



Helmut-Schmidt-Programme (Master's scholarships for Public Policy and Good Governance) Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

1. GENERAL QUESTIONS

Can I apply for a scholarship in the Helmut-Schmidt-Programme (master's scholarship for Public Policy and Good Governance) at any university in Germany?

No. Currently, the scholarship is offered for the eight master's courses listed in our announcement.

I currently do not live in my home country. Am I eligible to apply for the scholarship?

If you live in a developing country, you can apply (see "list of countries"). Applicants who have resided in a country that is not included in the DAC list of developing and emerging countries for more than 15 months at the time of the application deadline (July 31st) are **not eligible**.

I already live in Germany, can I apply?

If you live in Germany for more than 15 months at the time of the application deadline (July 31st), you are not entitled to apply for a scholarship in the Helmut-Schmidt-Programme.

Is there an age limit?

No. However, your last university degree should not date back more than six years when applying for a scholarship in the Helmut-Schmidt-Programme.

2. REQUIREMENTS / LANGUAGE SKILLS

In my country, there are only 3-year bachelor programmes. Can I still apply?

Please ask the university you wish to apply to what are the conditions to be admitted to the master's course.

I neither speak, write nor understand German. Am I eligible to apply?

Yes, you can apply for a scholarship because most of the master's courses are taught in English. A 6-month language course in Germany is part of the DAAD scholarship. For the master's courses which are taught in German or bilingually (German and English), you should submit a proof of the German language qualification. Please check out the details with representatives from the master's courses of your choice.

What is the expected English language level?

Every master's course has different language proficiency requirements. Please contact the universities of your choice or check their homepages to receive detailed information.

I have done my undergraduate studies in English. Do I still have to send a TOEFL / IELTS certificate?

If English was the language of instruction at your university, please contact the universities of your choice and check if a TOEFL / IELTS certificate is needed.



3. APPLICATION

What is the application deadline?

The application period at all eight master's courses lasts from **June 1st - July 31st**, each year.

To whom do I send my application?

You have to send your application to a maximum of two of the eight master's courses listed in the announcement.

Can I send applications to all of the eight master's courses?

No! Please fill in the application form "Application for Research Grant and Study Scholarships", choose "Other programmes" and indicate your priorities (a maximum of two master's courses). Please send this application form together with the relevant documents to the two master's courses of your choice (1st and 2nd priority). **Please write a single letter of motivation.** In this letter you should explain in detail, why you chose the respective master's courses as well as your reasons for prioritising.

Please note that your application cannot be accepted if you ignore this regulation. Please check the application procedure of the different master's courses on the universities' websites.

Which documents do I have to hand in?

The necessary documents are:

- Checklist form, signed and indicating place and date
- DAAD application form "Application for Research Grant and Study Scholarships" (please complete the form electronically)
- A single letter of motivation for both master's courses including a precise account of your academic, professional, and personal reasons for wishing to participate in the programme, as well as a detailed explanation of your choice of master's courses of study and prioritisation. The letter may be up to two pages long.
- A chronological gap-free curriculum vitae (please use the [europass template](#)) with exact information on your studies and practical experience
- Copies of your higher education degree certificates (certified translation if necessary, including an explanation of the grading system). Please make sure that these are clearly legible.
- Copy of your transcript of records incl. grading system (certified translation if necessary). Please make sure that these are clearly legible.
- Confirmations on professional experience as well as indicated internships and / or proof of voluntary activities must be enclosed, bearing a letterhead, date, signature, and stamp
- Recent language certificates (for English and / or German)
- A letter of reference of current date issued by the employer or by a university lecturer, if currently still studying, bearing a letterhead, signature, and stamp



4. MISCELLANEOUS

I will receive my first undergraduate degree after the application deadline. Am I eligible to apply?

No. Since you will not graduate until 31st July 2022, it will not be possible to admit you to the application round in the Helmut-Schmidt-Programme for 2022. Please apply next year.

Will I have to pay tuition fees?

No. All scholarship holders in the Helmut-Schmidt-Programme (Master's scholarships for Public Policy and Good Governance) are exempted from tuition fees. However, a registration fee of approximately 250,00 EUR must be paid for each semester.

Where does the language course take place?

The preceding German language course takes place in Germany, usually lasting up to 6 months. Participation is mandatory.

What is covered by the scholarship?

The DAAD pays a monthly instalment of 931,00 EUR. Special conditions apply for an online semester of the master's course "Analysis and design of social protection systems" with a sur-place-rate of 500,00 EUR (see details under "Current Announcement"). The DAAD also pays an appropriate travel allowance and a study and research subsidy of 460,00 EUR each year as well as a rent subsidy and / or allowance for spouses and / or children when applicable. Health insurance, accident and liability insurance in Germany are also covered by the scholarship.

I would like to bring my wife / husband and children to Germany. Can they join me?

It is possible. After your language course, you can apply for a family / child subsidy with the beginning of your studies at your host university (September or October 2023).

If you have further questions concerning the master's courses, please contact the representatives of the master's courses of your choice. The contact addresses are listed in the "Announcement 2023".