



APPLICATION DATES: 10 March 2025 - 20 March 2025

APPLY HERE: <https://tbbs.turkiyeburslari.gov.tr/>

Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)-Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities (YTB) Joint Scholarship Program

In 2020, the Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities (YTB) and the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) launched a joint scholarship program. This program aims to offer students from IsDB member countries who have shown remarkable academic and extracurricular achievements the chance to study at top universities in Türkiye. It provides scholarships for students at various levels of higher education, including associate, bachelors, masters, and PhD degrees, with the goal of improving their socio-economic conditions and make a meaningful contribution to the development of their countries.

IsDB-ISFD Scholarship Program for Bachelor Degree for IsDB Least Developed Member Countries (LDMCs)

Sponsors of the Program: YTB, IsDB and ISFD

Background:

The Program was initially launched as IsDB-ISFD Scholarship Program for Bachelor's Degree for IsDB Least Developed Member Countries (LDMCs) in 2019 with the support of the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development (ISFD). In 2024, the program expanded through a collaboration with YTB, for students interested in pursuing bachelor's degree at the Turkish universities.

Objective:

The objective of the Program is to provide educational opportunities to financially impoverished but academically successful young men and women from 21 LDMCs to pursue a Bachelor's Degree at the Turkish Universities in medicine, engineering, agriculture and other related fields such as dentistry, pharmacy, veterinary science, nursing, nutrition study, computer science, forestry and fishery. The aim is to improve their socioeconomic conditions and enable them to make a meaningful contribution to the development of their countries.

Concept of the Program:

The Program is more than just straight financial assistance to eligible needy qualified students. It is also a tool for the improvement of the socioeconomic conditions of LDMCs through the graduates it produces. It is basically a human development Program since the scholarship is an interest-free loan (Qard-Hasan) to the students and a grant to the LDMCs to which they belong (since repayment is not made to IsDB but to a local trust).

Under the joint Program, the students are required to repay the loan after graduation and employment, in easy installments, to the IsDB Education Trust (IET), a Waqf set up (or to be set up) in the students' countries. The students are also required to play an active role in community development.

The repaid fund is recycled to provide more scholarships to other eligible students from the same country to complement the scholarships and to sustain the Program in the long run. On the other hand, the community development services rendered by the graduates of joint program will contribute to the socioeconomic development of the country.

Fields of study:

The Program offers scholarships to students to pursue Bachelor Degrees in medicine, engineering, agriculture and other related fields such as dentistry, pharmacy, veterinary science, nursing, nutrition study, computer science, forestry and fishery. For more information about the available departments, fields and universities please

visit <https://storagetbbsweb.blob.core.windows.net/tbbsweb/Page/TurkiyeScholarhips/ScholarshipsProcess/Joint-Scholarship-Program/lisans.pdf>.

NOTE: Within the scope of the program, candidates do not need to provide acceptance letters from Turkish universities. The successful candidate for the IsDB-YTB Joint Scholarship Program will be placed at a university in Türkiye.

Eligibility Requirements:

The Program is intended to be for academically meritorious but financially needy students from LDMCs with a strong desire to engage in social services and community development of the country.

The prospective candidates must also meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Maximum age of 21 years at the closing date of applications.
- In need of financial assistance without which study may have to stop.
- Not an IsDB staff member or Executive Director, his/her alternate, and/or staff of any type of appointment (including temporary and consultant) of the IsDB Group nor a close relative of the aforementioned by blood or adoption, with the term "close relative" being defined as mother, father, sister, half-sister, brother, half-brother, son, daughter, aunt, uncle, niece or nephew.
- Completed senior secondary education (or the equivalent of approximately 12 years of education) with minimum 90% for Health Sciences Programs such as Medicine, Pharmacy, Dentistry and 70% grades for other fields.
- Provided TOEFL exam result in the English medium programs.
- Not having any health problems (chronic or infectious diseases) that will be an obstacle to study in Türkiye.
- Not living in a country other than his/her home country.
- Committed to returning to his/her home country on completion of the study under the Program to contribute to its development.
- Not a beneficiary of any other scholarship at the time of application and during studies.
- Students currently enrolled in studies in Türkiye for the desired level are not eligible for this program.

Note:

- The program may only supplement, and shall not duplicate, any other source of financial support the applicant might have. If the applicant is awarded a scholarship, he/she must inform at that time if he/she has other sources of scholarship funding.
- Submitting the application does not mean that the applicant has been accepted for a scholarship. Accordingly, the applicant should not take any action concerning his/her current engagement or otherwise until notified of having been awarded a scholarship.

Benefits and Facilities:

Scholarship recipients are entitled to the following:

- A monthly stipend, including accommodation support, directly deposited into their bank accounts (Turkish Lira equivalent of 350 USD per month)
- Tuition fees are covered and payable directly to the universities
- Health insurance coverage
- Economy class air tickets to Türkiye at the beginning of their studies and back to their home country upon completion.
- A Turkish language course (TÖMER) is provided to enhancing Turkish proficiency. For students who already possess a C1 level Turkish certificate are exempted from this course.

The scholarship does not cover the following:

- Visa application(s) costs.
- Expenses to bring and/or support a student's family members.
- Extracurricular courses or training.
- Courses that do not meet the minimum credits required to earn a graduate degree.
- Additional travel during the study Program.
- Expenses related to supplementary educational materials, field trips, participation in workshops/seminars, exchange Programs, or internships.
- Educational equipment, such as computers
- Residence permit fee.

Obligations of the Beneficiaries

Students awarded the scholarship shall:

1. Sign a surety Bond stating their commitment to their studies, to return to their countries upon completion of their studies and to participate in the development of their countries, through their respective professions.
2. Devote themselves to their studies on a full-time basis and without interruption and provide reports on their academic studies and activities on a regular basis.
3. **Repay the loan after graduation and gainful employment, in easy installments, to a local Education Trust (Waqf) to be established in their countries.**
4. Not to seek or accept any other scholarship or remunerated work during their studies under the Program that may interfere with their studies or hinder the fulfillment of their obligations. Not to seek or accept any other scholarship or remunerated work during their studies under the Program that may interfere with their studies or hinder the fulfillment of their obligations.

- Respect the laws of the country of study and maintain good personal and professional conduct consistent with the rules, regulations, and objectives of the Program.

List of eligible LDMCs:

Afghanistan	Gambia	Senegal
Bangladesh	Guinea	Sierra Leone
Benin	Guinea-Bissau	Somalia
Burkina Faso	Mali	Sudan
Chad	Mauritania	Togo
Comoros	Mozambique	Uganda
Djibouti	Niger	Yemen

Master of Science Scholarship Program (M.Sc.) for IsDB Least Developed Member Countries:

Sponsors of the Program: YTB and IsDB

Background:

IsDB launched the M.Sc. Scholarship Program in Science and Technology M.Sc. for IsDB Least Developed Member Countries (LDMCs) in 1419H (1998). As a result of the protocol signed between YTB and IsDB in 2020, the program also started to be implemented under the umbrella of IsDB-YTB Joint Scholarship Program.

Objective:

The objective of the M.Sc. is to assist the LDMCs in the development of the human resources in science and technology that are both relevant and necessary for their socio-economic development and specifically:

- To increase the number of intermediate-level technological manpower in the 20 LDMCs, which is necessary for effective technology development, transfer and maintenance.
- To increase access to the educational opportunities available under IsDB initiatives in human capital development for MCs by creating a special program suited to their circumstances and needs.
- To enhance the ability of LDMCs students to participate in the IsDB Merit Scholarship Program for High technology.

Field of Study

The scholarship is tenable for two years leading to an M.Sc. degree. The M.Sc. study may be through coursework, research, or a combination of both. Whichever the mode, it must be completed within the specified two-year time frame maximum. Under the M.Sc. program, eligible students may apply only for studies in science, engineering, technology, or medicine/medical sciences. For more information about the available departments, fields and universities please visit <https://storagetbbsweb.blob.core.windows.net/tbbsweb/Page/TurkiyeScholarships/ScholarshipsProcess/Joint-Scholarship-Program/yuksek-lisans.pdf>

Institutions of Study:

Within the scope of the program candidates does not need to provide acceptance letters from Turkish universities. The successful candidate for the YTB-IsDB Joint Scholarship Program will be placed at a university in Türkiye.

Eligibility requirements:

Interested applicants must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Citizen of any of the 20 LDMCs,
- Age not over 30 years at the closing date of applications,
- In possession of a B.Sc., or equivalent degree, in science and technology,
- Having at least 90% academic success for Health Science programs such as Medicine, Pharmacy and having at least 75% academic success for other fields,
- Nominated by scientific/academic/research institutions of their countries,
- Have good command of the language of the institution of study and the ability to conduct scientific work in it,
- Provided TOEFL exam result for the English medium programs,
- Not having any health problems (chronic or infectious diseases) that will be an obstacle to study in Türkiye,
- Students currently enrolled in studies in Türkiye for the desired level are not eligible for this program,
- Not be an IsDB staff member or Executive Director, his/her alternate, and/or staff of any type of appointment (including temporary and consultant) of the IsDB Group nor a close relative of the aforementioned by blood or adoption, with the term “close relative” being defined as mother, father, sister, half-sister, brother, half-brother, son, daughter, aunt, uncle, niece or nephew.

Note:

- The scholarship may only supplement, and shall not duplicate, any other source of financial support the applicant might have. If the applicant is awarded a scholarship, he/she must inform IsDB at that time if he/she has other sources of funding.
- Sending the application or getting admission by the academic institution does not mean that the applicant has been accepted for a scholarship. Accordingly, the applicant should not take any action concerning his/he current employment or otherwise until notified by YTB and IsDB of having been awarded a scholarship.

Benefits and Facilities:

The program covers the following items:

- A monthly stipend, including accommodation support, directly deposited into their bank accounts (Turkish Lira equivalent of 375 USD per month)
- Tuition fees are covered and payable directly to the universities
- Health insurance coverage
- Economy class air tickets to Türkiye at the beginning of their studies and back to their home country upon completion.
- A Turkish language course (TÖMER) is provided to enhancing Turkish proficiency.

Note: The scholarship holders (except for master students placed in English medium programs) who do not have a Turkish language proficiency document are obliged to attend the Turkish Preparatory Program for a year. Those who have a Turkish language proficiency document may directly start their education.

The scholarship does not cover the following:

- Visa application(s) costs.
- Expenses to bring and/or support a scholar's family members.
- Extracurricular courses or training.
- Courses that do not meet the minimum credits required to earn the graduate degree.
- Additional travel during the study program.
- Expenses related to research, supplementary educational materials, field trips, participation in workshops/seminars, exchange programs, conferences, or internships.
- Educational equipment, such as computers.
- Residence permit fee.

Obligations:

Beneficiaries awarded the M.Sc. scholarships are expected to:

- Sign a surety bond stating their commitment to their studies, to their return to their countries upon completion of their studies and to continue work and services to science, technology and development of their countries for at least twice the duration of scholarships.
- Devote themselves to their studies on a full-time basis and without interruption and provide IsDB with reports on their academic studies and activities on a regular basis.
- Not to seek or accept any other scholarship or remunerated work during their studies under the Program that may interfere with their studies or make fulfillment of their other obligations difficult, unless otherwise approved in writing by IsDB.
- Respect the laws of the country of study and maintain good personal and professional conduct consistent with the rules, regulations and objectives of the program and the overall mission of IsDB as an Islamic institution.

List of 20 eligible LDMCs:

Afghanistan	Guinea	Palestine
Benin	Guinea-Bissau	Sierra Leone
Burkina Faso	Maldives	Somalia
Chad	Mali	Togo
Comoros	Mauritania	Uganda
Djibouti	Mozambique	Yemen
Gambia	Niger	

Merit Scholarship Program for High Technology (Ph.D) for IsDB Member Countries:

Sponsors of the Program: YTB and IsDB

I. Background

The Merit Scholarship Program (Ph.D) was introduced in 1992 by IsDB to offer scholarships for higher education at renowned high-tech universities and institutions. As a result of the protocol signed between YTB and IsDB in 2020, the program also started to be implemented under the umbrella of IsDB-YTB Joint Scholarship Program.

II. Objective

- The objective of the Program is to develop technically qualified human resources in IsDB MCs by providing scholarships to promising and outstanding scholars and researchers to undertake advanced studies and research in the fields of applied science and technology needed for the development of the member countries. The main objectives are:
 - to develop technically qualified human resources in the MCs.
 - To enhance the scientific, technological and research capability and potential of scholars and researchers in MCs.
 - To help meet national needs for science and technology; and
 - To strengthen the scientific, technological and research capability of institutions in MCs.

III. Concept of the Program

The concept is to meet the needs of the MCs in science and high technology areas that are crucial to their development by enhancing the scientific, technological and research potential of their scholars/researchers and institutions. The scholars are expected to return to their countries/institutions to apply new know-how for the development of their countries.

IV. Fields of Study

The program covers Ph.D studies and research for three years or 36 months (about 3 years) Ph.D study. The fields of study and subjects are determined by the direct need and the purpose of meeting the countries' developmental needs related to science and technology. The needs are categorized by the following justifications: (i) lack of expertise; (ii) emerging science; (iii) problem-solving; and (iv)science management.

For general guidance, a broad list of 17 fields of study is drawn and outlined hereunder. However, as the field of study is chosen from this list, it must gain merit by its relevance and value to the countries' development needs and fall within one of the above four categories. For more information about the available departments, fields and universities please visit <https://storagetbbsweb.blob.core.windows.net/tbbsweb/Page/TurkiyeScholarships/ScholarshipsProcess/Joint-Scholarship-Program/doktora.pdf>

1. Laser and Fiber Optics
2. Conductors/Semiconductors
3. Polymer Science
4. Genetic Engineering/Biotechnology
5. Nuclear Science/Engineering
6. Electronics/Micro Electronics/Telecommunication
7. Computer Science (including CAD/CAM)
8. Renewable Energy/Fuel Technology
9. Hydrology/Water Resources
10. Metallurgy
11. Chemical Engineering/Material Sciences

12. Medicine/Pharmaceutical
13. Agriculture/Food Technology
14. System Engineering
15. Space Science/Technology
16. Environmental Preservation Technology

V. Institutions of Study

Within the scope of the program candidates does not need to provide acceptance letters from Turkish universities. The successful candidates for the Merit Scholarship Program for High Technology (Ph.D) will be placed at the universities in Türkiye.

VI. Eligibility requirements

The program is only for scholars from MCs who are attached to educational, scientific, and technological institutions and research centers in their home countries and are actively working in the scientific and technological development of their countries. The program does not award scholarships to sole individuals, but to individuals at the institutional level. The institutions are partners in the program. Promising and talented individuals are sponsored and nominated by their institutions and accepted as appropriate by the offices of IsDB Governors in terms of the developmental and scientific needs of their countries.

To be eligible, applicants for the Ph.D. must meet set criteria, including:

- Age not over 35 years at the closing date of applications,
- Have an M.Sc. in a field of science/technology listed under the program,
- Having at least 75% academic success,
- Have good command of the language of the institution of study and the ability to conduct scientific work in it,
- Have work and/or research experience of not less than two (2) years in the related field,
- Have a record of publications/research in the same field,
- Have a proposed field of study and/or research in one of the fields listed under the approved fields of study with scientific and development relevance to the country being clearly demonstrated in a research proposal endorsed by the nominating institution,
- Provided TOEFL exam result for the English medium programs.
- Not having any health problems (chronic or infectious diseases) that will be an obstacle to study in Türkiye,
- Students currently enrolled in studies in Türkiye for the desired level are not eligible for this program,
- Not be an IsDB staff member or Executive Director, his/her alternate, and/or staff of any type of appointment (including temporary and consultant) of the IsDB Group nor a close relative of the aforementioned by blood or adoption, with the term “close relative” defined as mother, father, sister, half-sister, brother, half-brother, son, daughter, aunt, uncle, niece or nephew.

Notes:

- The scholarship may only supplement, and shall not duplicate, any other source of financial support the applicant might have. If the applicant is awarded a scholarship, he/she must inform IsDB at that time if he/she has other sources of funding.
- Sending the application or getting admission by the academic institution does not mean that the applicant has been accepted for a scholarship. Accordingly, the applicant should not take any action concerning his/her current employment or otherwise until notified by YTB and IsDB of having been awarded a scholarship.

VII. Benefits and Facilities

For the successful candidates, the scholarship covers the following items:

- The cost of tuition fees is charged by the universities and payable to the universities directly,
- A monthly stipend, including accommodation support, directly deposited into their bank accounts (Turkish Lira equivalent of 400 USD per month)
- Health insurance coverage
- Economy class air tickets to Türkiye at the beginning of their studies and back to their home country upon completion.
- A Turkish language course (TÖMER) is provided to enhancing Turkish proficiency.

Note: The scholarship holders (except for Ph.D. students placed in English medium programs) who do not have a Turkish language proficiency document are obliged to attend the Turkish Preparatory Program for a year. Those who have a Turkish language proficiency document may directly start their education.

The scholarship does not cover the following:

- Visa application(s) costs.
- Expenses to bring and/or support a scholar's family members.
- Extracurricular courses or training.
- Language training not provided by the study program.
- Additional travel during your study program.
- Expenses related to research, supplementary educational materials, field trips, participation in workshops/seminars, exchange programs conferences or internships.
- Educational equipment, such as computers.
- Residence permit fee.

VIII. Obligations of the Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries awarded the scholarship shall:

- Sign a surety bond stating their commitment to their studies, to return to their countries upon completion of their studies and to continue work and services to science, technology, and development of their countries thereafter for at least twice the period of their studies under the IsDB Merit Scholarship Program.
- Devote themselves to their studies on a full-time basis without interruption and provide IsDB with reports on their academic studies and activities on a regular basis.
- Not to seek or accept any other scholarship or remunerated work during their studies under the program may interfere with their studies or make the fulfilment of their other obligations difficult, unless otherwise approved in writing by IsDB.
- Respect the laws of the country of study and maintain good personal and professional conduct consistent with the rules, regulations and objectives of the program and the overall mission of the IsDB as an Islamic institution.

IX. Roles of Nominating Institutions

As a partner in the joint effort with IsDB, the institutions nominating candidates for the program are expected to:

- Duly nominate their candidates, assist them in all aspects of documentation preparation and secure the necessary endorsements from local authorities.
- Assist selected candidates to prepare for departure, place them on study leave and support them in their research.
- Help return scholars resettle and support them in their research and equipment needs.

X. List of Member Countries

Saudi Arabia	Kuwait	Morocco	Togo
Libya	Algeria	Sudan	Tajikistan
Iran	Pakistan	Jordan	Uzbekistan
Nigeria	Indonesia	Senegal	Comoros
United Arab Emirates	Malaysia	Oman	Côte d'Ivoire
Qatar	Bangladesh	Iraq	Afghanistan
Egypt	Yemen	Cameroon	Chad
Brunei	Burkina Faso	Niger	Suriname
Bahrain	Uganda	Benin	Albania
Gabon	Kazakhstan	Mali	Turkmenistan
Azerbaijan	Guinea	Tunisia	Djibouti
Mauritania	Lebanon	Mozambique	Gine Bissau
Kyrgyzstan	Maldives	Gambia	Somalia
Palestine	Syria	Sierra Leone	Guyana