



## **Mo Ibrahim Foundation PhD Scholarships Guidance Notes**

### **Scholarship Information**

The Mo Ibrahim Foundation has generously provided SOAS with two PhD scholarships per year for African students undertaking a full-time PhD programme in the field of Governance for Development in Africa.

The scholarship provides for fees for three years and an annual bursary of £16,000 per year. The scholarship also covers visa costs, HIS and TB (if undertaken), provided receipts are submitted to the Centre of African Studies office.

Candidates accept the scholarship offer on the basis of the funding conditions.

### **Scholarship Criteria**

**Domicile/Residency:** Applicants must be domiciled (or permanent residents) in an African country. Preference will be given to scholarship candidates living in Sub-Saharan Africa.

**Eligible Programmes:** PhD Programme (Full-time) Research undertaken by scholarship applicants must directly address or be applicable to the issue of Governance in Africa.

The eligible PhDs are only those within the following departments:

- Development Studies
- Law
- Economics
- International Relations/Politics
- MA African Studies
- CISD (Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy)
- DEFIMS (Department for Financial and Management Studies )
- Distance Learning: CEFIMS(Centre for Financial and Management Studies), DEFIMS

**Assessment:** Scholarship candidates will be assessed based on their intended research, academic merit and references. SOAS is committed to accepting only those scholarship candidates who can demonstrate an ability to complete a PhD within three, or at most, four years.

## **Documents to submit for the Scholarship:**

### **CV with contact information**

Please enclose a comprehensive CV with the application. CVs should be no longer than two A4 pages. It must include your email address and contact details. Please provide your name and contact information, including your Admissions Reference Number from the SOAS Doctoral School Office (you will find it on your unconditional offer letter)

### **Proposal and Unconditional Offer**

Please enclose the research proposal that was sent to the SOAS Doctoral School Office as part of your application for a place on the PhD programme. In order to be considered for funding, applicants must first secure an UNCONDITIONAL OFFER for the PhD by applying directly to the SOAS Doctoral School. Note that it takes up to 8 weeks to receive an offer after submitting an application for PhD, and by the 31<sup>st</sup> of March the candidate must have the offer.

### **Supporting Statement**

Please explain how your intended research either directly addresses or may be applied to the issue of Governance in Africa. Statement must be no longer than two A4 pages (approx. 1000 words).

### **Reference**

Please provide one academic reference with your application. The reference should be able to comment on your previous research/study and how your intended research is relevant to the Mo Ibrahim Foundation Scholarship scheme. Referees should send their reference directly to [ab17@soas.ac.uk](mailto:ab17@soas.ac.uk), or if this is not possible post their references to the Centre office (address below).

### **Other Information**

All applications, including reference, must be received by **31st March** of each year. Only complete applications will be accepted. Incomplete applications and applications that do not follow the guidelines above **will not be considered for a scholarship**. The Advisory Panel expects to have made a final decision on the Mo Ibrahim Foundation PhD Scholarships by May of each year. All scholarship candidates will be notified of the outcome of their application.

**NOTE: By 31<sup>st</sup> of March you must have an Unconditional offer for PhD in order to be considered for funding. Note that it takes 8 weeks to receive an offer of admission for PhD, therefore to apply for the PhD at least or before January 2020.**

For any other information contact: Angelica Baschiera [ab17@soas.ac.uk](mailto:ab17@soas.ac.uk)