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RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES ET EUROPÉENNES

GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR GLOBALISATION, DEVELOPMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

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Mobility and Attractiveness Directorate

Higher Education Department

EIFFEL PROGRAMME
2011-2012
VADE-MECUM

The Eiffel Programme offers funding for:
- a Master's postgraduate degree course
- a 10-month jointly tutored and jointly supervised component as part of PhD course, preferably during the 2nd or 3rd year.

The Eiffel excellence programme is run by the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs. Focusing on three key subject areas of sciences, economics and management, law and political science, its primary aim is to offer scholarships in French higher education establishments to future public and private sector decision-makers in foreign countries.

<u>As regards the Master's degree course</u>, students pursuing careers in teaching and research are not eligible as they can benefit from other grant programmes.

It also seeks to encourage applicants from developing countries, particularly in Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe, the Middle East and the new EU Member States, although this does include industrialised countries for the PhD component.

The Eiffel Programme is designed to help French higher education establishments attract high-calibre overseas students. Only French higher education establishments can submit applications and, if successful, they must enrol the candidates in the requested courses to obtain the Eiffel grant.

1/ <u>Objectives of the Eiffel Programme</u>

The Eiffel excellence scholarships are aimed at overseas students whose talents and abilities have been recognised by French higher education establishments wishing to attract them to pursue their

studies. The courses undertaken in France will help them to obtain positions of responsibility in the public and private sectors.

Only foreign nationals are eligible to apply for a scholarship from the French Government. In the case of dual nationality applicants, those with French nationality are ineligible.

Applications from **students currently studying outside France will be given priority** over those from students already studying in France.

Educational establishments that shortlist non-French speaking applicants must ensure that their level of French is sufficient to enable them to integrate satisfactorily into the anticipated course.

2/ Areas of study covered by the Eiffel Programme

The areas of study concerned by the Eiffel scholarships are:

- engineering sciences at Master level, sciences in a broader sense for PhD level (engineering sciences, exact sciences such as mathematics, physics, chemistry and life sciences, nano- and bio-technology, earth and environmental sciences and information and communication sciences and technology)
- economics and management
- law and political sciences

3/ Academic levels of study covered by the Eiffel Programme

In submitting applications for Eiffel scholarships, French host educational establishments undertake to enrol students in one of the following courses:

- courses awarding a Master or in colleges awarding an engineering science diploma

- PhD courses as part of a jointly tutored or jointly supervised thesis with a foreign higher education establishment partner.

Applicants for Master courses must be no more than 30 years old at the deadline date for the selection committee of the 10th March 2011 (i.e. born after 11/03/1980) and no more than 35 years old for the PhD courses (i.e. born after 11/03/1975).

4/ Ineligibility criteria for the Eiffel Programme

a) **French Government scholarship-holders:** overseas students already benefiting from a French Government grant from other programmes at the time of submitting the application are ineligible even if this concerns a welfare related grant.

b) **Previously unsuccessful applicants:** Unsuccessful candidates from previous selection processes cannot re-apply even in a different subject. **This concerns only Master courses** and does not apply to PhD subjects.

c) **Applicants having already benefited from an Eiffel scholarship** in previous years are not allowed to re-apply.

d) Establishments offering courses entirely based in a third country cannot submit applications for candidates even if the diploma awarded is French. **The course must take place in France**.

e) **Students pursuing careers in teaching and research (for Master courses only).**

f) **Applications made directly by students or submitted by overseas educational establishments.**

g) **Students who are subject to applications submitted by more than one French educational establishment.**

Furthermore, incomplete applications will not be considered: applications must be complete and contain the official stamp of the establishment as well as the signature of a senior official possessing legal authority (University Dean, College Director, etc.). **The quality charter concerning reception of French Government scholarship holders must also be signed.**

5/ Eiffel Programme application procedure

French higher education establishments shortlist the best overseas students whom they wish to enrol in their courses for Eiffel scholarships. The different establishments complete the application forms referring to instructions and guidelines issued by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs. Submitted applications must comply with the objectives of the programme.

6/ Selection of Eiffel Programme scholarships

Selection is undertaken by a commission made up of three specialist committees (one for each subject area). Committee members are not authorised to assess applications submitted by teaching establishments with which they have professional links.

Three selection criteria are used by the commission:

- the academic excellence of the candidate taken from his/her university career to date and the innovative character of his/her research subject (rated on a score out of 10 and weighted with a coefficient of 3),
- the international policy of the establishment[1] submitting the application, the activities undertaken in the geographical area in question, the excellence of the hosting service, suitability with respect to the application submitted (rated on a score out of 5 and weighted with a coefficient of 3),
- the co-operation policy of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, particularly the precedence given to priority countries for this programme (rated on a score out of 5 and weighted with a coefficient of 1).

The commission assesses applications against the three selection criteria and calculates a score out of 50. It sets a pass mark according to the number of scholarship grants available and awards them in the following manner:

- a minimum of 70% of the scholarship grants awarded to the highest scoring applicants (priority list);

[1] This concerns the international relations policy of the university or the college itself and not that of the department which submits and monitors the application.

- the remaining grants are split between the establishments having scored above the minimum pass mark but which have not been retained in the priority list (supplementary list).

The commission then draws up and publishes the final list of successful candidates.

7/ Publication of results

The list of successful candidates will be published on-line at www.egide.asso.fr/eiffel
All results will be sent to the senior officials of the educational establishments.

The commission's deliberations are final and absolute and are not open to explanation or discussion.

8/ Selection schedule

For the 2011/2012 academic year, the schedule is as follows:

- application forms available on-line: 27th September 2010
- deadline for submission of applications to Egide: 7th January 2011
- publication of results: week beginning Monday 21st March 2011

The publication of results in March will enable due consideration to be given to the French academic offer based on the understanding that the best performing students often have other competing offers, particularly grant offers, from which to choose before making a final decision in pursuit of their studies.

9/ Duration of the Eiffel scholarship

Master course: The Eiffel scholarship grant is attributed on condition that the student fulfils the annual academic requirements of the curriculum for a **maximum duration of 12 months** when registering for M2, a **maximum of 24 months** when registering for M1 and **maximum duration of 36 months** when registering for an engineering science diploma.
A 2-month preliminary intensive language training course can be funded for non-French speaking students upon the request of the French host educational establishment. The student can draw down his/her Eiffel grant during this training course.

The total duration of the course undertaken (including compulsory work experience or internships in France or abroad) must be clearly indicated by the educational establishment in the application form. Optional placements are not covered by the grant.

If the scholarship grant holder undertakes a placement or takes part in an exchange programme abroad, **the payment of his/her grant will be suspended, travel costs will not be covered and accommodation arrangements in France cannot be retained**.

PhD course: The Eiffel scholarship grant is attributed for a maximum duration of 10 months. No language classes are offered for scientific and economic disciplines.

Students studying law and political science, have the option, upon request of the host educational establishment, to take French language classes at the same time as their studies (request to be made in the application form).

After approval by the selection commission, the 10-month period can be split into 3 phases in France spread over a maximum of 3 years comprising stays of 3-4 months in France alternating with a stay in the student's country of origin.

10/ Eiffel Scholarship grant amounts

Master course: Eiffel scholarship-holders receive a monthly grant allowance of 1,181 Euros (current applicable rate). In addition, the programme covers various expenses including return travel, health insurance and cultural activities. Scholarship-holders can also benefit from an additional accommodation allowance.

PhD course: Eiffel PhD scholarship-holders receive a monthly allowance of 1,400 Euros (current applicable rate) with additional allowances for one return trip (only one return trip will be reimbursed for law and political science students who undertake several stays in France), health insurance and cultural activities. Scholarship-holders can also benefit from an additional accommodation allowance.

Tuition fees are not covered by the Eiffel Programme (with the exception of preliminary language course fees).

The Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs expects the educational establishments it supports to promote international relations through the Eiffel Programme and that they agree to apply the best possible financial conditions to the scholarship students in accordance with the terms and condition of the quality charter.

Enrolment fees are waived for French Government scholarship students registered with state-run educational establishments.

The Eiffel scholarship grant cannot be combined with another grant. If the successful candidate is allocated a grant from another funding body, he/she must choose between one of these and inform Egide of his/her decision by post.

11/ French Embassy assistance in the Eiffel Programme

If required, French diplomatic services (co-operation and cultural departments) can assist educational establishments to identify the best performing students in their country of residence.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

The Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs has contracted the management of the Eiffel Programme to:

EGIDE
28 rue de la Grange-aux-Belles 75010 Paris
Tel: +33 (0)1 40 40 59 30
All practical information can be consulted on the Egide website:
www.egide.asso.fr/eiffel

EGIDE is responsible for making grant payments to students and is the point of contact for all educational establishments and students regarding enquiries linked to Eiffel scholarship grants.
E-mail: eiffel@egide.asso.fr