

# Offer of Scholarships by the Government of the Republic of Cuba for Postgraduate Studies in the Area of Medicine

**For the Academic Year Commencing 2020**

The Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago invites **ONLINE** applications from citizens of Trinidad and Tobago for Postgraduate Scholarships being offered by the Government of the Republic of Cuba in the field of Human Medicine.

## A) Characteristics of the Offer of Scholarship

<b>Purpose of Scholarship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. To enhance the human resource capacity in the health sector.</li> <li>ii. To strengthen bilateral relations between Trinidad and Tobago and Cuba.</li> <li>iii. To offer scholarships to citizens coming from families with low economic resources.</li> </ul>
<b>Number of Scholarships</b>	Two (2) Postgraduate Scholarships.
<b>Areas of Study to be awarded</b>	Specialty areas in the field of Human Medicine: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Internal Medicine</li> <li>ii. Paediatrics</li> <li>iii. Gynaecology and Obstetrics</li> <li>iv. General Surgery</li> <li>v. Hygiene and Epidemiology</li> </ul>
<b>Who Can Apply</b>	Citizens of Trinidad and Tobago.
<b>Tenability</b>	Degrees are to be pursued at the University as indicated by the Republic of Cuba. The scholarship is renewed annually subject to satisfactory performance as indicated by the Government of the Republic of Cuba.
<b>Application Process</b>	The prescribed application form is available at <a href="http://www.scholarships.moe.gov.tt">www.scholarships.moe.gov.tt</a> for completion and submission along with all the supporting documents.
<b>Deadline date for submission</b>	<b>April 30th, 2020 at 4pm.</b>
<b>Response to Application</b>	<p><b><u>For Nomination:</u></b> The range of response time is between 60 to 90 days from the closing date of the scholarship.</p> <p><b><u>For Selection:</u></b> The Government of the Republic of Cuba completes the selection process.</p>
<b>General Conditions of the Scholarship</b>	Applicants are advised of the following general conditions of the scholarship: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Ministry responsible for the administration of this scholarship (hereafter referred to as “the Ministry”) reserves the right to publish the names of candidates selected for scholarships. By applying for a scholarship, the candidate gives consent for such publication in the event that his/her application is successful.</li> <li>• Scholars will be given formal notification of the award, requesting that they indicate their acceptance of the award.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formal confirmation of the award will be issued when all conditions have been met.</li> <li>• Scholars will be expected to take up the award from the date stated by the Ministry in its notification of the award.</li> <li>• Apart from study related travel, Scholars will be expected to reside in Cuba throughout their programme of study. For any proposed visits outside of Cuba, Scholars must seek prior approval from the Ministry, except for visits to Trinidad and Tobago. Expenses for any such travel are not included in this award.</li> <li>• As a general principle, Scholars pursuing these programmes shall not undertake paid employment during their awards without prior written consent from the Ministry.</li> <li>• This award will be used to fund the programme of study for the specified period.</li> <li>• Scholars must not change their programme of study during the tenure of the scholarship except with written consent from the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and/or the sponsor agency.</li> <li>• Scholars must maintain satisfactory progress and good standing as stipulated by the academic institution, or the award will be withdrawn and the Scholar liable to repay the Ministry for the funds expended at the date of withdrawal.</li> <li>• Scholars must follow the approved programme of study and abide by the rules, regulations and codes of conduct of the academic institution. Suspension from the academic institution can lead to termination of the scholarship. Allowances are not payable during the period of suspension as outlined in the Policy governing Scholarship Awards.</li> <li>• The Government of the Republic of Cuba will require an <b>original</b> medical report in accordance with the guidelines of the Ministry and the sponsor Agency.</li> <li>• The Government of the Republic of Cuba requires documents certifying that nominees have no criminal record.</li> <li>• The Government of the Republic of Cuba and the Ministry will only consider requests to extend the award or the Scholar to remain in Cuba after the completion of his/her studies where it is absolutely necessary. Strict conditions apply as outlined in the Policy governing Scholarship Awards.</li> <li>• The Ministry will not provide any letter of non-objection to work in a foreign country on the completion of the programme of study.</li> <li>• All terms and conditions of the award will be subject to the laws and practices of the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.</li> <li>• Scholars will be required to adhere to the laws and practices in the foreign jurisdiction where they reside.</li> <li>• All regulations concerning immigration and visas are set by the Government of the Republic of Cuba and are outside of control of the Ministry.</li> <li>• The duration of study for this scholarship award is three (3) years.</li> <li>• Applicants must be proficient in the Spanish Language.</li> </ul>
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<b>Requirements upon Successful Completion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In accordance with the Scholarship Agreement, Scholars on international programmes will be required to return to Trinidad and Tobago and report in person to the Ministry within one (1) month of completion of the requirements for the award of the degree.</li> </ul>
<b>Scholarship Procedure</b>	<p>Applicants will be notified when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cabinet approves the recommendations of the Ministry; and</li> <li>• The Government of the Republic of Cuba has completed the selection process.</li> </ul> <p>The scholarship will be governed by legally binding Scholarship Agreements, one to be executed between the Scholar and the Government of the Republic of Cuba and another between the Scholar and the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. These duly executed Agreements along with the other policies and procedures shall be the binding authority between the Scholar and the respective governments. Scholars are advised to visit <a href="http://www.scholarships.moe.gov.tt">www.scholarships.moe.gov.tt</a> to review additional information.</p>
<b>Role of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago</b>	<p>The Government is responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disseminating information on the awards;</li> <li>• Ensuring that applications at all stages of the process are completed according to requirements;</li> <li>• Ensuring that only eligible applicants are shortlisted;</li> <li>• Selecting only the most suitable applicants;</li> <li>• Assisting successful nominees in their preparations for taking up the awards; and</li> <li>• Monitoring the scholar's adherence to the conditions as stipulated in the Scholarship Agreement.</li> </ul>

## B) Funding

### The Government of the Republic of Cuba will pay for/or provide:

Tuition, Compulsory fees and Books
Accommodation & Meals
Health care services
Monthly subsistence

### The Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago will pay for/ or provide:

Monthly supplemental allowance
Round trip return economy air travel

## C) Eligibility Criteria

### To apply for this scholarship, an applicant must:

Be a citizen of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and must not be a permanent resident of any other country.

- (a) Have graduated from the Latin American School of Medicine;
- (b) Possess the following academic qualification:
  - i. Hold a Bachelor of Medicine (BMed), Doctor of Medicine (M.D.), MB. BChir, MBBCh, BMBS or the equivalent Medical degree;
  - ii. Be registered as a medical practitioner with the Medical Board of Trinidad and Tobago.
- (c) Must not exceed 45 years of age.

**Evidence of any additional qualifications should be submitted with the application.**

## D) Requirements

- (a) Applicants are required to submit two (2) recommendations electronically:
  - i. One must be an academic recommendation and the other, personal or professional; and
  - ii. The recommenders must attest to the applicant's ability to perform and succeed as a scholarship recipient by providing relevant and practical examples where applicable. This may include a description of any contribution the applicant may have made to institutions/communities/country.

**Recommendations must be signed, scanned and uploaded to the online application. Only scanned copies of the signed recommendations will be accepted.**

- (b) Applicants applying for a postgraduate degree must prepare an essay, of no more than 750 words, submitted online. The essay should:

- i. State why your chosen Medical Specialisation is crucial for Trinidad and Tobago's development and demonstrate its alignment to government's expressed policy;**

Demonstrate that you have knowledge of this sector and present relevant data that would highlight this as an important national issue.

- ii. Indicate why you have selected to study your chosen Medical Specialisation;**

Demonstrate how your educational background can help you maximize the benefit of being exposed to this programme of study.

Justify how this programme will be of benefit to the country (identify clear and appropriate gaps and targets).

- iii. Discuss the impact the study of your chosen Medical Specialisation is likely to have on your capacity to meet the country's needs.**

Articulate your vision for this sector having been exposed to this programme.

Discuss the impact (medium and long term) you would like to make in relation to the goals and objectives of Trinidad and Tobago's National Development Plan – Vision 2030.

**Please ensure your essay is formatted according to the following specifications:**

- i. Typed in font style Times New Roman;
- ii. Font size 12;
- iii. Line spacing: 1.0;
- iv. Aligned: Justified; and
- v. A declared word count is displayed at the end of the study plan/essay.

**Your essay must be scanned and uploaded to the online application.**

## **E) Selection Methodology**

- a) Applicants will be assessed and recommended for a scholarship on the following:
  - i. Academic Merit
  - ii. Quality and Content of Essay
  - iii. Interview
    - (Area A) Work and Volunteer Experience Attributes
    - (Area B) Adaptation and Clarification of Essay
    - (Area C) Evaluation of Contribution to Underserved Communities
- b) Applicants must upload the following documents to their 'Online' application:
  - i. Copies of Academic Certificates, Degrees or Diplomas;
  - ii. Copy of the **New Polymer Birth Certificate** (with affidavit where necessary);
  - iii. Copy of Proof of Change of Name (where necessary);
  - iv. Copy of relevant biodata page from valid Trinidad and Tobago Passport. If this is not available, a copy of Electoral Identification Card (back and front);
  - v. Valid registration letter from the Medical Board of Trinidad and Tobago;
  - vi. Persons born outside of Trinidad and Tobago must provide evidence of citizenship (copy) and residency;
  - vii. Applicants who are Public Officers must upload a signed letter from their Permanent Secretary/ Head of Department indicating that they have no disciplinary matters pending;
  - viii. Any further documents which you prepared and which provide greater insight into your research proposal;
  - ix. Applicants are required to submit a **Police Certificate of Character**.

### **Please Note:**

- Applicants must meet all the requirements of this scholarship to be considered eligible.
- Candidates must attain a minimum score of 50% at the interview in order to be considered for the nomination of a scholarship.
- Kindly note that the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago is responsible for the nomination of suitable candidates.
- The Government of the Republic of Cuba is responsible for the final selection and placement.
- All originals must be produced upon request.
- Applicants must ensure that their information attached/uploaded documents are legible at a zoom ratio of 100%. Applicants must not submit documents in 'Zip Folders'. Each

document should be uploaded in the relevant field on the upload page. Please ensure that your documents are legible by opening and checking the quality of the document before submitting your application online. Applications with documents, which are illegible, cannot be verified and will therefore not be processed.

- Successful candidates will be required to submit translated copies of all documents.

**Applicants must ensure that their transcripts are sent directly to the following address.**

Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Education  
(Scholarships and Advanced Training Division)  
Level 10  
#5 St. Vincent Street  
Port-of-Spain

**Attention: Selections Secretariat**

- Applicants who wish to hand deliver their transcripts must ensure that this document is properly sealed by the academic institution and submitted to the Selections Secretariat.
- Transcripts must be received on or before the closing date of the scholarship for your application to be considered:

**DEADLINE DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: April 30th, 2020 @ 4:00PM**

For further information please go to our website at [www.scholarships.moe.gov.tt](http://www.scholarships.moe.gov.tt) or contact the office at telephone number 622-2181 exts. 1943/1945 or email [scholarshipenquiries@moe.gov.tt](mailto:scholarshipenquiries@moe.gov.tt).

[Click here to access the application](#)

**Important Notice:**

**If you are returning to your application, please go to the scholarships website at [www.scholarships.moe.gov.tt](http://www.scholarships.moe.gov.tt) and click on SATIS Login to continue your application.**