

[SMARTS-UP Graduate Schools programme]

International scholarship for Masters

Call for applications 2026-2027

1. What is the SMARTS-UP Graduate Schools scholarship?

Université Paris Cité is training future scientists and leading experts to thrive as academics or senior executives. The SMARTS-UP Graduate Schools programme, led by Université Paris Cité, aims to promote the internationalisation of Master's programmes and attract the best international students. In this context, we offer up to 200 individual scholarships, € 10,000 each, to allow Graduate Schools to welcome international students in their Master's programmes. The scholarships are awarded for one year.

2. Which Masters are eligible for SMARTS-UP Graduate Schools mobility scholarships at Université Paris Cité?

SMARTS-UP Graduate Schools scholarships are intended for international students coming to study at Université Paris Cité in one of the Masters of the 28 Graduate Schools.

To find out more on the Masters that are eligible to the scholarship: <https://mobility.smarts-up.fr/>

3. How much is the scholarship?

Awardees will receive € 10,000 paid in three instalments (one payment at the 1st semester and two payments at the 2nd semester). Please note that this award is a scholarship, not a stipend. It is a financial aid to help you study but it will not be sufficient to live in Paris. You will need an additional source of income to cover your stay.

This award cannot be cumulated with any other scholarship. It is awarded for the academic year 2026-2027 only and cannot be postponed.

4. Who can apply?

Only students applying for a Master's programme listed on: <https://mobility.smarts-up.fr/> are eligible for a SMARTS-UP Graduate Schools scholarship.

▪ Eligibility requirements

- Applicants must be international students, French citizens are not eligible;
- Applicants must be new to the French higher education system (exception: international students preparing a joint-degree in collaboration with Université Paris Cité are eligible);
- Applicants should not hold any degree from a French University or French Higher Education Institution;
- Applicants from one the countries listed below have to also register via the *Études en France* platform (<https://www.campusfrance.org/fr/candidature-procedure-etudes-en-france>). This application must be completed in parallel of the submission of your SMARTS-UP Graduate Schools application. It is a completely independent but mandatory procedure.

Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Ivory Coast, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Qatar, Republic of Congo, Russia, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America, Vietnam.

- Level of access

- **Master 1 (M1) programmes** are opened to students holding or currently preparing a Bachelor's degree or equivalent (N.B.: awardees must hold a Bachelor's degree by the time they join Université Paris Cité in September 2026).
- **Master 2 (M2) programmes** are opened to students who have completed or are in the process of completing a full-time year of a Master's programme in related field of study by September 2026.

Eligible students will be ranked based on their academic merits, motivation and performances during follow up interviews. The best students will be awarded a one-year scholarship.

5. How to apply?

- The call will be opened from the 1st December 2025 until the 16th January 2026, 12pm (noon, CET);
- The acceptability of the applications will be checked by the university services, then each Graduate School will assess the candidates;
- Applicants will be informed of the decision by email early April 2026;
- For applicants on the waiting list, the final decision will be communicated in May 2026;
- Awardees will join Université Paris Cité in September 2026.

Important: Laureates will have to acknowledge acceptance of the scholarship within **2 weeks** after receiving the confirmation email. In the absence of a timely confirmation, the scholarship will be awarded to the next candidate on the waiting list.

6. What are the obligations of the laureates?

- Academic obligations

The SMARTS-UP Graduate Schools scholarship laureates have the following responsibilities:

- register at Université Paris Cité for the academic year 2026-2027;
- be present at the start of their Master's programme in September 2026 and attend all the SMARTS-UP Graduate Schools events;
- attend all classes and exams;
- answer the follow-up questionnaire that will be sent during the course of the curriculum;
- register with the Alumni group.

- Financial obligations

This scholarship will be paid in a French bank account registered under the awardee's name after the student has been duly registered at Université Paris Cité.

- False declarations

False declarations or falsified documents submitted as part of the SMARTS-UP Graduate Schools scholarship application will automatically forfeit the award and could lead to legal actions.

7. What are the required documents to submit during the online application?

- **CV** (1 page);
- **Cover letter** (1 page explaining the applicant's career goals, how this Master's programme will help the applicant to achieve them and their motivations to join Université Paris Cité);
- **Reference letters:** two reference letters written by former or current professors, lecturers, tutors or supervisors;
- **Transcripts of records** from Bachelor's degree on;
- **Research project:** research topic the applicant would like to work on, and/or laboratory/institute that will welcome her or him for a traineeship (3-4 pages, including references);
- If applicable, **abstracts of the candidate's previous work** (e.g. dissertation, books, internship reports, scientific articles...).

Important: Incomplete applications will not be evaluated.