



Guidelines for the UNWTO Knowledge Network Talent Development Platform

Scholarships

The KN Talent Development Platform is one of the main implementing arms of the UNWTO Knowledge Network Talent Development strategy. It is made up of the Knowledge Network Community as well as UNWTO Members and Partners. Its purpose is to link international internship and scholarship opportunities from UNWTO Members and partners with young talents from Affiliate Member institutions and institutions with TedQual certified programmes.

The KN Talent Development Network is an auto-sustained network where internship and scholarship opportunities are proactively shared by UNWTO Members and are seized by students and recent graduates from educational institutions of the Affiliate Member or certified TedQual programmes. Knowledge Network will facilitate the communication flow of the platform and ensure its lively interaction.

Scholarships

Scholarships are a key component in advancing Talent Development. Scholarships promoted within the Knowledge Network Talent Development Network Platform can be funded by UNWTO Members and Partners for tuition research, or educational expenses at an Affiliate Member education institution preferably those with a TedQual certified programme. Such scholarship opportunities will be made available through the Talent Development Platform for students and young professionals from institutions Affiliate Members and institutions with TedQual certified programmes. By leveraging KN's international network and linkages with UNWTO Members, Knowledge Network can target educational institutions with outstanding young talents to take advantage of scholarship opportunities.

While scholarships are open to highly qualified students worldwide, a special effort will be set on providing scholarships to those coming from developing countries in response to the urge to build a pool of highly qualified professionals in such countries.

Types of Programmes eligible for scholarships

- Bachelor, Masters or Phd programmes certified by TedQual
- Certificates, Diplomas or Professional Studies at Affiliate Member educational institutions
- Courses, conferences, summer schools or other educational activities jointly organized by UNWTO or a UNWTO Member

Types of scholarship funding (Funding can be provided for one or a combination of the following)

- Part or full tuition of one of the programmes mentioned above
- Transportation to and from the location of the programme
- Accommodation or living expenses during the duration of the programme

- Insurance during the duration of the programme (only if sponsor is an insurance company)
- Research expenses within an area of interest of UNWTO Programme of Work

The guidelines and scholarship applicants characteristics suggested below should serve as recommendations only. By no means are these compulsory or comprehensive.

Suggested guidelines for scholarships

- List documentation required for verification of applicants qualifications
- Clearly mention admission criteria for selecting scholarship recipients
- State which costs will be covered by the scholarship and which will not be covered
- Mention conditions for application and maintenance of scholarship
- Schedule an interview with potential applicants to finalize selection recipients
- Provide an orientation for scholarship recipients, particularly those coming internationally
- Follow up periodically with scholarship recipients to discuss progress in the programme
- Maintain the Knowledge Network informed of selected scholarship recipients, and its progress in the programme

Suggested characteristics of scholarship applicants

- Current student, recent graduate, or young professional from an Affiliate Member or an institution with a TedQual certified programme (students only)
- Excellent academic standing
- Letter of recommendations
- Relevant experience and coursework
- Certified knowledge of the language of the academic programme
- High level of English and knowledge of another UN official language
- Letter of Motivation for the scholarship
- Write a brief reflection paper after completion of scholarship
- Research proposal indicating research expenses and timeline (for research scholarships)

Knowledge Network Facilitation Role

The Knowledge Network should act as a facilitator of student mobility by connecting scholarship opportunities of UNWTO Members with potential applicants. This flexible role includes the following:

- Calling for collaboration of UNWTO Members to share international internship opportunities
- Sharing scholarship opportunities in its media outlets and directly to the KN Community and TedQual programmes
- Providing suggested guidelines and recommendations (as outlined above) for scholarships
- Provide assistance to UNWTO Members in filtering applications
- Gathering information on scholarship recipients within the platform and sharing their stories on its media outlets
- The KN should not be involved in selecting scholarship recipients or designing scholarship schemes, it should serve as a facilitator only