



**CALL FOR
“HEYDAR ALIYEV INTERNATIONAL
EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM”
2026-2027
ACADEMIC YEAR**



Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Azerbaijan



MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND EDUCATION
REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN



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CALL FOR NOMINATIONS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR FOREIGNERS FUNDED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF AZERBAIJAN

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan are pleased to announce the “Heydar Aliyev - International Education Grant Program” for 2026-2027 academic year. The higher education scholarship by the Government of Azerbaijan will be offered on an annual basis for a period of 5 years.

The program honours the memory of Heydar Aliyev - the National Leader of Azerbaijan.

“Heydar Aliyev - International Education Grant Program” (hereinafter “Scholarship”) established by the decree of H.E. Ilham Aliyev, the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 8 July 2023, provides an excellent opportunity for selected candidates to study in the leading universities of Azerbaijan at the preparatory courses, undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, general medicine/medical residency programs.

Annually 100 international students will benefit from the Scholarship. The citizens of the following countries are eligible to participate in the program:

- Member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation;
- Member states of the Non-Aligned Movement;
- Small Island Developing States;
- Countries sharing common cultural, ethnic and historical ties with Azerbaijan.





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1. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the program is to contribute to the development of human capital in other countries and to support the education of foreign nationals in higher education institutions of Azerbaijan by granting scholarships on full-time basis at the Bachelor's (including general medicine education), Master's (including medical residency), Doctoral levels, as well as the preparatory courses.

2. EDUCATIONAL LEVELS

LEVEL	PROGRAM DURATION
Bachelor's Program	4-5 years This period is determined based on educational programs approved for each specialty.
General medicine Program	5-6 years This period is determined based on educational programs approved for each specialty.
Master's Program	1.5-2 years This period is determined based on educational programs approved for each specialty.
Medical Residency Program	2-5 years This period is determined based on educational programs approved for each specialty.
Doctoral (PhD) Program	3 years

The duration of preparatory courses range from 6 months to 1 year and is determined by the higher education institution.





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3. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

The applicants approved for the Scholarship will be provided with the following:

1. TUITION FEES:

Tuition fee and language preparatory courses (in accordance with the language of instruction) for the study period at the undergraduate, graduate, general medicine, medical residency, doctoral level.

2. INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS:

An international economy class flight ticket to Baku, Azerbaijan (from the country of origin) and from Azerbaijan (to the country of origin respectively) once a year.

3. MONTHLY ALLOWANCE:

Monthly allowance of 800 AZN (470 USD)* for accommodation, daily expenses, educational materials (10 months each year, except July and August).

4. MEDICAL INSURANCE:

Yearly allowance of 200 AZN (117 USD)* for the medical care and medication during the study period in the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Note: All the privileges and payments under Part 3 (Scholarship Benefits) will be applicable only for the duration of each program described under Part 2 (Educational Levels).

5. VISA & REGISTRATION:

A single entry visa to the Republic of Azerbaijan, as well as, a temporary residence permit for the stay in the country for the period of each academic year.

**manat at the exchange rate set by the Central Bank of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the day of payment*





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4. TIMELINE OF THE CALL

ACTIVITIES	DATES
Submission of applications (first stage) to the relevant government authorities of the applicant's country (Ministries, Embassies, etc.)	From Feb 16 to April 15, 2026
Review and evaluation of candidates by the respective government authorities	From April 16 to May 16, 2026
Registration of applications (second stage) in the SIACAS (Study in Azerbaijan Centralized Admission Service)*	From May 18 to June 1, 2026
Review and evaluation of candidates	From June 1 to July 1, 2026
Notification of the selected candidates	From July 1 to August 1, 2026
Start of academic year**	September 15, 2026
Last date for the arrival in the Republic of Azerbaijan	September 30, 2026

* Respective state entities/government authorities of candidate's country will get in touch with the shortlisted applicants to ensure the registration process in the SIACAS.

**This date may vary for students enrolled in preparatory courses for medical programs.





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5. APPLICATION CRITERIA

1. Citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan or individuals whose citizenship in the Republic of Azerbaijan have been terminated will not be considered for a Scholarship;
2. Age requirements for applicants shall be as follows:
 - Undergraduate and general medicine programs – foreign nationals below 35 years as of 15.09.2026;
 - Graduate and medical residency programs – foreign nationals below 40 years as of 15.09.2026;
 - Doctoral programs – foreign nationals below 45 years as of 15.09.2026.

Selection Committee at any time may verify the authenticity of the information provided by the applicant and proceed according to current regulations.

6. APPLICATION PROCESS

For official nomination by the respective state entities/government authorities (Ministries, Embassies, etc.) the applicants must submit the required documents to the relevant authorities for the first stage of the application process. The last date of the submission is April 15, 2026 at 6 PM Baku time.

If the candidates are officially nominated by the respective government authorities they will proceed to the second stage of the application process and apply through Study in Azerbaijan Centralized Admission Service (SIACAS) website (portal.edu.az) from May 18 to June 1, 2026. After logging in SIACAS website applicants must choose the relevant Admission channel (“Heydar Aliyev - International Education Grant” program) to apply.

Candidates can choose 3 (three) specialties at different higher educational institutions of the Republic of Azerbaijan in the appropriate channel.





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Applicants may track status of their applications and get notifications for the next stages from the SIACAS. At the same time, notifications will appear in applicant's personal account.

SIACAS website will remain accessible to registration of applications from May 18, 2026, starting at 12 AM, to June 1 at 6 PM Baku time.

A candidate with multiple nationalities may submit only one application, and it must be for one of the eligible nations (Annex 2) listed in this Call for Applications (it must be submitted in accordance with the applicant's nationality as nominated by the relevant state bodies).

Only the applications that were nominated by their respective countries in the first stage will go through the evaluation process for the Scholarship program.

If applicants face any technical problems with the website, they may send email to siacas.support@tsii.edu.az with short description and relevant screenshots.

7. REQUIREMENTS

1. Completed [nomination form](#) (for the first stage of application process);
2. Copy of Diplomas and Transcripts from prior High School or Higher Education Institution;
The applicant's academic marks (GPA) of the previous degree(s) of study (general secondary education, bachelor's degree, general medicine education, master's degree, medical residency) must not be less than 70 (on a scale of 0 to 100 or 7 on a scale of 10 or equivalent) of the relevant marking system;
3. Copy of the medical certificate (including HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis B/C tests);
4. Copy of a valid passport that confirms the applicant's identification information;
5. CV or Resume;
6. Proficiency in the language of study:
 - Applicants willing to study in English are required to have following scores:
 - for undergraduate programs minimum IELTS 5 (TOEFL 40);
 - for postgraduate programs minimum IELTS 5.5 (TOEFL 50);
 - the language of study of the previous education must be English.





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- Applicants willing to study in Russian - proof of language proficiency or the language of study of the previous education must be Russian;
- Applicants willing to study in Turkish - proof of language proficiency or the language of study of the previous education must be in Turkish;
- Applicants willing to study in Azerbaijani – proof of the English, Russian or Turkish language or the language of study of the previous education must be English, Russian or Turkish.

The higher education institution may examine the candidate's proficiency for the applied level of education and proficiency in the language of study.

7. Motivation letter;

8. Local and international awards (if available).

7.1 PREREQUISITE FOR THE DOCUMENTS

1. Documents must be legible/readable and clear;
2. Documents must be in one of the following languages: Azerbaijani, Turkish, English and Russian languages and have to be notarized;
3. Documents in a language other than those indicated above must be accompanied by a notarized translation into English;
4. The applicant must submit the documentation in PDF format;
5. Candidates must submit a medical certificate (including HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis B and C tests) from the relevant clinics in the country of residence. The medical certificate has to be dated no more than 3 (three) months before the submission of application and must verify that the applicant is in good health for travel and study (if the certificate is in a language other than Azerbaijani, Turkish, English and Russian, it should have a certified translation);
6. All requested documents must be uploaded along with the application in the SIACAS website before the deadline (June 1 at 6 PM GMT Baku time).





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8. RESULTS

1. In accordance with the schedule mentioned in Part 4 (*Timeline of the Call*) of this call, the decision on the acceptance to the scholarship program will be sent by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and through SIACAS website;
2. If the selected applicant does not confirm the participation at the Scholarship program through SIACAS website within the established deadline, the Application Committee may grant the scholarship to another applicant who meets the abovementioned requirements;
3. Official nomination of the candidates by the respective government authorities (Ministries, Embassies, etc.) of their country does not guarantee the grant of the scholarship by the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan;
4. The final decision on the grant of the scholarships is solely up to the Selection Committee;
5. All decisions made during the selection process are final and not subject to appeal.

9. CONSIDERATIONS

1. Any expense that is not specified in this Call for Applications will not be covered or reimbursed by the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan;
2. The selected applicant will receive instructions to initiate the process of formalizing the scholarship grant. If Application Committee does not receive a response to its communications within the established timeframe, it may result in the cancellation of the scholarship grant and the selection of another applicant;
3. The selected applicants will receive guideline about their stay in the Republic of Azerbaijan. They may get the information about scholarship holder's rights and obligations, visa, migration rules, as well as other useful materials;
4. The selected applicant will be considered as a scholarship recipient only after delivering the required documentation to the offices of the higher education institution in the Republic of Azerbaijan, and will be subject to the commitments of Agreement of this Scholarship Program;
5. The selected applicant, upon accepting the scholarship, commits to complying with the Agreement signed by grant holder and the higher educational institution, as well as keeping up-to-date with the respective departments assigned to the candidates by higher education institutions during scholarship period.





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10. ANNEX LIST

1. [Nomination form \(for the first stage of application process\);](#)
2. [List of eligible countries;](#)
3. [List of diplomatic missions of the Republic of Azerbaijan;](#)
4. [List of participating higher educational institutions;](#)
5. [List of programs.](#)

11. CONTACTS

Email addresses for queries and questions related to this call:

1. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan - scholars@mfa.gov.az
2. Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan - info@studyinazerbaijan.edu.az
3. Technical issues with the SIACAS website (portal.edu.az) - siacas.support@tsii.edu.az

