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Gaden Phodrang Foundation
of the Dalai Lama

The Dalai Lama Graduate Scholarship 2026/27

GUIDELINE FOR NEW APPLICATION

Background

The Dalai Lama Graduate Scholarship Program supports the academic and professional growth of students of Tibetan descent by providing financial assistance for graduate studies. Administered by the Gaden Phodrang Foundation of the Dalai Lama, the scholarship helps alleviate the financial burden of higher education, though awards of up to USD 10,000 may not fully cover tuition and living expenses.

Endorsed by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, the Foundation is committed to advancing education and fostering human development for the benefit of individuals and communities worldwide.

Award Amount

Scholarships of up to USD 10,000 are awarded to outstanding students who demonstrate academic excellence and a commitment to the values of Tibetan culture, including Compassion and Wisdom. Recipients are expected to contribute to their communities and work toward the betterment of humanity through their professional and personal endeavors.

Eligibility

1. Applicants must be enrolled in or accepted to a full-time graduate degree program (Master's or Ph.D.) at a university in Europe, the Americas, Australia, or Asia, excluding the Indian Subcontinent.
2. Applicants must provide proof of Tibetan heritage and demonstrate the continuity of their Dhanglang Chatrel (Green Book) contribution.
3. Applicants are solely responsible for securing the necessary visas required to attend their chosen university.
4. Graduate programs must be full-time, spanning at least one year or multiple years, and offered by accredited universities. Preference will be given to institutions ranked in the top tiers of their respective countries.
5. Current scholarship recipients seeking renewal must submit a separate renewal application. Scholarship renewals are limited to two years.

Deadline

The complete application form and all supporting documents must be submitted online by **April 19, 2026, at 11:59 PM Zurich time (GMT+1)**. Applications must be accurate, complete, and submitted within the deadline.

Applicants must ensure that their three recommenders submit their letters by email before the deadline. After the cutoff date, the online application portal will be closed, and late submissions will not be accepted.

All applicants will receive an email confirmation upon submission. The independent Selection Committee will review and evaluate applications. Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an online interview, and final decisions will be communicated via email in July 2026.

Required documents for new applicants:

- Completed application form:
→ www.dalailamafoundation.org/the-dalai-lama-scholarship/application/
- Recent Passport-style Photo
- Curriculum vitae (CV)
- Two essays (each 500 words max):
 1. *Motivation*: Describe your motivation for pursuing your intended field of study, including how and why you selected your graduate institution.
 2. *You & Tibet*: Describe how you view yourself and your work in connection to the Tibetan people and the future of Tibet.
- Official transcript from your most recent completed studies
- Official Acceptance Letter or Enrollment Form for the intended graduate program for the 2026/27 academic year
- Three Signed Letters of Recommendation: At least two must be academic references. These must be sent directly by the referees from their official (institutional/university) email accounts to gp-foundation@dalailama.com by April 19, 2026.
- Valid Green Book (Dhanglang Chatrel): Copy showing contributions paid through 2025. (Please include the 1st page, 2nd page, and the page showing the most recent payment).
- A tax statement or a detailed personal statement outlining the financial situation of the applicant and their parents.

Contact

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