

MASTER PROGRAMME PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES

Helmut-Schmidt-Programme

The Master's programme in Peace and Conflict Studies at the Otto-von-Guericke-University (OvGU) Magdeburg is part of the Helmut-Schmidt-Programme of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the German Federal Foreign Office. Here you can find all necessary information on the application for the winter term 2025/2026.

It is very important to read the below information carefully, you can also watch the two videos that we have created to guide you through the application process by clicking on the links: **› Video** (https://www.pacs.ovgu.de/Admission/Helmut_Schmidt_Programme/Application+under+Helmut_Schmidt+Programme+28Fully_funded+Scholarship%29+_+Video+1_2-p-1162.html) / **› Video** (https://www.pacs.ovgu.de/Admission/Helmut_Schmidt_Programme/Application+under+Helmut_Schmidt+Programme+28Fully_funded+Scholarship%29+_+Video+2_2-p-1164.html). However, the instructions provided by PACS and DAAD websites are the only reliable source and cannot in any way be replaced by these two videos.

The **› Helmut-Schmidt-Programme** (Master's Scholarships for Public Policy and Good Governance (<https://www2.daad.de/deutschland/stipendium/datenbank/en/21148-scholarship-database/?status=&origin=&subjectGrps=&daad=&intention=&q=helmut&page=1&detail=50026397>)) was designed to further qualify future leaders in politics, law, economics, and administration according to the principles of Good Governance and to prepare them in a practical oriented course for their professional life. The programme offers excellent graduates with a first university degree the chance to obtain a Master's degree in disciplines that are of special relevance for the social, political, and economic development of their home country. With the knowledge and experience acquired in Germany, the scholarship holders should later contribute to the establishment of democratically oriented economic and social systems aimed at overcoming social differences. With this programme, DAAD intends to contribute to the support of Good Governance and civil society structures in selected partner countries and regions.

Who can apply?	Graduates from developing countries in the field of social sciences, political sciences, law, economics, and public administration (› list of countries). To be eligible, applicants also have to currently live in one of the countries on that list.
Target Group	Very well qualified graduates with a first university degree (Bachelor or equivalent) who want to actively contribute to the social and economic development of their home countries or regions. It is offered both for young graduates without professional experience and for mid-career professionals.
What is fundable?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Scholarship of monthly approx. 931 € ▶ Contributions to health insurance ▶ Appropriate travel allowance ▶ Study & research subsidy ▶ Upon application: monthly rent subsidy / allowances for spouses and/or children ▶ 6-months German language course from April 2025 up to the end of September 2025 (this course is to take place at selected institutes in Germany and usually not at the universities themselves)

- ▶ Academic degree with far above average results (more information on the admission requirements can be found [here](#))
- ▶ Language skills

- ▶ English C1 in accordance with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (more information [here](#))
- ▶ Other language skills are an advantage
- ▶ Political & social engagement
- ▶ International experience (work or study related) of at least 3 months
- ▶ Convincing description of the subject-related & personal motivation
 - ▶ Expected benefit when returning to the home country or region
 - ▶ Explanation of the choice of programme and place of study
 - ▶ Intended focus of study
 - ▶ Presentation of previous experiences relevant to PACS (studies and if necessary beyond this)
 - ▶ Intended career paths after completion of your studies

The most recent university degree should have been obtained in the six years preceding the application. Applicants who have been in Germany for more than 15 months at the application deadline will not be considered!

Application 1st of June 2024 - 15th of July 2024!

Here you can find a list of documents you need for your application. To facilitate the application process, it is sufficient to send simple copies of all documents by E-mail. All documents that are not in English must be submitted in certified translation (English). If approval is granted, the indicated documents must be submitted subsequently as officially certified copies.

On the › [website of the DAAD](https://www2.daad.de/deutschland/stipendium/datenbank/en/21148-scholarship-database?status=&origin=&subjectGrps=&daad=&intention=&q=helmut&page=1&detail=50026397) (<https://www2.daad.de/deutschland/stipendium/datenbank/en/21148-scholarship-database?status=&origin=&subjectGrps=&daad=&intention=&q=helmut&page=1&detail=50026397>) you can find the most up-to-date overview of the required documents for your application.

Furthermore, please do not forget the following documents:

1. › DAAD Checklist (hand-signed, dated)
2. › DAAD Application Form for Research Grants and Study Scholarships (hand-signed, but electronically edited);
3. › Application Form for Admission to Studies (find the information sheet › [here](#));
4. Letter of motivation (one single letter for both study courses you want to apply for), containing a precise description of your academic/professional and personal reasons for choosing those master's programmes and universities (two pages maximum, hand-signed, dated);
5. CV (in Europass format) in English including information about the precise field of your studies, your political and social engagement and, if applicable, description of job experience (hand-signed, dated);
6. Simple copy of passport (pages with personal detail & photograph) and residence permit (where applicable);
7. Simple copies of the certificate for the higher education entrance examination completed in your home country, if taken (later officially certified copies);
8. Simple copies of degree certificates of all University degrees (Bachelor, Master) (please attach an explanation of the grading system / later officially certified copies);
9. Simple copies of transcripts of records (later officially certified copies);
10. Simple copy of recent English language certificate (Level C1) (later officially certified copy);
11. Proof of international experience (work or study experience) of at least 3 months;
12. Letter of recommendation by your university professor or current employer (signed, recently dated & supplemented with an official letterhead, and stamp);
13. Certificate of employment to support relevant professional experience mentioned in your CV (if applicable);
14. Proof of social or political engagement.

!!! Please send your complete application (merged into one single PDF document!) to:

› pacsapplicationdaad@ovgu.de (<mailto:pacsapplicationdaad@ovgu.de>)

This E-mail address should only be used for the application for the Helmut-Schmidt-Programme at the OvGU. For questions please contact › pacs@ovgu.de (<mailto:pacs@ovgu.de>). More information about the application to the OvGU can be found [here](https://www.ovgu.de/unimagdeburg/en/International/Incoming+_+Ways+to+the+University/Study/Full_Time+Studies/Applying+Directly+to+OVGU-p-107056.html) (https://www.ovgu.de/unimagdeburg/en/International/Incoming+_+Ways+to+the+University/Study/Full_Time+Studies/Applying+Directly+to+OVGU-p-107056.html). You can also try to find answers to your questions by looking into the FAQ document (<https://www2.daad.de/medien/deutschland/stipendien/formulare/ppgg-faq.pdf>) of the DAAD.

Application period for the winter term 2025/2026: From the 1st of June until the 15th of July 2024!

In October/November 2024 a selection committee consisting of university professors and DAAD representatives meets and suggests potential candidates for a DAAD scholarship. Afterwards, the suggested candidates are contacted by the DAAD to upload their complete application to the DAAD Portal. All applicants will be informed at the end of the selection process – approximately by the end of December 2024. We kindly ask you to refrain from requests for further information, as we will be in contact with you as soon as we have selected the candidates.

Important: Make sure that you have **a copy of each document of your application** ready, as those documents (as PDF files) have to be uploaded to the DAAD portal in case you are suggested for a DAAD scholarship!



Study Programme



PACS Team



Publications



Our Students

News

26.03.2024

Online Info Event for Erasmus Traineeships

26.03.2024

Feminism Course - Free Spots Available for PACS Students

26.03.2024

Commented Lecture Directory - Summer Term 2024

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