Call for Application for DAFI Scholarship Programme
For Academic Year 2021/2022

DAFI SCHOLARSHIP

Higher education is one of the key priorities to build the knowledge and the capacity of the future generations, helping them to be change-makers on the road to their future. In this regard, UNHCR higher education program is offering an opportunity for eligible refugee students through applying for DAFI scholarship program funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Government of Germany.

DAFI Scholarship is provided to undergraduate refugee students, covering all education fees, and living costs during the studying period. In return, it is expected from all selected students to be role models in education and persistence to successfully obtain remarkable academic degrees.

Throughout the years, DAFI awarded over 450 scholarships to eligible refugees at a bachelor’s degree. This call for application is for only 25 scholarship places for qualified refugees based on a specific criterion listed below. Students who meet the following eligibility criteria are invited to apply for this scholarship program for the academic year 2021-2022.

Main Requirements:

a) Recognized refugee status: The applicant must be a recognized refugee. Asylum seekers are not eligible for a DAFI scholarship.

b) Excellent academic performance: The priority will be given to those who achieved the highest grades with excellent performance, presented in the student’s school certificate and/or the school report. The diploma/certificate must be enclosed with the application.

c) Equivalency of the diploma: For foreigner qualifications, only equivalent diplomas will be accepted. The equivalency should be issued by the Rwanda Education Board (REB) OR the Workforce Development Authority (WDA) OR the Higher Education Council.

d) Socio-economic status: This criterion presents the social-economic situation of an applicant and his/her family in the country of asylum. The status and the occupation of the headed household, the household income and external support can provide indicators to assess a candidate's need for a scholarship.

e) Age of the applicant: Youth at the age of 28 or younger at the beginning of the academic year, can apply for a DAFI scholarship.

f) One scholarship per family: Only one young family member can apply/obtain a DAFI scholarship to ensure that benefits allocated are equally given to other refugee students supporting their families.

g) Never received another academic scholarship: the applicants funded under another scholarship program are not eligible to apply for DAFI scholarship.
Field of study and relevance to employment possibilities: Applicants should be able to clearly express their reasons for having chosen the subject of study, and to relate their choice to expected future employment opportunities in the country of asylum and upon repatriation.

h) No resettlement application: Applicants who have been confirmed resettlement programme are not eligible to apply for this scholarship.

Secondary selection criteria:

i) Choice of short-term course: The granting of new scholarships should be given to students anticipating courses of four or less than four years duration, in reliability to and a high probability of employment.

j) Choice of development-oriented course: Special emphasis should be placed on candidates where the employment focus is combined with a special orientation to development-relevant courses, preparing the future graduates for the reconstruction of their country of origin.

k) Priority for female applicants: One of the UNHCR policy priorities is to increase the number of girls attending primary and post-primary education. In support of this policy, DAFI scholarships aim to increase the participation of female students and achieve gender parity (of 50%) in tertiary education.

l) Persons with specific needs: Persons with special education needs and members of vulnerable households with identified socio-economic needs among refugee students with excellent academic records will be given special considerations during the selection of candidates.

Timeframe

Deadline for submission of the Application is on the 13th of May 2022 by midday. (12.00 p.m.)

Also Note that:
- The application forms are available at UNHCR field offices in every location including field posts in the camps: Kigeme, Mugombwa, Nyabiheke, Kiziba and Mahama. Application forms are free of charge.
- Applicant should mention in the body of the e-mail the following information: Full Names, Age, Refugee Individual Registration Number, email address, and telephone number and place of residence.
- Students who have already submitted their admission letter to DAFI partner (ADRA) must also send their completed application.
- Successful candidates will be communicated via email for interviews.

Please Submit
Duly completed application form, copy of secondary school certificate, university admission letter, and refugee proof of registration must be submitted by email to the following address:

jean.muvandimwe@ADRA-Rwanda.org

For more information, please call 0788782722