for a period of up to thirty (30) months, including the immersion Spanish language course that must be completed and passed during this period, specified below. If the scholarship holder does not undertake this Spanish course because they are already certified in the language in advance, the maximum scholarship period will be twenty-four (24) months.

The scholarship includes an Immersion Spanish Language Course, which must be begun in March 2018, so that the Master’s degree program may be begun in the same month, in parallel with the Spanish course and/or until August 10, 2018, in accordance with the corresponding academic schedules and calendars of the applicable Chilean higher education institutions, or the training or research plan established by the Chilean institution where the applicant has been admitted.

**Scholarships may only be awarded for the Master's degree programs mentioned in Annex 1 hereof.**

**The studies are full time, on-site, with the students remaining in Chile throughout their duration.**

**Persons awarded scholarships must be certified in the Spanish language, as these courses are taught only in Spanish in Chile.**

**AGCI will provide persons who do not hold such certification with a Spanish Course prior to or in parallel with the start of their Master’s degree programs.**

The following **priority criteria will be used for the granting of scholarships:**

1. Applications submitted by **public officials** or **academic officials at officially recognized universities in the corresponding country.**
2. Applications submitted **as specified in Annex 1, which contains details of Accredited Master's degree programs.**
3. Applications submitted **in fields such as ASTRONOMY, AGRICULTURE, AQUACULTURE, ENERGY, MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC POLICIES, HEALTH, THE ENVIRONMENT, AND MINING, that are listed in the List of Master’s Degree Programs in Annex 1 hereof.**

**The scholarship provides benefits that are limited to the following items:**

1. An Immersion Spanish Language Course that may last for one (1) academic semester in advance of or in parallel with the start of the corresponding Master’s Program. (Applicants who are certified in the Spanish language need not take this course).
2. Payment of return air fares between the capital of their country of origin and their destination city on arrival in Chile (applicants must finance their own stays in the city of Santiago, Chile, to undertake paperwork procedures with AGCI) and back to the capital of the country of origin on completing their studies.
3. Payment of matriculation, tuition, and graduation fees charged by the corresponding higher education institution, for the duration of the postgraduate program, with a limit of four (4) academic semesters or six (6) academic quarters, depending on the calendar used by the corresponding institution (up to a maximum of twenty-four (24) months). In any case, all costs that correspond exclusively to the academic curriculum of the study program for which the scholarship is granted must be included.
4. Payment of a monthly maintenance stipend of five hundred thousand Chilean pesos (CLP 500,000) for the duration of the scholarship period. Said stipend shall be paid for the duration of the program, up to a limit of twenty-four (24) months.

AGCI will only pay scholarship holders 100% of the monthly stipend for the months of December, January, and/or February if they remain in Chile for more than half of the corresponding month. In any other case1, AGCI will pay only 50% of the value of the stipend (months of December, January, and February).

1. For the duration of the scholarship, coverage for the holder with life, health, and accident insurance for events that affect them and occur within Chile territory. They will also be provided with a Collaboration Convention with the Public Health Social Security System (FONASA), and shall be entitled to care through the Chilean Public Health System and Services, from the time when they are issued with a national identity card by the Chilean Civil Registration Service.
2. Scholarship holders will be granted a single payment amounting to ninety thousand pesos (CLP 90,000) for study materials and textbooks, paid during the first study cycle of their program.
3. Scholarship holders will be granted a single payment of one half of their monthly stipend for thesis costs or analogous requirements of their higher education institution for granting the corresponding degree, so long as their grade point average is equal to or higher than 5.5 (five point five [out of seven]) or equivalent. For these purposes scholarship holders must provide documentary proof of the aspects discussed in Clause 3, Point V of the Scholarship Granting and Acceptance Agreement, the format of which is attached hereto as Annex 2, before the end of the nineteenth (19th) month of payment by AGCI of the stipend discussed in Point IV of this section.

**For theses related to areas proposed for each country, scholarship holders must engage in the corresponding projects if thus required by AGCI.**

**The aforementioned benefits are exclusively applicable to the scholarship holder.**

AGCI shall not pay any expenses other than those specified above. The scholarship holder shall therefore be responsible for financing all other expenditure that they incur for visa processing, application fees for Chilean higher education institutions, airport boarding fees or other similar charges, travel costs for journeys to their home country during the scholarship period, etc.

**Applicants whose spouses hold this scholarship or any other AGCI scholarship, or who are applying in the same Call for Applications, shall not be accepted.**

**These scholarships may not be combined with any other scholarships that the beneficiary may be granted in Chile.**

**These scholarships shall only be granted for the entirety of studies in Chile.**

**If the weighting system discussed in Point F hereof gives the same score for two or more scholarship applicants, those applying for programs with classes that start in the first semester of 2018 shall be given priority.**

# **D. APPLICATION PROCEDURE.**

Scholarship application documents **must be submitted at the CHILEAN EMBASSY IN SOUTH AFRICA** (see Annex 3, List of Focal Points).

Persons interested in the scholarships specified herein must directly undertake the procedures necessary for admission to the corresponding study programs, at applicable Chilean universities or other higher education institutions, and must receive **unconditional** **acceptance** for the same in order to be able to begin an application. Programs must be undertaken full time and to the exclusion of any other activity. No programs with other characteristics shall be considered in the selection process.

**ALL INTERESTED PARTIES MUST PERSONALLY VERIFY THE ORIENTATION AND CURRICULUM STRUCTURE OF THE MASTER’S DEGREE PROGRAMS IN WHICH THEY ARE INTERESTED. YOU ARE ADVISED TO CONTACT THE PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ADMISSION PROCESS AT THE APPLICABLE CHILEAN UNIVERSITIES OR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS, AND REQUEST INFORMATION IN WRITING REGARDING ALL DETAILS OF THE STUDY PROGRAMS (REQUIREMENTS, PRIOR KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS, PROGRAM EMPHASIS, ETC.).**

You may be called for an interview at the Chilean Embassy, if it is considered pertinent.

Applicants must submit hard copies and copies on a compact disk (CD) - with information duly scanned when applicable - of the following documents:

1. AGCI Scholarship Application Form, filled out and signed, as indicated in Annex 4.
2. Definitive acceptance letter for the selected Study Program, issued by the competent authority at the Chilean higher education institution. This letter must attest to the applicant’s **unconditional** **acceptance** the **start date** for classes and the **duration of the study program, including thesis and graduation examination**.
3. Health certificate issued and signed by a registered physician, indicating the preexisting conditions declared by the applicant. For these purposes, Annex 6 is attached, with a recommended Declaration of Health and Preexisting Conditions.
4. Professional Title Certificate or authorized copy of the same.
5. Curriculum Vitae, with emphasis on academic and professional background information.
6. Brief description of reasons for wanting to undertake studies in Chile, the objectives of the studies to be undertaken, and how this education will be put to use on the applicant’s return to their home country.
7. Brief description of the possible area and topic of the thesis on which the applicant plans to focus their final research.
8. Academic Reference Letter.
9. Letter of Support from the Employer Institution if applicable, clearly specifying its interest in having its employee or official undertake studies in Chile, and indicating that the applicant is indeed permitted to leave for the duration of the scholarship, and whether or not they will retain the same position on their return.
10. Language Skill Certificate (the Chilean Embassy in South Africa will conduct a telephone interview and determine the level of Spanish language ability).

Original documents will be returned to the applicant by the Chilean Embassy.

This procedure shall be applied, as applicable, to foreign applicants who are already undertaking studies in Chile.

**All of the aforementioned documentation must be submitted to the Chilean International Cooperation Agency at the CHILEAN EMBASSY IN SOUTH AFRICA, using the AGCI Scholarship Management Platform and also, if thus specified by the Chilean Embassy, using a DIPLOMATIC BAG. Applicants must retain possession of original documents, which will be required only of applicants awarded scholarships on their arrival in Chile.** **This measure has been established in order to streamline the selection process in Chile. However, the Chilean Embassy in South Africa shall be tasked with ensuring that applicants meet all requirements.**

**The submission of background information by the Chilean Embassy in South Africa to AGCI shall be taken as accreditation that compliance with the application requirements on the part of the interested party has been verified.**

**Failure to submit all documentation required hereunder, or submission of false documentation, shall constitute grounds for immediate elimination from the final selection process.**

# **E. SELECTION PROCESS.**

The Selection Process comprises the following stages:

* **Pre-selection**. This stage shall be undertake in the country in which the application is made, by a Mixed Pre-selection Committee comprising the Focal Point or their representative, and the official appointed by the Chilean Embassy in South Africa, who shall act in accordance with purely technical criteria. This Pre-selection will feature candidates officially submitted by the corresponding country. It is important for the corresponding Focal Point to use this process to select the best candidates, as applicants must compete for the available places with the pre-selected candidates of other participating countries. **The Chilean Embassy in South Africa shall be tasked with entering information into the AGCI Scholarship Management Platform, and with sending information by Diplomatic Bag if this is deemed suitable.**
* **Definitive Selection**. This stage shall be undertaken by the Program Selection Committee in Chile.

Only candidates who meet all requirements and have submitted full documentation shall be considered by the Selection Committee in Chile, which shall decide which candidates are selected to be awarded the scholarship. The Selection Committee’s decision shall be final and shall be reported through official channels, both to interested parties and to each country’s Focal Point authorities, Chilean Ambassadors in the corresponding countries, and these countries’ Ambassadors in Chile.

Selected applicants shall accept the scholarship by signing a Scholarship Award and Acceptance Agreement, signed by selected applicants and AGCI, with the preliminary format attached as Annex 2 hereof. This format may be adapted to meet the circumstances of each scholarship holder such as to specify their personal details, the study program in question, the academic body that has accepted them, and the duration of the course.

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| **The application period at the Chilean Embassy in South Africa must be verified by interested parties in a timely manner.**  **The period for the submission of background information on applicants who are pre-selected by the Chilean Embassy in South Africa, by Diplomatic Bag, shall definitively end on: Tuesday OCTOBER 31 2017, AT 23:59 CHILEAN TIME.**  **Applications sent by the Chilean Embassy in South Africa that arrive after the end of this period shall automatically be excluded from the entire selection process.**  **The results of the final selection process shall be reported as of the third week of NOVEMBER 2017.**  **CLASSES AND/OR THE SPANISH COURSE SHALL BEGIN ON OR AFTER THE FIRST WEEK OF MARCH 2018, SO SELECTED CANDIDATES MUST BE AVAILABLE TO TRAVEL TO CHILE FOR THESE DATES.** |

# **F. SELECTION CRITERIA.**

AGCI shall apply the following evaluation criteria when selecting applicants for scholarships, for applicable quantifiable factors:

**1. Priority Assigned by Home Country:** Each country must indicate each of its pre-selected applicants’ priority levels, in descending order, from highest to lowest priority, in accordance with the total number of pre-selected candidates (for example, if the total number of pre-selected candidates is 5, priority levels will run from first to fifth).

* Top priority: 30 points.
* Second priority: 25 points.
* Third priority: 20 points.
* Fourth priority: 15 points.
* Fifth priority: 10 points.
* Lower priority: 5 points.

**Weighting: 0.20** (20.0 percent).

**2. Professional experience:** This criterion is expressed in years of professional activity in the field of the program for which the application is being made.

* Over 5 years: 30 points.
* More than 3 and less than 5 years: 20 points.
* Less than 3 years: 10 points.

- Newly graduated applicants: 5 points.

**Weighting: 0.10** (10.0 percent).

**3. Applicant’s institution at the time of applying: this criterion is applied using the institution that supports their application.**

* **Public Institution:** 30 points. (professionals who have completed a higher education degree and perform a role or public office for the State of which they are citizens, at public companies, ministries, services, or institutions, or who are academics, faculty members, or researchers at higher education institutions that are officially recognized by the State that is submitting the applicant).
* **Private Institution:** 10 points. (professionals who perform a role in different areas of their countries’ civil society, as of the date of the Call for Applications).
* **Not employed:** 0 points.

**Weighting: 0.10** (10.0 percent).

**4. Gender: This factor is used to promote participation in AGCI Advanced Human Capital Education Programs by women.**

* Female Applicants: 30 points.
* Male Applicants: 15 points.

**Weighting: 0.10** (10.0 percent).

**5. Age: Criterion agreed by previous Selection Committees**

* Aged 30 to 35: 40 points.
* Aged 36 to 44: 30 points.
* Aged under 29: 20 points.
* Aged over 45: 10 points.

**Weighting: 0.05** (5.0 percent).

**6. Regional Criterion: This criterion is used to promote applications to Chilean Regional Universities (outside the capital) that have specialized departments.**

* **Applications to a University in regions other than the Metropolitan Region:** 30 points.
* **Applications to a University in the Metropolitan Region (Santiago):** 15 points.

**Weighting: 0.05** (5.0 percent).



**TOTAL:**  **60%.**



**7. Selection Committee Classification:** The Selection Committee will analyze these quantifiable factors, and based on this analysis shall undertake a general assessment of the applicants’ background information. This assessment will allow for the inclusion of Foreign Policy and Cooperation priorities, which will be applied using the following ratings:

* Excellent: 30 points.
* Very Good: 25 points.
* Good: 20 points.
* Acceptable: 15 points.

If an applicant receives a rating lower than “Acceptable”, they shall be automatically rejected, regardless of their score in the quantifiable factors.

**Weighting: 0.40** (40.0 percent).



**TOTAL:**  **100%.**



# **G. COMMITMENTS THAT MUST BE MADE BY PERSONS WHO ARE SELECTED.**

Persons selected for AGCI scholarships must:

1. Travel to Chile, or be present in the country, a sufficient period in advance of the start date for the corresponding Study Program (3 to 5 days in advance is recommended).
2. Obtain permission from the body that employs them in a timely manner, if applicable.
3. Obtain permission to reside in Chile in a timely manner.

IV. Sign the Sworn Declaration included at the end of this chapter and submit a scanned copy of it to the email address: kvera@agci.cl

V. Submit originals of the documents specified in Point D, Sections 2, 3, 4, and 9 hereof, and the aforementioned Sworn Declaration, in person at the offices of AGCI.

VI. Sign the Scholarship Award and Acceptance Agreement, the format of which is given in Annex 2 hereof, in Chile. In any case, AGCI will send selected candidates the text of the Agreement by email in advance, with the information entered for each corresponding candidate.

The text of the Sworn Declaration mentioned in Point IV is to be found in Annex 5 hereof.

# **H. COMMITMENTS THAT AGCI SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS MUST ACCEPT.**

All scholarship recipients must accept the following commitments:

1. To hold the academic degrees or titles and meet the other curriculum requirements stipulated by the higher education institution where they have been accepted.
2. To submit a valid medical certificate that demonstrates that they are in good physical and mental health, in line with the requirements for the studies for which the scholarship is granted, on request from AGCI. A suggested format for this certificate is attached hereto as Annex 6.
3. To comply with regulations in force on foreign residence in Chile.
4. To establish domicile in the city where they will undertake the study program for which the scholarship is granted within three (3) working days of signing the corresponding agreement. Scholarship holders must report this domicile to AGCI immediately, and must similarly report any change in domicile immediately. They must also keep AGCI informed of their current email addresses and telephone numbers in Chile.
5. To reside in the place where they undertake the study program for which the scholarship is granted, for the duration of the same.
6. Not to leave Chile without the consent of AGCI while the scholarship is active. ACGI shall be empowered to require scholarship holders to show their passports in order to verify compliance with this requirement, and may also request certifications from the applicable Chilean immigration authority as required, regarding the scholarship holder’s entries and exist into and out of Chilean territory.

The scholarship holder may only leave the country with the authorization of AGCI, in the following circumstances:

I) During the months of December, January, and February of each year, and only for the period of academic vacations specified in the Study Program. For these purposes, scholarship holders must attach a document issued by their University, specifying the exact period of academic vacations in the corresponding Program.

II) For a brief period, which may not exceed five (5) working days. In exceptional cases, duly justified by the scholarship holder, AGCI may grant a longer period.

For these purposes, the scholarship must make a written application to AGCI no less than five (5) days in advance of their planned travel date. In cases of unforeseen circumstances, as described in Clause Six, Section 1 of the template Agreement attached as Annex 2, AGCI may accept applications submitted a shorter period in advance of the planned travel date. Scholarship holders must inform AGCI of their return to Chile immediately on arrival.

1. To maintain unimpeachable behavior, in full compliance with Chilean legal regulations. Notwithstanding other situations that may constitute breach of this obligation, scholarship holders shall be understood to be in breach if they are indicted for any crime or felony.
2. To provide all information required by AGCI, within the period that it stipulates.
3. To comply with the academic system established by the higher education institution where they are studying.
4. To pass all modules or courses that they are due to pass during each academic term, in accordance with the corresponding study program.
5. To pass with good academic performance in all study periods, understood to correspond to a grade point average of 5.0 [out of 7.0] or higher, or equivalent.
6. To meet all academic or administrative requirements demanded by the corresponding higher education institution in order to achieve the academic degree for which program the scholarship is granted. In order to verify compliance with this obligation, scholarship holders must provide AGCI with certifications issued by the applicable academic authority at the corresponding higher education institution, regarding:
   1. Compliance with the aforementioned requirements, in the form of a certificated issued at the end of each semester or at the time of administrative closure by the corresponding University, certifying that the scholarship holder is enrolled as a regular student; and
   2. The final grade (on a scale ranging from 1 to a maximum of 7) achieved in the corresponding study program.
7. To be engaged in no work or studies other than the program for which the scholarship is granted, while it is active. Compliance with this obligation includes a prohibition against engaging in paid work, in Chile or overseas.
8. To comply in a timely manner with all requirements issued by AGCI in writing, including responding to surveys as indicated by the Agency, and to attend all calls and meetings to which they are called in writing by the Agency while the scholarship is active.
9. To provide AGCI with a copy of the final text of the thesis or similar monograph that the scholarship holder has prepared as part of the study program in question, on completion of studies and on a compact disk (CD). Theses should be on topics that fall within the fields of study offered to each country.
10. To specify that they hold AGCI scholarships in all academic outreach or research work in which they are involved.
11. Not to apply for scholarships for study programs that coincide fully or partially with the ones that they are undertaking with AGCI scholarships, while they hold scholarships provided by this Agency.
12. To return to their home country after completing the Study Program for which the scholarship is granted.
13. To sign a Scholarship Award and Acceptance Agreement with AGCI, which regulates the scholarship and full compliance with the commitments specified in this chapter.
14. Scholarship holders who fail to meet the objective of the Spanish Language Immersion Course must return to their home countries.

# **I. SITUATIONS IN WHICH AGCI MAY SUSPEND BENEFITS UNDER THE SCHOLARSHIP OR APPLY THE MEASURE OF WITHHOLDING PAYMENT OF THE MONTHLY STIPEND.**

If scholarship holders breach the commitments specified in the previous chapter hereof, AGCI may sanction them with any of the measures indicated in Clause Five of the corresponding agreement, the format of which is attached as Annex 2.

# **J. EARLY TERMINATION OF THE SCHOLARSHIP FOR ACTIONS IMPUTABLE TO THE HOLDER.**

When scholarship holders commit any of the breaches specified in Clause Six, Sections 2, 3, and/or 4 of the agreement the format of which is attached as Annex 2, AGCI may terminate the corresponding scholarship and all benefits indicated in Point C hereof. Notwithstanding the foregoing, under all circumstances AGCI shall pay scholarship holders’ return air fares to their city of origin.

Persons whose scholarships are terminated on the grounds mentioned in the preceding paragraph may not apply for any scholarship granted by AGCI in the future. The same prohibition applies to any person who breaches the commitment specified in Clause Four, Section 18 of the corresponding Agreement.

In the event that AGCI decides to terminate a scholarship on the grounds indicated in Clause Six, Sections 2, 3, and/or 4 of the agreement attached hereto as **Annex 2**, the holder must reimburse AGCI for all funds they have received from it as a result of the scholarship for the benefits specified in Clause Three of said agreement, up to the date on which the same are verified, except for the sums paid for life, health, and accident insurance.

For these purposes, AGCI will notify the scholarship holder and the Agency’s focal point in their country of citizenship, in writing, of the sum to be returned, specifying details by subsection.

For the purposes of this clause, the scholarship holder hereby accepts the specification of the sums to be return assessed by AGCI and accepts them as a debt for all legal purposes, and authorizes applicable administrative and judicial actions to be taken in Chile and in their country of origin for full payment of the sums owed.

# **K. OTHER ASPECTS.**

All persons who have received a Chilean cooperation scholarship shall be barred from applying for another Chilean (AGCI) scholarship for a period of five (5) years from the end of the original scholarship, if the new scholarship is for postgraduate education or training. Applications may be made for scholarships for short-duration specialized training after three (3) years have passed from the end of the original scholarship.

# **L. COMPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

**Information on AGCI:** AGCI’s fax number is (56)-(2)-28275794. Its email address is: [agencia@agci.cl](mailto:agencia@agci.cl). Its website can be accessed at <http://www.agci.gob.cl> or <http://www.agci.cl>.

**Interested parties are advised to consult this website online as a first source of information, or communicate by email.**

**AGCI’s address is:** Teatinos Nº 180. Piso 8º Piso. Santiago. Chile. **Telephone** (56)-(2)-28275742 or 28275802.

AGCI’s **Website** can also be visited at:

* <Http://www.estoeschile.cl>
* <http://www.chileclic.cl>
* <http://www.gobiernodechile.cl>

**Information on the Scholarship Program:** Applicants in search of further background information on the contents of this Call for Applications may contact:

* Their country’s Focal Point.
* The Chilean Embassy in their country.
* Their country’s Embassy in Chile.
* AGCI, at the addresses indicated above.

# **M. ANNEXES.**

* ANNEX 1: List of Master’s Degree Programs Accredited by the National Accreditation Council.
* ANNEX 2: Preliminary format for the Scholarship Award and Acceptance Agreement that regulates the relationship between AGCI and beneficiaries.
* ANNEX 3: Focal Points in selected countries.
* ANNEX 4: Scholarship Application Form.
* ANNEX 5: Sworn Declaration that must be made by selected candidates, in accordance with the final paragraph of Chapter G hereof.
* ANNEX 6: Recommendation for Declaration of Health and Preexisting Conditions.