



In partnership with

SciencesPo

Scholars Program

Frequently Ask Questions (FAQ)

I am not enrolled nor alumni of any of the institutions of reference on your list, can I still apply to the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program?

No, you can only apply to the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program at Sciences Po if you :

- Have completed or are enrolled in a Bachelor's degree programme at one of Sciences Po and the Mastercard Foundation's partner universities on the African continent or an institution of reference.
- OR are enrolled (or have been enrolled) in a training foundation or mentoring programme offered by a bridging programme organisation partnering with the Mastercard Foundation or an institution of reference.

[List of institutions of reference.](#)

Which financial documents are required for the application to the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program ?

You must provide the following documents:

1. Photocopy of tax notice indicating income or lack thereof for the past year for you and/or both parents or legal guardian.
2. Recent proof of earnings for you and/or both parents or legal guardians (last three pay slips, retirement pension or unemployment benefits).
3. A scholarship certificate or legal document attesting to your financial needs.
4. If you are currently receiving a scholarship (from the Mastercard Foundation or another funding body), or have received one in the past, please also attach the scholarship certificate.

Bank statements are not accepted as proof of your financial status.



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How do I prove I am enrolled or an alumni of an institution of reference ?

You must provide :

1. Student certificate from the university or the bridging programme that you are/were enrolled in.
2. The certificate must be provided by an institution of the eligible institution list.

What supporting documents will be required on my application?

You will need to provide the following documents. You must prepare them well in advance (before the opening of the admissions platform):

- All [supporting documents](#) required for international graduate admissions to Sciences Po.
- Valid photo ID.
- Proof of income (or lack thereof) demonstrating your financial circumstances: tax documents and/or income statements; scholarship certificates; or any other legal document attesting to your financial situation. You must submit at least one document with your application. Bank statements will not be accepted. If you are currently receiving a scholarship (from the Mastercard Foundation or another funding body), or have received one in the past, please also attach the scholarship certificate.
- Proof of current or past enrolment at one of the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program at Sciences Po's reference institution recognised by the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program at Sciences Po.

I am applying to a Masters' programme at Sciences Po and the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program, how can I get a fee waiver?

You must submit your application with all the required documents. If you meet the eligibility criteria for the Program, you will be exempt from paying the Sciences Po application fee and may submit your overall application online for free.



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Please note that receiving an application fee waiver does NOT guarantee the admission to Sciences Po nor the acceptance into the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program.

If you do not receive a fee waiver, you can still apply for Sciences Po but your application will not be considered for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program.

I have been deemed not eligible for the fee waiver, can I still apply to Sciences Po?

Yes, you can apply to Sciences Po even if you are not eligible for the fee waiver for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program. In this case, you will need to pay for the application fee and your application will only be considered for admission at Sciences Po.

Do I need to speak French to study at Sciences Po and apply for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program?

There is no requirement of language to apply for the Program. The Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program at Sciences Po welcomes students from both francophone and anglophone countries.

However, to study at Sciences Po you need to have a minimum of C1 level in the language of the Master's programme that you are applying for.

More information on the language requirements for each [Master's programme](#).
(Lien)

Can I apply for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program at the undergraduate level?

No, the Program is only opened to applicants at the [graduate level](#).

I already hold a Master's degree, is it possible to apply for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program?

No, if you have already obtained a Master's degree you are not eligible to the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program.

However, you can apply for a Master's programme at Sciences Po.



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I am currently a graduate student at Sciences Po. Can I apply for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program for the second year?

No, applications can only be submitted by students who have NOT completed or started a Master's degree yet.

I was not selected for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program, can I apply again next year?

Yes, you can apply again for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program. Please check the [eligibility criteria](#) before doing so.

Will the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program support my family and dependents as well?

No. The scholarship is only awarded to the Scholars themselves. It cannot be extended to family members.

I am currently on deferral, am I allowed to apply for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program?

Yes, candidates who have been admitted to Sciences Po, who deferred their admission for the next academic year and who meet the eligibility criteria, are allowed to apply to the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program.

I applied for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program last year, and I was not selected, but I was admitted to a Master's programme at Sciences Po. I asked for a deferral for next academic year. Can I apply once again for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program?

Yes, you can apply again for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program. Please note that in this case your application will be processed separately. Candidates on a deferral will be contacted by the Team in Fall 2024.

I don't want to apply to a Master's programme at Sciences Po but only to the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program, is it possible ?

The Mastercard Foundation scholarships are only awarded to students who are admitted in a Masters' programme at Sciences Po. If you want to apply for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program, you need to apply to one of Sciences Po's Master programmes at the same time.



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For how long can I be part of the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program?

The Program will support you for the duration of your graduate studies at Sciences Po (2 years).

Who is my main contact person for academic purposes?

Each Master's programme has an academic advisor, you can find the contact of your academic advisor online on the "contact" section of your [Master's programme](#).

Before starting your application, please ensure you have read all the guidance provided to you on our website.

If you are still unable to find an answer to your query, please contact the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program at Sciences Po team at:

info.mcfsp@sciencespo.fr .

For daily news of the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program at Sciences Po and more content to prepare your application process also follow us on [LinkedIn](#).