



TRANSCRIPT OF LECTURE DELIVERED ON JULY 13, 2019.

(FORUM 3)

THEME: Exploring Scholarship Opportunities and Funding in Germany

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CONTENT

At the risk of digressing, let's have a quick review using statistics: it is known that the progress of any country can be traced to the quality of education; Germany ranks in the top 5 best countries for Education, with about 380,950 international students enrolled. Also, six of the top 100 universities in the world are German.

Now to the crux of the matter; there are different types of scholarships in Germany as follows:

- ♦ Government funded scholarships e. g. DAAD, Erasmus plus
- ♦ Non-governmental scholarships e. g. Henrich Boll, Marie curie international, Humboldt Research Fellowship
- ♦ German University scholarship e. g. KAAD, Kofi Annan MBA scholarship
- ♦ Funding from establishments based on project cooperation with host institution
- ♦ Short-term funding opportunities say from one to six-month bulk disbursement e. g. Scholarship for Methodist students and Evangelical fellowship support for critical study situations (but proof of criticality must be provided for this)

It is worthy to note that most German Universities are **tuition-free** but **Enrolment Fees** are applicable, and this can range from 50 to 500 Euros depending on the region. In some cases, it is called **Semester Ticket** that can take you to specific regions or cities for work and other things, or **Semester Registration Fee** which lasts for six months. Be that as it may, it is entirely possible to be enrolled in some schools without having to pay a dime.

It is part of the initiative of the current government to subsidize education and also to attract other countries, especially developing countries, at this time, and since government is subject to change, it is best that we maximize such window of opportunity before the advent of another government.

On Research Areas: - Researches in the following areas have a high probability of getting funding opportunities: **Chemical/Medical and Biological Sciences, Renewable Energy, Information Technology, Agriculture...** and this is not to say that other areas are not funded; rather the abovementioned are the areas attracting the most attention. Note that my submission regarding the research areas is for prospective PhD candidates, and so it is pertinent that you prepare your proposals to be able to meet the sustainable development goals (SDGs) either in part or full description.

To sum it all up, as far as studying in Germany is concerned, there is a whole lot to talk about and so a lecture session might not be exhaustive. So I implore us to go on a search for opportunities with respect to funding in Germany.

Thank you for your time...

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

- Q. Thank you Sir, for your time. Can you shed more light on the English language requirement?
- A. English language requirement has only gained prominence of recent. But in cases where the medium of instruction during your previous degree was in English, you could be exempt. Nonetheless, to clarify things, always inquire from the institution you are applying to.
- Q. Is there any requirement for the government-funded scholarship in Germany for post graduate students as regards CGPA and English proficiency exams?
- A. Good Academic Results, English Language Proficiency Letter from your university and a good Proposal
- Q. Is it true that before being granted visa to study in Germany one will be required to have about 3 to 4 million Naira in his/her account?
- A. Yes.... It's 720 Euros multiplied by 12 months. But also, if you have a sponsorship letter from someone who is working well in Germany, you will be granted a visa
- Q. With a 4-point Second Class Upper division, is there any provision for direct PhD without MSc?
- A. No, there isn't?
- Q. How can one get further information about the government-funded scholarship (DAAD) with respect to the steps and requirement?
- A. Visit the website: www.daad.de
- Q. Do married candidates also get to travel with their family having been granted a German scholarship?
- A. Not at all. However, arrangements can always be made by such persons upon arrival in Germany
- Q. Is the Research Proposal required for Masters applicants too? If yes, must the proposal fit the SDGs like that of PhD applicants?
- A. No, the proposal is required only for PhD applicants. Masters applicants only need a Motivational Letter
- Q. Are there available opportunities in Development Studies and/or Sociology?
- A. Sure! Let me also state that there are other scholarship applications which you cannot have access to unless you are in Germany

- Q. When is the admission session or period for German universities?
- A. Winter (September /October) and summer sessions (April/May)
- Q. What time of the year does the German government roll out their scholarships?
- A. There is no specific time. Just look for Professors in your area of interest and communicate with them
- Q. How is 'learning the German language' tied to success of any graduate program?
- A. No ties whatsoever. You learn the language so as to communicate on the streets and market place; and so, it is not requisite for the award of your certificate
- Q. With regards to having about 4 million Naira in one's account in order to be granted a German visa, does this apply also to students on scholarship?
- A. Not at all. The requirement holds only for people without scholarships
- Q. Is the required GRE by German Universities either for admission or scholarship?
- A. Not that I know of

