



Regulations regarding the granting of scholarships to international students from non-EU countries admitted to Bachelor's and Master's studies through the "UPB Excellence Scholarship" Program

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

The global, regional and national trends with significant impact on higher education, the fierce competition on the market of higher education services and the international experts' recommendations to draw up efficient and effective public policies meant to contribute to the development of the international dimension of the POLITEHNICA University of Bucharest (UPB) are key elements that have contributed to the rethinking and strengthening of the Internationalization strategy of the university for the period 2020-2024.

The permanent collaboration of the university with the foreign embassies in Romania requires the development of such instruments to increase UPB capacity and to facilitate the recruitment process of international students towards specific geographic areas, in direct relationship with the demand for certain specializations and/or countries and regions standing as priorities among the university development objectives.

Promoting UPB internationalization is an integral part of the quality of education and research quality, consolidated by a joint effort, an appropriate legal framework and a series of partnerships developed at collective level.

Taking into consideration the above-mentioned considerations, the university is going to launch the *UPB Excellence Scholarship* program, dedicated to international students from non-EU countries.

Art. 1. These regulations rely on the provisions of the following documents:

- Law of National Education no.1/2011, with with subsequent amendments and additions.
- Law no. 1/2010 for the approval of Government Ordinance no. 22 of 29 August 2009, regarding the establishing of the minimal quantum of tuition fees, in foreign currency, for the citizens who study on their own account in Romania, from states that are not members of the EU, as well as from those countries that are not part of the European Economic Area and from the Helvetic Confederation;
- UPB regulations regarding granting of scholarships and of other forms of financial support for the students at higher education bachelor and master levels of UPB;
- Order no. 3236/2017 of 10 February 2017 on the approval of the Methodology for accepting for studies and schooling of foreign citizens exempt from tuition fees and with scholarships and on places exempt tuition fees, without scholarships, in accredited state higher education institutions.

- UPB methodology for accepting for studies and schooling of foreign citizens from non-EU states, that are not part of the European Economic Area and from the Helvetic Confederation.

Art. 2. Beneficiaries of the scholarships granted by UPB, according to these Regulations, named hereinafter "students", are citizens of non-EU countries, as well as of states that are not part of the European Economic Area and from the Helvetic Confederation, accepted to study within university undergraduate and master's studies.

Art. 3. University POLITEHNICA of Bucharest (UPB) grants to students from non-EU countries, on a mutual basis, in accordance with the provisions in the bilateral cooperation documents in the field of education, a maximum number of 500 special scholarships, for the period 2020-2024, in accordance with the law and on the basis of admittance criteria established in these regulations. The annual number of scholarships is established by the Executive Office of the Board of Administration and approved by the Board of Administration.

Art. 4. Recruitment and selection of the foreign students will be carried out by means of the embassies on the territory of Romania and with the support of the Ministries of Education from the countries of origin of the students. To this end, UPB will sign cooperation agreements with the embassies of the respective countries.

Art. 5. The selection of the countries that are beneficiaries of the scholarship program will be carried out by the Executive Office of the Board of Administration, according to well-defined criteria, based on the signing up of Cooperation Agreements, and with the approval of the Board of Administration.

Art. 6. The scholarships granted by the university by the UPB Excellence Scholarship program are financed from own sources (extra budgetary) and they are granted to non-EU students, accepted to the bachelor and master programs, under the form of exemption from the payment of school taxes.

Art. 7. Distribution of the number of scholarships per programs of study and cycles of education will be carried out on an annual basis, with the approval of the Executive Office of the Board of Administration, and complying with the number of places allotted to those study programs.

II. BENEFITS OF THE *UPB EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM*

Art. 8. Students accepted in the UPB Excellence Scholarship program are exempted from the payment of tuition fees over the entire period of the school years, on condition they respect the provisions in these Regulations and of the obligations stipulated in the Study Contracts.

Art. 9. Students accepted in this program benefit from a discount of 10% for the accommodation tax in the university campus (student residence).

III. SCHOLARSHIPS GRANTING CRITERIA

Art 10. To benefit from special scholarships, the students should meet, in a cumulative manner, the following specific requirements:

- To meet the conditions in the *UPB Methodology for receiving for study and schooling of the foreign citizens from non-EU states, that do not belong to the European Economic Area and from the Helvetic Confederation.*

- In the period of the high school years students should have covered the relevant disciplines for the domain for which they request acceptance: mathematics, informatics, statistics, physics, chemistry, technology.
- To have special educational performances (prizes at various competitions, Olympiads etc.);
- To have been involved in extracurricular and volunteering activities.
- They do not have Romanian citizenship; they did not request or obtain any form of protection in Romania or they are not stateless whose stay on the territory of Romania is officially recognized according to the law.
- They are not members of the diplomatic corps or family members of the diplomatic corps accredited in Romania.
- They were nominated, via diplomatic channels, by the authorized partners (embassies with which collaboration agreements have been concluded);
- They did not benefit from scholarship from the Romanian state for the same cycle of study.
- They have good learning outcomes, viz. an average of minimum 8 (eight) for the baccalaureate examination (or equivalent), corresponding to the grading system in Romania or they have been graded "Good", as the case may be.
- They are not, by the date of 31 December of the year when they were nominated, older than 35 years of age.

Art. 11. Candidates who wish to attend a higher education study program in Romanian will have to attend the Romanian language program or to present a graduation certificate of the Romanian language program, except:

- a) those people who present Romanian study documents (diplomas and certificates) or study documents and transcripts of school grades ascertaining at least four consecutive years attended in Romanian, in an organization/education institution in the national system of Romania;
- b) those people who, in view of enrolment in higher education, pass the Romanian language test, organized according to the regulations in effect.
- c) those people who, in view of enrolment in higher education, present linguistic competence certificates, minimum level B2, released in accordance with regulations in effect.

Students who wish to attend the Romanian language program benefit from financing of school expenses, under the provisions of art.19 in Ministry of National Education – MEN Order no. 3236/2017.

Art. 12. Candidates who wish to attend a higher education program in a foreign language must present a linguistic competence certificate of minimum B2 level for that language, except for the case the foreign language is the mother tongue of the student.

IV. SCHOLARSHIP GRANTING PROCEDURE

Art. 13. Granting of scholarships is done by competition of files, that will unfold as follows:

- a) The complete file is sent to UPB – Department of International Relations.
- b) The candidate's eligibility is certified (they have to meet the requirements in the *UPB Methodology for accepting to study and schooling of foreign citizens from non-EU states, that are not part of the European Economic Area and the Helvetic Confederation*);
- c) The file is analysed by a commission appointed by the Executive Office of the UPB Board of Administration; hierarchical listing of the files will be done based on the criteria in Annex 1 to these regulations. The following will be taken into account: the average grade of the years of study, participation in Olympiads, competitions, participation in extracurricular activities etc.;
- d) The result of the competition will be made known to the candidate, and the result is published on the UPB web page.

Art. 14. The file of a candidate will include the following elements:

- a) Letter of nomination as a candidate received from the embassy of the country of origin of the candidate.
- b) Documents listed in the *UPB Methodology for accepting to study and schooling of foreign citizens from non-EU states, that are not part of the European Economic Area and the Helvetic Confederation*);
- c) Candidate's letter **of motivation**.
- d) Documents to certify outstanding educational performances and candidate's involvement in extracurricular and volunteering activities.
- e) Letters of recommendations to emphasize candidate's qualities.
- f) CV in English, French or Romanian.

V. FINAL DISPOSITIONS

Art. 15. The Executive Office of the Board of Administration can decide withdrawal or suspension of the financing support, in special cases such as: submission of forged documents, serious deviations from academic discipline, failing in promoting the academic year or other special situations.

Art. 16. These Regulations are in accordance with the legal provisions in effect and with the Rector's Managerial Plan 2020-2024.

Art. 17. The Department of International Relations will fulfil the provisions in these regulations.

Mihnea COSTOIU

Rector

President of the Board of Administration

CRITERIA OF EVALUATION

FOR THE UPB EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

- a) Letter of nomination as a candidate received from the embassy of the country of origin of the candidate;
- b) Documents listed in the *UPB Methodology for accepting to study and schooling of foreign citizens from non-EU states, that are not part of the European Economic Area and the Helvetic Confederation*);
- c) Candidate's letter of motivation;
- d) Documents to certify outstanding educational performances and candidate's involvement in extracurricular and volunteering activities;
- e) Letters of recommendations to emphasize candidate's qualities;
- f) CV in English, French or Romanian.

Crt. no.	Criterion / activity name	Location for unfolding	Participations/ distinctions	No. of points	No. of activities	Total	Observations
1	Letter of nomination as a candidate received from the embassy of the country of origin of the candidate						Eliminatory criteria
2	During high school study years candidate covered relevant disciplines for the domain in which enrolment is requested: mathematics, informatics, statistics, physics, chemistry, technology.						Eliminatory criteria
3	Minimum grade 8 (eight) at baccalaureate (or equivalent)						Eliminatory criteria
4	Letter of motivation	-	-	max. 10	-		At the discretion of the committee
5	Educational performances	-	-	2 points for each 0.25 above average of 8 at baccalaureate			
6	Competitions	international	Prizes	20			
			Mention	15			
			Participation	10			
		national	Prizes	20			
			Mention	10			
			Participation	5			
7	Volunteering activities	international	-	15			
		national	-	10			
8	Letters of recommendation	-	-	5			
9	Other outstanding activities mentioned in the CV	-	-	10			