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# Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

**Report of the Secretary-General** 

Summary

The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 75/105 and is a compilation of replies from Member States relating to scholarships and training facilities made available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

\*\* A/76/50.





<sup>\*</sup> Reissued for technical reasons on 6 May 2022.

## I. Introduction

1. By General Assembly resolution 845 (IX), Member States were invited to extend to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories offers of facilities not only for study and training at the university standard but also for study at the post-primary level, as well as technical and vocational training of immediate practical value.

2. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 1696 (XVI), offers extended under resolution 845 (IX) are communicated by the Secretariat to the administering Powers to enable them to give appropriate publicity to the offers in the Territories under their administration.

3. Information on scholarships offered by Member States under the programme is made available to prospective applicants. Reference to the programme has been included in successive editions of the guide entitled *Study Abroad*, published by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

4. Under the terms of resolution 845 (IX) and subsequent resolutions, the Secretary-General submits to the General Assembly each year a report containing detailed information on the offers made and the extent to which they were utilized. The previous report on the subject is contained in documents A/75/74 and A/75/74/Add.1. The present report, which covers the period from 24 March 2020 to 26 March 2021, is submitted in accordance with paragraph 5 of resolution 75/105.

## II. Scholarship offers and awards

### A. Offering States

5. Over the years, the 64 Member States listed below have offered to make scholarships available for the use of inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories in response to the relevant General Assembly resolutions:

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Egypt, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

6. One non-member State, the Holy See, has also offered scholarships.

### **B.** Offers and awards

### Algeria

7. In a note verbale dated 15 February 2021, the Permanent Mission of Algeria to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

## University scholarship recipients from Non-Self-Governing Territories studying in Algeria

From 2016 to 2021, a total of 1,297 Saharawi students (bachelor, master and PhD) received scholarships and were registered at various Algerian universities.

#### University scholarship recipients

Year	Scholarships
2016–2017	354
2017–2018	354
2018–2019	288
2019–2020	180
2020-2021	121
Total	1 297

#### Vocational training scholarship recipients from Non-Self-Governing Territories studying in Algeria

By the beginning of 2019, 325 Saharawi students who received vocational training scholarships had received vocational training at centres across the country.

Year	Scholarships
2016	80
2017	80
2018	80
2019	85
Total	325

#### Vocational training scholarship recipients

#### Argentina

8. In a note verbale dated 12 February 2021, the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

The General Assembly, in its resolution 2065 (XX) and subsequent resolutions, and the Special Committee on decolonization have described the question of the Malvinas Islands as a special and particular colonial situation that involves a sovereignty dispute between the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The aforementioned resolutions call upon the parties, namely the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, to resume negotiations on sovereignty with a view to finding a peaceful solution to the problem.

All inhabitants of Argentine national territory have the same right as nationals to education and to admittance to institutions at all educational levels, whether State- or privately managed, in all parts of the country and for all forms of education. Although they are under illegal British occupation, the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands are an integral part of Argentine national territory, and their inhabitants therefore have the right to equal, free and equitable access to all levels of the Argentine public education system, as enshrined in the National Constitution. Through publicly managed educational institutions, the Government of Argentina ensures that education is free from entry level to university level.

Inhabitants of the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands are also eligible for the national scholarship programme offered by the Ministry of Education of the Argentine Republic.

#### Austria

9. In a note verbale dated 11 February 2021, the Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

The requested information is not available, since the Austrian Ministry for Education, Science and Research only collects data based on citizenship and therefore the number of scholarships granted to students from Non-Self-Governing Territories could not be determined. However, on behalf of the Austrian Federal Government, the Austrian Agency for Education and Internationalization provides various scholarship options for students of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

The website of the Agency for Education and Internationalization sets out information on scholarship options (https://oead.at/en/), as does the database of scholarships and research funding (https://grants.at/en). The websites are available in English and German and offer the option to search specifically for Non-Self-Governing Territories as countries of origin. Hundreds of scholarships and research grants are offered to students from Non-Self-Governing Territories. Therefore, we would invite all interested parties to inform themselves at www.grants.at.

#### Canada

10. In a note verbale dated 16 February 2021, the Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

Between 2009 and 2019, 15 students, faculty and researchers from Non-Self-Governing Territories received scholarships from six different Global Affairs Canada scholarship programmes (see tables 1 and 2). All inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories are also eligible to apply for the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships and the Banting Postdoctoral Fellowships, Canada's most prestigious awards for doctoral students and postdoctoral fellows, respectively, working in the health sciences, natural sciences and engineering, and social sciences and humanities. For these and other scholarships offered by the Government of Canada, see www.educanada.ca/scholarships-bourses/.

## Table 1Scholarship programmes offered to Non-Self-Governing Territories

Non-Self-Governing Territory	Global Affairs Canada scholarship programme
Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands	Emerging Leaders in the Americas Programme
Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands	Canada-Caribbean Community Leadership Scholarships Programme
Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands	Canada-Caribbean Community Faculty Leadership Programme

#### Table 2

Number of scholarships awarded by Global Affairs Canada between 2009 and 2019, by Territory

Non-Self-Governing Territory	Number of scholarships awarded
Anguilla	0
Bermuda	0
British Virgin Islands	1
Cayman Islands	13
Montserrat	1
Turks and Caicos Islands	0
Total	15

*Note*: Canadians are eligible to apply for the Canadian Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholarship, and study or research in Non-Self-Governing Territories, as long as there is an agreement between the Canadian and non-Canadian institutions.

#### Cuba

11. In a note verbale dated 5 February 2021, the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

Contribution of the Republic of Cuba to the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 75/105, entitled "Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories", adopted by the General Assembly on 10 December 2020.

## Scholarship recipients from Non-Self-Governing Territories studying in Cuba during the 2020/21 academic year

Territory	MINSAP	MES	Total
Western Sahara	38	38	76

		MINED				
Territory	MINSAP	MES	INDER	Higher Secondary	Secondary	Total
Anguilla	1					1
Bermuda	1	1		1		3
Western Sahara	368	551	16	199	935	2 069
Total	370	552	16	200	935	2 073

## Scholarship recipients from Non-Self-Governing Territories who have graduated in Cuba as at 2020

#### Scholarships offered to Non-Self-Governing Territories in 2020/21

	MINSAP		MES	
Territory	Undergraduate	Postgraduate	Undergraduate	Postgraduate
Western Sahara	10	5	8	0
Total	15		8	

Abbreviations: INDER (Instituto Nacional de Deportes, Educación Física y Recreación), National Institute for Sports, Physical Education and Recreation; MES (Ministerio de Educación Superior), Ministry of Higher Education; MINED (Ministerio de Educación), Ministry of Education; MINSAP (Ministerio de Salud Pública), Ministry of Public Health.

#### France

12. In a communication dated 16 February 2021, the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations provided the Secretariat with the information set out below.

#### State scholarships for higher education: notes and record for 2020

At the start of the 2020 academic year, there were 4,914 students registered in New Caledonia, 1,667, or 33.9 per cent, of whom received a State scholarship for higher education based on financial need, compared with 37.5 per cent in metropolitan France. Fifty-two per cent of the recipients were enrolled at universities, 40 per cent were studying for the *brevet de technicien supérieur* (two-year technical certificate) and 8 per cent were enrolled in other courses for holders of a *baccalauréat* (secondary school diploma).

From 2019 to 2020, the proportion of scholarship recipients increased by 1.7 points, from 32.3 per cent to 33.9 per cent:

- The rate rose by 1.4 points among university students.
- The percentage of recipients of scholarships awarded based on financial need studying for the *brevet de technicien supérieur* (two-year technical certificate) increased by 4 points.
- The percentage of students enrolled in preparatory classes for admission to *grandes écoles* (specialized institutions of higher education) rose by 1.5 points.
- Regarding the other courses, the proportion of scholarship recipients is decreasing.

Scholarships for higher education based on financial need may only be awarded to students enrolled in a course of study approved by the Ministry of Higher Education for that purpose. They are granted based on the resources and expenses of the student's family or tax household. Subject to age, enrolment category, nationality and academic requirements, such scholarships are assessed according to a national scale and their annual amount is calculated using a nationally established method. Scholarship levels are the same throughout the national territory, including the overseas departments and territories.

#### The "Executives for the Future" programme

The "Executives for the Future" programme, formerly known as "400 Executives", was established on the basis of a provision set out in the Matignon Agreements: "in order to rebalance the sharing of responsibilities, a major training programme for executives, in particular Melanesian executives, must be launched without delay." Since then, in partnership with stakeholders involved in training and pursuant to the Nouméa Accord of 5 May 1998, the public interest group Formation – Cadres avenir (Training – Executives for the Future) has been responsible for promoting the economic and social development of New Caledonia.

The group focuses specifically on training and rebalancing. To that end, it initiates, facilitates and monitors activities aimed at preparing and facilitating the training, in metropolitan France, of the executives needed for the economic and social development of New Caledonia. On average, the group supports over 150 students a year in metropolitan France.

In 2019/20, despite the restrictions imposed by the health crisis, the student success rate remained unchanged from the previous three years.

Two other specific training schemes are also being run:

Since 2016, two court clerks, one prison lieutenant, one public finance inspector, one Senate assistant, one maritime affairs administrator, one territorial administrator, one youth and sports inspector, one territorial chief engineer, one prison integration and probation counsellor and one judge have been trained under the "Merit" scheme.

Currently, 17 students are in training, preparing for examinations in the following areas: prison integration and probation counselling (3 people), prison integration and probation management (1 person), judiciary (2 people), law (3 people), admission to the National School of Administration (3 people), admission to the regional institutes of administration (3 people), hospital management and hospital administration support (2 people).

The "Masters of Business Administration" scheme was established in 2014 to provide managerial tools and training to current senior executives. Between 2014 and 2020, 68 people received such training. The overall success rate is around 60 per cent.

The training programmes managed by the group Formation – Cadres avenir (Training – Executives for the Future) are financed as follows: 695 million Pacific francs (CFP francs) are provided by the State and 55 million CFP francs are provided by New Caledonia.

#### France Alumni New Caledonia

France Alumni is a social and professional network that was set up by Campus France in 2014, on the initiative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

It aims to bring together current and former international students and promote their entry into the workforce. The network is structured around a multilingual digital platform consisting of a central site, administered and maintained by Campus France in Paris, and local autonomous sites run by the embassies or organizations representing the State locally and/or their local partners.

The "France Alumni New Caledonia" site, which is administered by the group Formation – Cadres avenir (Training – Executives for the Future) in partnership with Campus France, enables New Caledonian higher education students and alumni to join this global network, whether they have completed their studies in New Caledonia, in metropolitan France or abroad.

New Caledonia is the first overseas territory to join the network, which is also intended to be used by partners, training establishments and companies. The site provides those entities with a dedicated space to communicate with students and alumni, publish their job and internship offers and promote their activities.

Administration of the "France Alumni New Caledonia" platform is funded by the State at a cost of 14 million CFP francs a year.

#### "Territorial continuity"

The "Territorial continuity" programme managed by the group Formation – Cadres avenir (Training – Executives for the Future) is aimed at individuals who are in higher education or undertaking continuing professional development. The scheme is funded entirely by the State and is designed to facilitate the travel of residents of the overseas territories to metropolitan France for training.

In 2020, 679 students and 125 adults returning to education received travel assistance, that is, a total of 804 New Caledonians, compared with an average of 1,200 recipients in previous years. This sharp drop is linked to the health crisis: since March 2020, New Caledonia has been forced to implement strict health measures regulating entry to and departure from the Territory.

State funding for such travel assistance amounts to 275 million CFP francs.

#### Adapted military service regiment of New Caledonia

Adapted military service is a social and vocational integration scheme for young people in the overseas territories who are aged 18 to 25 and affected by unemployment. The goal of the scheme, which comes under the Ministry of Overseas Territories, is the acquisition of the social and vocational skills essential for entry to the workforce (interpersonal skills, social skills, vocational skills, reliability and autonomy). Not all of the training provided is skills-based.

The regiment comprises three units, located in three communes: Koumac, Koné and, since 2020, Bourail. There are two categories of volunteers:

Volunteer trainees, most of whom have no qualifications and are in difficult social circumstances or are illiterate. They receive training in 1 of 21 occupations (such as agriculture, public works, hospitality and administration), for a duration of between 6 and 12 months, and receive a salary of approximately 335 euros per month. In 2020, the regiment received 498 trainees (compared with 492 in 2019).

Volunteer technicians. These are young graduates with no professional experience who are seeking employment. They help supervise the trainees and are given a one-year contract, renewable up to four times, with a remuneration of approximately 1,257 euros. In 2020, the regiment received 133 volunteer technicians, the same number as in 2019.

In 2019, regiment volunteers represented 17 per cent of an age range among those aged 18 to 25 in New Caledonia. The average age of the trainees was 21; 45.2 per cent were women and 41.1 per cent were illiterate, according to the criteria established by the National Agency to Combat Illiteracy (levels 1 and 2). The employment rate among volunteers was 79.18 per cent in 2019.

In addition to funding the wage bill, State support accounts for 88 per cent of the operating budget.

The following new training courses are expected to be launched in 2021:

- Preparation for jobs in public security and administration: 8 to 10 months, 12 trainees a year
- Boilermaker/pipefitter: 12 months, seven individuals a year
- Industrial maintenance electromechanical technician/installation and automated machine operator: 10 months, seven recruits twice a year
- Sailor: eight months, 12 individuals a year

In addition, a "young volunteer cadet" programme lasting up to 30 days (continuously or intermittently) is under consideration. In partnership with the Vice-Rectorate, it would receive three groups of 10 minors who had dropped out of school or were living on the streets (not at school but under institutional supervision) and would aim to get them back to school or redirect them towards an apprenticeship.

#### Cadets of the Republic to join the national police

The "Cadets of the Republic" programme is a vocational integration scheme for young people aged 18 to 30 years, which has no qualification requirements. Its main focus is young people with no qualifications. Upon recruitment, cadets sign a three-year contract, which may be renewed once. The first year is devoted to training. This comprises three months of classes in a vocational high school, seven months in a national police academy and two months of practical training at the police station. At the end of that year, cadets become police community support officers for a minimum of two years and may apply to take the second examination to become a constable. Ten cadets were recruited in New Caledonia in 2020, four of whom were women.

The State also funds on a joint basis programmes to raise awareness of the values of the Republic among young people and to introduce them to the security professions. These include:

- Civil security cadets. This programme aims to raise awareness among secondary school students aged 12 to 17 of preventive behaviour and responsibility towards others, and to instil in them a sense of civic responsibility and citizenship. It consists of six modules spread over seven weeks. The State is both the initiator and funder of the programme: in 2020, it paid a grant of 6,000 euros from the inter-ministerial crime prevention fund. The French Red Cross and the Directorate of Civil Security and Risk Management of the Government of New Caledonia are responsible for the programme's educational content and its organization.
- Gendarmerie cadets. The first training course for cadets of the national gendarmerie of New Caledonia received 24 young people from 18 to 29 January 2020. Intended for universal national service volunteers aged

between 16 and 18 years, it aims to introduce them to the institution, develop their civic spirit and foster their integration. The scheme is financed by the State, the Government of New Caledonia and the South Province.

#### Japan

13. In a note verbale dated 19 February 2021, the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations provided the following information regarding the scholarships Japan has offered to students from Non-Self-Governing Territories:

Application and selection processes for scholarships granted by the Government of Japan are open to those who are natives or inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories, among others. No special consideration is given to applicants from such Territories.

The Japanese Government (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) scholarship for research students has been granted to two students from Guam, from October 2016 to March 2018 and from April 2019 to March 2022, respectively.

#### New Zealand

14. In a note verbale dated 8 February 2021, the Permanent Mission of New Zealand to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

As New Zealand citizens, Tokelauans who are residents of New Zealand are eligible for a range of domestic scholarships, as well as governmentsubsidized access to education facilities in New Zealand.

Meanwhile, the Government of New Zealand provides budget support to the Government of Tokelau for the delivery of education services ranging from early childhood education to foundation courses for tertiary study.

Furthermore, the Government of New Zealand offers access to New Zealand short-term training scholarships to help Tokelauans in the workforce to gain relevant knowledge and skills. Owing to the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and subsequent travel and border restrictions, however, Tokelauans have been unable to travel to New Zealand for such training since March 2020.

Tokelau short-term training scholarship scholar numbers in recent years

Financial year	Completed	Terminated
2014/15	3	0
2015/16	4	1
2016/17	3	0
2017/18	0	0
2018/19	2	0
2019/20	1	0
Total	13	1

#### **Russian Federation**

15. In a communication dated 15 March 2021, the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations provided the following information:

In the academic years 2019/20 and 2020/21, the Russian Government provided an educational quota for three inhabitants of Western Sahara, which were fully utilized in each of those two years. Also, in 2020 one inhabitant of the United States Virgin Islands enrolled in the Interregional Medical College on general terms. In the academic year 2018/19, there were no scholarships envisaged for Non-Self-Governing Territories.

#### Singapore

16. In a communication dated 10 February 2021, the Permanent Mission of Singapore to the United Nations provided the updated information contained in the table below.

## Attendance of participants from Non-Self-Governing Territories in capacity building programmes under the Singapore Cooperation Programme

Non-Self-Governing Territories	Number of participants (as at February 2021)
Anguilla	26
Bermuda	7
British Virgin Islands	20
Cayman Islands	12
Montserrat	65
Tokelau	3
Turks and Caicos Islands	14

#### United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

17. In a communication dated 15 February 2021, the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

Education in the British overseas territories is a domestic issue and, therefore, under their constitutions, is the responsibility of the locally elected Government. It is a matter of domestic policy for the Government of each overseas territory to determine what proportion of its national budget is spent on study and training.

Citizens of the overseas territories, who are also British citizens, have access to institutions for further and higher education in the United Kingdom. Students from the overseas territories are charged the home-fee rate for further education and higher education courses at colleges and universities in the United Kingdom. This means that students from the overseas territories are treated on an equal footing with students from the United Kingdom.

In addition, in 2020/21, the United Kingdom offered six Chevening Scholarships (covering studies in sustainable engineering, education, journalism and technology) to students from the overseas territories, as set out in the table below.

#### Chevening Scholarships offered in 2020/21

Territory	Number of scholarships
Anguilla	2
Bermuda	1
British Virgin Islands	1
Montserrat	1
Saint Helena	1
Total	6

#### United States of America

18. In a communication dated 16 March 2021, the Mission of the United States of America to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

Under a contract to provide services, the United States Graduate School provided the following education and training opportunities to residents of the United States territories:

- Executive Leadership Development Program, for an amount of \$318,185. The Program was designed to assist the insular governments with developing and retaining qualified and skilled staff who will become the future leaders of their respective governments. Program participants meet four times over the course of a year to develop skills in leadership, management, government finance and project management. The program spans two years and includes a total of 4 one-week sessions for each of the chosen participants.
- Insular Government Finance Officers Association, for an amount of \$309,181. Gatherings of the Association enable the finance communities of the insular governments to discuss common challenges they face and identify successful best practices and strategies to address problems.
- Association of Pacific Island Public Auditors, for an amount of \$117,352. The Association comprises public auditors from each of the insular areas. It hosts annual conferences to discuss issues relating to the fields of auditing and finance, and to provide practitioners with an opportunity to attain continuing professional education training required in the auditing field. The Association provides auditors across the insular areas with the opportunity to attain up to 40 hours of continuing profession education credits annually.
- Consultation and training Pacific and Virgin Islands Training Initiatives, for an amount of \$355,658. The Pacific and Virgin Islands Training Initiatives program delivers classroom training courses in subject areas such as human resource management, grants management, leadership and management, governmental accounting, indirect costs, performance-based management, auditing, fraud and internal controls.

The Office of Insular Affairs provided direct grants to non-governmental organizations under its Coral Reef and Technical Assistance grant programs to provide education and training opportunities to residents of the United States territories, as follows:

#### Coral Reef Natural Resources Grant

• \$250,000 to Nova Southeastern University for the Coral Reef Management fellowship program. This program places a Coral Fellow in each of four jurisdictions: American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam and The United States Virgin Islands. The Coral Fellows work in the local jurisdictional agencies responsible for managing coral reefs, and each is assigned a supervisor who helps them transition into the agency and helps guide their project work.

#### Technical Assistance Grant

- \$212,000 to support the Micronesia Conservation Trust professional fellowship program, established in Micronesia (Palau, Micronesia (Federated States of), Marshall Islands, Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands), ensuring that Micronesia retains its new and emerging leaders by placing them in organizations and agencies that will hire them full time and put them into leadership positions.
- \$327,022 to support the 2020 Junior Statesman Insular Area High School Students Program of the Junior Statesmen Foundation:
  - Junior State of America Summer School (summer 2020 and summer 2021): three-week virtual courses at Georgetown, Princeton or Stanford with final exam and essay; Junior State of America debate workshop; and Speakers Program.
  - Program Follow-Up and Junior State of America Chapter Development: students engage peers in community change, political education and develop Junior State of America chapters.
- \$672,978 to support the Close Up Foundation to fund the 2020 Close Up Insular Area Program. The Office of Insular Affairs provided funding for the Close Up Insular Area Program, which provides experiential civic education programs for students and teachers from the United States territories and freely associated States. Principal components include virtual student programs, professional development, online resources and local youth summits.

### **III.** Applications made through the United Nations

19. In accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 1696 (XVI), applications for scholarships received by the Secretariat from inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories are transmitted simultaneously to the offering States for consideration and to the administering Powers for information.

20. From 24 March 2020 to 26 March 2021, no requests for information on the availability of scholarships were received by the Secretariat.

### **IV.** Conclusion

21. Scholarships and training facilities offered by Member States to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories represent a valuable contribution to their educational advancement.