



Madrid, - 4 ABR. 2017

Subject: Call for scholarship proposals for IOC training activities to encourage the transfer of technology, research and post-graduate studies

Madam, Sir,

As part of its 2017 training and specific operations activities to encourage research and build on the skills of technical officers in the olive sector, the International Olive Council plans to award four scholarships for the Master's degree in Olive Growing and Olive Oil Technology organised by the University of Cordoba and ten scholarships for the Expert Diploma in the Organoleptic Assessment of Virgin Olive Oils organised by the University of Jaén.

The scholarships for the Master's degree in Olive Growing and Olive Oil Technology aim to train professionals in olive growing and olive oil technology, to encourage research, to respond to the growing demand for specialist technical officers in the sector, to encourage the transfer of technology, to facilitate the pooling of information, experience and results and to foster mobility between Members.

The Expert Diploma in the Organoleptic Assessment of Virgin Olive Oils also provides the training groundwork for creating tasting panels as a feature of IOC action to improve the capabilities and competence of laboratories that perform sensory analysis of virgin olive oils.

The IOC scholarships will cover the registration fees, travel expenses at the start and end of the course and monthly allowances for the students (€860). The management of the scholarships may however be assigned to another body (typically the University). Full-time commitment is required for both courses.

Students must have a prior command of the working language of the courses (Spanish).

The specific application requirements of the scholarships and the details of each of these courses are attached (Annex I–Master's specific application requirements, Annex II expert title specific requirements). The principles governing the scholarships and the exclusion, selection and award criteria are attached in Annex IV.



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Closing date for the receipt of submissions: 3 May 2017.

These scholarships will only be awarded to nationals of IOC member countries who meet all the requirements and are successful in the selection process.

The award of the scholarships is subject to budget availability.

The submission of applications imposes no obligation on the IOC to select the candidates supported by its Members.

Please be aware that some candidates may be excluded from participating and that the IOC may also request additional proof from the candidates or ask them to clarify the supporting documents.

The IOC is available to assist candidates designated by their national authorities in arranging their participation (contacts with the universities, visa process, etc).

Yours faithfully,

Abdellatif Ghedira
Executive Director



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ANNEX I - XII Master's Degree in Olive Growing and Olive Oil Technology

The Master's Degree in Olive Growing and Olive Oil Technology is jointly organised by the University of Cordoba (UCO), the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development of the Regional Government of Andalusia (CAP), the Andalusian Institute of Agricultural Research and Training (IFAPA), the National Institute for Agricultural and Food Research and Technology (INIA), the Spanish Higher Council for Scientific Research (CSIC), the International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM), through the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Zaragoza (IAMZ), and the International Olive Council (IOC).

It reflects the pivotal role played by olive production in the economies of many countries and the benefits of fostering, through training, the process of rapid technological and structural adjustment of the above mentioned sector to meet the objectives of reducing production costs, increasing quality and expanding the olive market on the basis of the positive promotion of the use of the olive oil as a dietary component, and of the interest of increasing the international cooperation defended by these institutions.

The objective of the Master's degree is to train professionals whose profile meets the growing demand for specialists at the highest level in olive growing and olive oil technology.

The Master's programme is spread across two academic years. The first year covers the Postgraduate Specialisation Course (60 ECTS) and the second year, for initiation to research, leads to the thesis of the Master of Science (total for both years: 120 ECTS).

The first year course will run from the end of September 2017 to the end of May 2018. Only participants that have obtained an average score of 7/10 or higher in the Postgraduate Specialisation Course may opt for the second year of the scholarships.

Upon completion of the Postgraduate Specialisation Course, the participants who have passed the stipulated control tests will receive the Postgraduate Specialisation Diploma in Olive Growing and Oil Technology awarded by CIHEAM. Those participants that have completed the whole cycle will obtain the University Master's Degree in Olive Growing and Oil Technology. The official Spanish degree will be awarded by the University of Córdoba, and CIHEAM will award its Master of Science Degree. The professionals from the sector who attend the modules will receive a Certificate of attendance and success for the module or modules completed. If all the modules of the Areas of Production or Industrialisation are completed, they will receive a Diploma of University Expert in Olive Growing or in Oil Technology, in accordance with the part followed.

CT BJ- 1/2017 Becas Curso U Jaén

CT BC 2/2017 Becas Master U Córdoba



The University criteria for admission are:

- *University degree*, preferably in agronomy, biology, agricultural industry or food technology;
- *Proficiency in Spanish*, which will be the working language of the course; for those successful candidates whose first language is not Spanish, courses to perfect their language knowledge will be organised from July to September 2017. The Instituto Cervantes (<http://www.cervantes.es>) has a virtual classroom to teach Spanish online. Information can be obtained at <http://ave.cervantes.es>, available in several languages (the IOC will not cover the language tuition period.)
- *Reading knowledge of English*, necessary to understand some of the material distributed during the course.

Participants must show proof of health insurance cover before the beginning of the course. The Master's course Directorate can provide information if required.

Candidates should be working, researching or have a study background in the olive sector.

Closing date for the receipt of submissions: 3 May 2017.

Applications should be accompanied by the attached application form (one per candidate). A copy of the following documents should also be submitted together with the application form:

- National Identity card (or passport)
- University Degree
- Transcript of records
- Curriculum vitae
- Letter stating the reasons for participating in the Master's degree

The application form must be sent by e-mail or post, together with all the supporting documents, to the:

International Olive Council
Príncipe de Vergara, 154
28002 Madrid (Spain)
Fax: +34-91 563 1263
E-mail: iooc@internationaloliveoil.org



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A copy of the application and of all the supporting documents must also be sent to the Director of the Programme:

Prof. Ricardo Fernández Escobar
Departamento de Agronomía
Universidad de Córdoba
Campus Rabanales, Edificio C4
Carretera de Madrid km.396
14071 Córdoba (Spain)
Fax: +34-95 721 8569
E-mail: masterolivicultura@uco.es



ANNEX II - XV Expert Diploma in the organoleptic assessment of virgin olive oils

The Expert Diploma in the organoleptic assessment of virgin olive oils is organised by the University of Jaén, with the support of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development of the Regional Government of Andalusia (CAP), of the Provincial Council of Jaén and other private entities.

The aim of the course is to teach students the theory and methodology for the organoleptic assessment of virgin olive oil and the analysis of the factors and positive and negative attributes that define sensory quality in relation to cultural practices, processing methods and other general physical and chemical quality control parameters.

It is the result of the need for having qualified professionals with specific skills in the organoleptic assessment of virgin olive oils in order to support quality control and monitoring, prevent fraud and provide assistance to producers to clearly analyse their virgin olive oils through sensory analysis. It also aims to assist in the establishment of recognised laboratories, thereby strengthening the implementation of the IOC standard.

This course runs for three months (330 hours) and is organised into various modules on different subject matter. To receive the diploma, participants are required to attend at least 85% of the classes of each module and achieve a positive evaluation in the final theoretical and practical exams.

In the case of the **expert diploma**, the university requires candidates conform to one of the following profiles:

- Graduates holding a degree in Chemical Sciences, Chemical Engineering, Food Science and Technology, Pharmacology, Biological Sciences, Environmental and Business Studies.
- Specialised engineers and technical experts in the areas of chemistry, agronomy, forestry and industry.
- University graduates.
- Directors, managers and person in charge of oil mills and cooperatives or producer unions, packing companies or olive oil exporters and public or private testing laboratories.

Proficiency in Spanish, which will be the working language of the course, is necessary. For those successful candidates whose first language is not Spanish, the University may organise a complementary Spanish course in September to improve their understanding. The IOC will not cover the language tuition period.



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As the IOC is providing this training groundwork for creating tasting panels as a part of its action to improve olive oil quality, candidates must be suitably trained with expert knowledge of olive oil organoleptic assessment.

Closing date for the receipt of submissions: 3 May 2017.

Applications should be accompanied by the attached application form completed by each of the candidates. A copy of the following documents should also be submitted together with the application form:

- National Identity card (or passport)
- University Degree
- Transcript of records
- Curriculum vitae
- Letter stating the reasons for participating in the course

The application form must be sent by e-mail or post, together with all the supporting documents, to the:

International Olive Council
Príncipe de Vergara, 154
28002 Madrid (Spain)
Fax: +34-91 563 1263
E-mail: iooc@internationaloliveoil.org

A copy of the application and of all the supporting documents must also be sent to the Director of the Programme:

Prof. Sebastián Sánchez Villasclaras.
Departamento de Ingeniería Química, Ambiental y de los Materiales
Centros de Estudios Avanzados en Olivar y Aceite de Oliva
Universidad de Jaén
Tel: 953 21 22 19
E-mail: ssanchez@ujaen.es



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ANNEX III - APPLICATION FORM

- XII Master's degree in Olive Growing and Olive Oil Technology
- XIV Expert Diploma in the organoleptic assessment of virgin olive oils

Personal Information

Family Name:

First Name:

Date of Birth:

Place of Birth:

Nationality:

Professional Information

Background (University Degree):

Place of Work (Institution/Company):

Present Position:

Duties:

Correspondence Address

Street and Number:

City:

Post Code:

Country:

Telephone (with country code):

E-mail:

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Languages:

LANGUAGE	SPOKEN	READ	WRITTEN
Spanish			
English			
Others			

Accompanying Documents*

University degree	
Transcript of records	
Curriculum vitae	
Letter stating reasons for applying (detailed description of the motives for requesting the scholarship), the expected impact of the scholarship on the applicant's activities	
Other (indicate)	

* A copy of the documents will suffice. Upon registration, the selected participants should present the original documents together with a copy. University degrees and transcripts of records issued outside Spain should be certified through diplomatic channels following the instructions that will be duly provided.



ANNEX IV - PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE SCHOLARSHIP. SCHOLARSHIP EXCLUSION, SELECTION AND AWARD CRITERIA DEFINED TO ENABLE SUBSEQUENT EVALUATION.

Principles governing scholarships

- The aim of the scholarship is to help achieve the objectives defined in the current International Agreement on Olive Oil and Table Olives.
- Non-profit principle: the scholarships may not have the purpose or effect of producing a profit for the beneficiary.
- Non-retroactivity principle: expenditure incurred prior to the signature of the agreement awarding the scholarship is not covered.
- Non-cumulation principle: one application may give rise to the award of one scholarship only to any one beneficiary per financial year.
- Principles of advertising, transparency and equal treatment.

Exclusion criteria

The exclusion criteria are designed to evaluate the eligibility of applicants.

Applicants will be excluded from participating in the procedure for this call for proposals if:

- (a) they are bankrupt or being wound up, are having their affairs administered by the courts, have entered into an arrangement with creditors, have suspended business activities, are the subject of proceedings concerning those matters, or are in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations;
- (b) they have been convicted of an offence concerning their professional conduct by a judgment which has the force of *res judicata*;
- (c) they have been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means which the contracting authority can justify;
- (d) they have not fulfilled obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions or the payment of taxes in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which they are established or with those of the country of the contracting authority or those of the country where the contract is to be performed;
- (e) they have been the subject of a judgment which has the force of *res judicata* for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organisation or any other illegal activity detrimental to the financial interests of the IOC;



- (f) following another award procedure, they have been declared to be in serious breach of contract for failure to comply with their contractual obligations;
- (g) are subject to a conflict of interest;
- (h) are guilty of misrepresentation in supplying the information required by the contracting authority as a condition of participation or fail to supply that information.

Applicants must sign declarations on honour (templates appended in Annex V) to attest that they are not in any of the above situations.

Selection criteria

The selection criteria will be such as to make it possible to assess the applicant's ability to complete the proposed action/work programme.

Applicants must have the professional competencies and qualifications required to complete the proposed action or work programme.

In the case of the **Master's** scholarships, for selection candidates must satisfy the following university criteria:

- *University degree*, preferably in agronomy, biology, agricultural industry or food technology
- *Reading knowledge of English*, necessary to follow part of the material distributed during the course

In the case of the **expert diploma**, the university requires candidates conform to one of the following profiles:

- Graduates holding a degree in Chemical Sciences, Chemical Engineering, Food Science and Technology, Pharmacology, Biological Sciences, Environmental and Business Studies.
- Specialised engineers and technical experts in the areas of chemistry, agronomy, forestry and industry.
- University graduates.
- Directors, managers and person in charge of oil mills and cooperatives or producer unions, packing companies or olive oil exporters and public or private testing laboratories.



Proficiency in Spanish, which will be the working language of these courses, is necessary in both cases. Candidates should also be working, researching or have a study background in the olive sector.

In the case of the expert diploma, candidates must also be suitably trained with expert knowledge of olive oil organoleptic assessment.

Award criteria

The award criteria are designed to evaluate the quality of the applications.

The merits of the applicants and work, research or study background in the olive sector will be the criteria used for the award of the scholarships

Prior knowledge of Spanish is compulsory to participate in these trainings.

In the case of the Master's degree, reading knowledge of English will also be taken into consideration. Being supported by the Heads of Delegation will also be considered an asset.

In the expert diploma, nomination by the competent authority in the applicant's country as being the head of a laboratory responsible for the official control of virgin olive oils through sensory analysis will be considered positively. Being a head of panel in an IOC recognised panel or one of its panellists and working in an olive oil quality official control institution will also be considered positively and more if the application is supported by the head of delegation.

The content of the letter stating reasons for applying (detailed description of the motives for requesting the scholarship) and the expected impact of the scholarship on the applicant's activities will also be taken into account.

In case of equal situation of candidates from the same country, the younger candidate will be selected.

For the award of scholarships, the broadest geographical diversity will be intended.

The award of the scholarships is subject to budget availability.



MASTER'S AWARD CRITERIA	POINTS
1st stage	
ACADEMIC BACKGROUND (MERITS)	80
WORKING, RESEARCHING OR HAVE A STUDY BACKGROUND IN THE OLIVE SECTOR (MASTER)	20
2nd stage (only candidates with more than 60 points)	
Being supported by the Head of Delegation	
Age (priority will be established inversely to age increase)	
Letter stating reasons for applying (detailed description of the motives for requesting the scholarship) & the expected impact of the scholarship on the applicant's activities	



AWARD CRITERIA EXPERT DIPLOMA	POINTS (Maximum 100)
1st stage	
ACADEMIC BACKGROUND (MERITS)	50
WORKING, RESEARCHING OR HAVE A STUDY BACKGROUND IN THE OLIVE SECTOR (non-cumulative points)	
Nomination by the competent authority in the applicant's country as being the head of a laboratory responsible for the official control of virgin olive oils or being a head of panel in an IOC recognised panel supported by a head of delegation	40
Working in an olive oil quality official control institution supported by a head of delegation	30
Being a panellist in an IOC recognised panel supported by a head of delegation	20
Being a panel leader in a IOC recognised panel	15
Working in an olive oil quality official control institution	10
Being a panellist in an IOC recognised panel	7
Directors, managers and person in charge of oil mills and cooperatives or producer unions, packing companies or olive oil exporters and public or private testing laboratories (not included in the previous options)	5
AGE (priority will be established inversely to age increase)	10



ANNEX V – TEMPLATES

Declarations on honour regarding exclusion criteria and conflict of interest

Exclusion Criteria Form

The undersigned:

Name:

Address:

Tax number:

Name of the signatory of this form:

declares on his honour that the organisation that he represents:

- (a) is not bankrupt or being wound up, is not having its affairs administered by the courts, has not entered into an arrangement with creditors, has not suspended business activities, is not the subject of proceedings concerning those matters, and is not in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided for in national legislation or regulations;
- (b) has not been convicted of an offence concerning professional conduct by a judgement which has the force of *res judicata*;
- (c) has not been guilty of grave professional misconduct proven by any means;
- (d) has fulfilled its obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions or the payment of taxes in accordance with the legal provisions of the country in which it is established, or with those of the country of the contracting authority or those of the country where the contract is to be carried out;
- (e) has not been the subject of a judgement which has the force of *res judicata* for fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organisation or any other illegal activity detrimental to the IOC's financial interests;
- (f) is not the subject of an administrative penalty for being guilty of misrepresentation in supplying the information required by the contracting authority as a condition of participation in a scholarship award procedure, or for failing to supply information or being declared to be in serious breach of its obligations under a grant agreement financed by the budget.

Signature (& full name):

Date:



Conflict of Interests and No Misrepresentation Form

The undersigned:

Name:

Address:

Tax number:

Name of the signatory of this form:

declares on his honour that he:

- does not have any conflict of interest in connection with the scholarship; a conflict of interest could arise in particular as a result of economic interests, political or national affinities, family or emotional ties, or any other relevant connection or shared interest;
- will inform the IOC, without delay, of any situation constituting a conflict of interest or which could give rise to a conflict of interest;
- has not made and will not make any offer of any type whatsoever from which an advantage can be derived under the scholarship;
- has not granted and will not grant, has not sought and will not seek, has not attempted and will not attempt to obtain, and has not accepted and will not accept, any advantage, financial or in kind, to or from any party whatsoever, constituting an illegal practice or involving corruption, either directly or indirectly, as an incentive or reward relating to the award of the scholarship;
- has provided information to the IOC, within the context of this call for proposals, which is accurate, sincere and complete.

Signature (& full name):

Date: