

Eligibility criteria MENA Scholarship Programme (MSP)

A candidate applying for an MSP scholarship must:

- apply for a course on the MSP course list February 2014;
- not have received an MSP scholarship in the three years prior to the year in which the proposed MSP course starts;
- complete an MSP scholarship application form and submit all the required documentation to the Netherlands Embassy;
- be a national of and working in one of the ten selected countries (Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Syria or Tunisia);
- must not be older than 45 years of age at the time of application (the application deadline);
- be a professional with at least three years' work experience;
- not be employed by:
 - a multinational corporation (e.g. Shell, Unilever);
 - a large national and/or commercial organisation;
 - a bilateral donor organisation (e.g. USAID, DFID, Danida, Sida, the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, FinAid, AusAid, ADC, SwissAid);
 - a multilateral donor organisation (e.g. a UN organisation, the World Bank, the IMF, Asian Development Bank, African Development Bank, IADB);
 - an international NGO (e.g. Oxfam, Plan, Care).
- meet the admission requirements of the selected course. As such, they must have at least a diploma or a bachelor's degree in one of the selected fields of study and meet other educational or professional requirements, which may vary per course. Please contact the Dutch institution directly for more information regarding course content and the admission requirements.
- offer evidence of proficiency in speaking and writing the language of instruction (English in most cases). Preferably, a candidate should provide evidence in the form of an official and verifiable score in an internationally recognised test, such as IELTS or TOEFL. If the candidate cannot provide sufficient evidence, the Netherlands Embassy will evaluate the candidate's knowledge of the language. However, the final decision about a candidate's language proficiency lies with the Dutch institution. For the required language requirements, please contact the Dutch institution providing the course.
- be nominated by their employer, who pledges to continue to pay a substantial part of the candidate's salary during the study period, and guarantees that at the end of the scholarship period the candidate will be offered a position at least equivalent to the current position;
- demonstrate a solid link between their work and the selected course; the course must have added value for the sustainable capacity development of the employing organisation and the development of the country;
- be available for the entire period of the course and be physically and mentally able to take part in the entire course;
- declare that they will return to their home country immediately upon completion of the course.