

Open Society Foundations / Staffordshire University Scholarships

MSc in Economics for Business Analysis Notes for Guidance and Application Form 2011-2012

Aims:

The Open Society Foundations and Staffordshire University Business School jointly invite applications from university graduates with outstanding academic qualifications for eight scholarships on the MSc in Economics for Business Analysis programme at Staffordshire University. The aim of this joint scholarship scheme is to assist 'capacity building' in the region by speeding up the training of professional economists needed in the process of transition to a democratic market economy. The scheme will enable young university graduates to pursue postgraduate studies in economics in the United Kingdom with a view to returning to and working in the region after completing the programme.

Operation of the Scheme:

In the academic year 2011-2012 the scheme will be offered to candidates from **Bosnia-Herzegovina**, the **Republic of Kosovo**, the **Republic of Macedonia** and the **Republic of Montenegro**. There are eight scholarships available in this round. The scheme consists of two parts: an intensive MSc Preliminary Course (mid-July 2011 to mid-September 2011) followed by the main Masters programme (mid-September 2011 to August 2012). The Preliminary course consists of four intensive modules: macroeconomics, microeconomics, statistics and English for Academic Purposes to ensure that all candidates have the necessary experience and knowledge of the subject. The second part, the main MSc course, consists of two semesters of coursework with four modules in each semester and a dissertation written under the supervision of a member of staff. The beneficiaries must undertake to return to the region for at least two years after the completion of their study programme.

For further details of the programme, please see the MSc programme web-site on:

http://www.staffs.ac.uk/study_here/courses/economics-for-business-analysis-tcm4213219.jsp

Duration of Scholarships:

Scholarships are granted for a period of up to 13 months, subject to the satisfactory progress of candidates.

Financial Details:

The Open Society Foundations will cover the cost of travel between the home countries of the candidates and Stoke-on-Trent (including the cost of obtaining a UK visa) and provide them with a maintenance grant (£828 per month in 2010-2011), an arrival allowance of £550 and a thesis allowance of £301 during their stay in the United Kingdom.¹ The Open Society Foundations and Staffordshire University will jointly cover the tuition fee, the maintenance grant and the allowances. Staffordshire University will cover the cost of the intensive MSc Preliminary Course.

¹ Please note that the indicated figures are provisional and may be subject to change.

Eligibility:

The scholarships are open to applicants from **Bosnia-Herzegovina**, the **Republic of Kosovo**, the **Republic of Macedonia** and the **Republic of Montenegro**.

Applicants must:

- be nationals of, and normally resident in, the selected country during the academic year in which they apply for the award; applicants who are temporarily out of the country (for a total period of less than three consecutive months) may be treated as being resident;
- have obtained a first degree (the equivalent of a BA degree) with good grades in economics or related disciplines by the end of April 2011.
- display intellectual ability and leadership potential;
- be able to demonstrate their knowledge of English by passing a TOEFL (ITP) or IELTS test at an appropriate level by the time interviews are held for these scholarships, or by other means (such as having completed an academic programme in English at another institution, or having obtained a satisfactory mark in one of the above-mentioned tests at a date no earlier than January 2010);
- return to their home country at the end of their scholarship period to continue their studies / work there.

Preference will be given to applicants who:

- Are likely to make a significant contribution to the economic development of their country;
- Have not previously studied outside their home country.

Please note that if you have applied, or are applying, for other grants, fellowships or scholarships with the Open Society Foundations you should alert us to this in your application. While you may apply for more than one program simultaneously, you can be awarded only one Open Society Foundations scholarship or grant for a given period.

Employees, employees' relatives (or former employees who have left employment less than two years before) of the Educational Advising Centers or local Open Society Foundations representations directly involved in the Open Society Scholarship Programs administration in the region and the participating universities will not be eligible to apply for these awards.

Application Procedure:

Applicants must complete the joint OSF-Staffordshire University application form and submit it together with a number of additional documents, to one of the addresses specified therein. Application forms may be obtained from: the Educational Advising Centers in Podgorica, Prishtina, Sarajevo and Skopje or from: Mrs Jenny Herbert, International Links Administrator, Staffordshire University Business School, Leek Road, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, ST4 2DF, U.K. (email: j.herbert@staffs.ac.uk). The electronic version of this document is available on the MSc programme website at the address given above.

Application documents may be either typed or hand-written in dark ink. Copies (not the originals) of university diplomas and transcripts (list of subjects studied and the marks or grades obtained) must be enclosed with the application. The English translation of documents is not necessary at this stage. If candidates are accepted, they will subsequently be required to present the original documents with official translations for verification when they first arrive at Staffordshire University. Application forms and all supporting documents must be delivered to the local Educational Advising Center office or the University, in person or sent by post or fax to arrive by **Monday, 24 January 2011**. Applicants are required to submit **two copies** of the application package: one original and one photocopy of the entire application package. Applicants are requested not to use any staples on their applications and documents.

Selection Procedure:

All applications will be sent to Staffordshire University Business School directly or through the local Educational Advising Center offices. They will be considered by a selection committee who will prepare a short list of applicants. Short-listed candidates will be notified by the **second week of March 2011** and invited to take an English language test. The language tests will be conducted in the **second half of March 2011** at the local Soros Foundation/Educational Advising Center offices. Candidates who pass the English language test will be invited for interviews which will be arranged in **late April/early May 2011**.

The final decision as to which applicants will be offered scholarships will be made after the completion of all interviews. It is expected that applicants will be informed of the final decision by the **end of May 2011**. Successful applicants are expected to arrive in Stoke on Trent by **mid-July 2011**.

Further Information about Staffordshire University:

Further information on Staffordshire University and the Business School may be obtained by visiting the University's Web Site at <http://www.staffs.ac.uk/> and the Business School's homepage at

<http://www.staffs.ac.uk/faculties/business/>

Candidates may also contact Mrs Jenny Herbert, by telephone, fax or e-mail if they have any further queries about the operation of the scheme.

Direct line: 0044-1782-294065 Fax: 0044-1782-294340

E-mail: j.herbert@staffs.ac.uk

Please note that the OSF and Staffordshire University do not accept any responsibility for applications which may be lost in the post. The selection committee will consider only those applications which it has received. Decisions of the selection committee are final.

**APPLICATION FOR JOINT OPEN SOCIETY
FOUNDATIONS - STAFFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY
SCHOLARSHIP 2011-12**

MSc in Economics for Business Analysis and Preliminary Course

Proposed starting date: July 2011

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT USING DARK INK

1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Title, circle one: Mr. Mrs. Ms.

Surname or family name:

First name:

Correspondence address:

(in full)

Home address (if different from above):

Contact telephone number:

Mobile telephone number:

E-mail Address (please, indicate at least one email address) :

Date of birth:

Citizenship:

Country of permanent residence:

2. **EDUCATION** (Please include photocopies of transcripts (list of subjects studied and marks obtained) and diplomas obtained after leaving school. Include college, university, and any other period of study that has led to a formal qualification. Please do not send the originals of your documents. Please do not send any additional documents)

Name of university/college:

Start and completion dates:

Title of degree obtained:

Date of diploma:

Major subject area:

Name of university/college:

Start and completion dates:

Title of degree obtained:

Date of diploma:

Major subject area:

3. **LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY**

Have you taken any English language qualification?

TOEFL: Yes No Score: Date:

IELTS: Yes No Score: Date:

If the date of your test was after January 2010, please enclose a copy of your certificate.

4. EMPLOYMENT HISTORY
(A SHORT CV MAY BE ATTACHED – maximum 2 pages)

From	To	Organisation	Position & Responsibilities
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5. REFEREES

Please give full name and address (including fax number and e-mail), position held and name of the university/organisation, of two persons who will provide a testimony on your abilities and potential. At least one must be an academic referee. You should ask your referees to write a letter on your suitability for this programme to Staffordshire University Business School and **enclose these letters with your application.**

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6. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Please write a short statement explaining the reasons for making this application, your career aspirations and how this programme will benefit you. Please write in **no more than 300 words**.

CHECKLIST (please tick)

- 1. Completed Parts 1 – 6 of application form
- 2. Completed Statement of Purpose
- 3. 2 reference letters included
- 4. Copies of all transcripts included
- 5. Copies of diplomas included
- 6. Copy of TOEFL/IELTS Certificate included (if applicable)
- 7. Signed the Declaration

DECLARATION BY APPLICANT

I declare that all the information given in this application is true. I confirm that if this application is successful, I will observe and comply with all regulations of Staffordshire University and will not follow any other course of study during the duration of this programme.

Date Signed

On completion, please send this form and the supporting documents (see the Application Procedure in the accompanying Notes for Guidance) to the local Educational Advising Center Office in Prishtina, Podgorica, Sarajevo or Skopje or to Mrs Jenny Herbert, International Links Administrator, Staffordshire University Business School, Leek Road, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, ST4 2DF, UK. **The application form and supporting documents must arrive at the Educational Advising Center office or the University by Monday, 24 January 2011.** One original copy of the application package and one photocopy should be submitted. PLEASE DO NOT USE ANY STAPLES ON YOUR APPLICATION AND DOCUMENTS.

CONTACT PERSONS

At Staffordshire University:

Mrs Jenny Herbert
International Links Administrator,
Staffordshire University Business School,
Leek Road, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire,
ST4 2DF, UK.
Tel.: 0044-1782-294065; Fax: 0044-1782-294340;
E-mail: j.herbert@staffs.ac.uk

In Bosnia and Herzegovina:

SRCe - Student Resource Center

Address:
Univerzitetski kampus
Zmaja od Bosne BB
71000 Sarajevo
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Tel. (387 33) 206 048
Fax (387 33) 212 032
Contact person:
Muhamed Serdarevic: muhamed@soros.org.ba

In Kosovo:

Kosova Academic Services

Address:
Anton Çetta 3, Fahu Postal 357
Prishtinë 10000, Kosovë
Tel: + 381 38 248 887
Fax: + 381 38 248 886
Contact person: Argjiro Shaqiri: argjiro@kas-ks.org

In Macedonia:

American Educational Center—Youth Educational Forum
Library "Brakja Miladinovci"
Address:
Partizanski odredi 22
Skopje 1000
Tel: +389 2 3112 464
Fax: +389 2 3224 981
Contact person:
Bojana Nizamovska: bomzich@gmail.com

In Montenegro:

Pedagogical Center of Montenegro

Address:
Bulevar Svetog Petra Cetinsjskog 25/V
81000 Podgorica
Montenegro
Tel: +382 20 248 667
Fax: +382 20 248 668
Contact person:
Danilo Lekovic: dane_lekovic@yahoo.com

Open Society Foundations/ University of Staffordshire Scholarships 2011-12
Eligibility Requirements Self-Assessment Form

You should complete this form if you are applying for an Open Society Foundations/University of Staffordshire scholarship. By checking off the boxes below, you will confirm that you have read the guidance notes for applicants, understand the eligibility requirements and selection process and are prepared to submit a complete application form with all required supporting documents. This form should be attached to your application once completed and signed below.

FAMILY NAME (BLOCK CAPITALS):	FIRST NAME(S) (BLOCK CAPITALS):
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Please read the statements below and tick the boxes on the right to indicate whether these statements are true or false in your case.

- A. I must be a national of and resident in one of the eligible countries during the academic year in which I apply for the award (I am considered resident even if I am temporarily out of the country for a total period of less than three consecutive months.) true false
- B. I already hold or am expecting to hold by the end of April 2011 a degree of an equivalent standard to a BA with good marks in economics or a related discipline. true false
- C. I am not a recipient of any other Open Society Foundations scholarship for the 2011-2012 academic year. true false
- D. I have sat or will sit a TOEFL/IELTS test to obtain a required score by the time of taking up an award (a test will be organized by the Sponsors for those applicants who are short-listed after the interviews). true false
- E. I understand that the Sponsors of the scholarship will give preference to applicants who have not studied outside of their home region. true false
- F. I am not a current employee/ or employees' relative of any Open Society Foundations representations directly working with Open Society Scholarship Programs in the region or the participating university and I have not been employed by either of them in the past two years. true false

If you marked all of the above statements as true, you are eligible for the program. Please submit your application.

If you marked any of the statements above as false, please be advised that you may be ineligible for the program but you can still submit your application if you still wish for it to be considered.

Should you have any questions concerning any of the criteria listed above, please, contact your local scholarship coordinator.

Please make sure that you attach a copy of this form to each submitted scholarship application form.

By signing this form I confirm that the information provided above is correct.

Signature

Date