GLOBAL EDUCATION PROGRAM: FREQUANTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

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I. ABOUT THE GLOBAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

What is the Global Education Program?

Global Education Program is a government-sponsored funding program that offers Russian Federation citizens an opportunity for graduate and postgraduate studies at leading foreign education institutions that provide educational programs at a quality which meets the highest international standards.

Who are eligible participants?

- Russian citizens
- Enrolled in Master, PhD and residency training programs from a priority study area at leading foreign universities
- Ready to return to Russia upon completion of their studies and to obtain employment in accordance with the qualification gained for a period of at least 3 years

What is the Program duration?

Program is administered during 2014-2016. However, the grant is given for the whole duration of an educational program.

What costs does a Global Education Program grant cover?

Total expenditure for one year of study may not exceed 1 381 800 rubles. In addition to tuition fees, the Program covers travel expenses to and from the student's place of residence to the university, medical insurance, accommodation, meals, and academic literature.

Co-funding is possible, if it does not contradict the legislation of the Russian Federation. If other sources of funding cover tuition fees, a participant does not get the Program grant for covering tuition, only for other expenses.

Program does not provide reimbursement of paid tuition fees of prior study periods in a chosen educational program.

For more information about regulations on tuition fees and other expenses, please visit the "Regulations" section on the official website of the Program. http://educationglobal.ru/o_programme/

I. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: GENERAL

What are the eligibility criteria?

- Russian citizenship
- High education diploma (bachelor degree or specialist diploma)

- No criminal records
- Offer of Admission / Certificate of enrollment from a foreign educational institution
- Compliance with terms and conditions of the Program

Are citizens of other CIS republics living in Russia eligible to participate in the Program?

No, the Program is open only to citizens of the Russian Federation.

Are Russian citizens currently living and working in other countries eligible to participate in the Program?

Yes, if they commit themselves to obtaining employment in an organization in Russia in accordance with the qualification gained for a period of at least 3 years.

Can I apply if I have dual citizenship?

Yes, if one of your citizenships is Russian and you commit yourself to returning to Russia upon completion of your studies and obtaining employment at a Russian organization in accordance with the qualification gained for a period of at least 3 years.

Is there an age limit for Program participants?

No.

Does it matter what country I received my bachelor degree in?

It does not matter for the Program in what country you received your bachelor degree. However, your diploma needs to be recognized in accordance with Art. 107 of the Federal Law "On Education in the Russian Federation" №273-FZ of December 29, 2012.

The Decree of the Federal Government of September 19, 2013 №1694-p approved the list of foreign educational institutions which issue certificates of education and (or) qualification recognized in the Russian Federation.

If your diploma is issued by an institution that is not in the list under the Decree of the Federal Government of September 19, 2013 №1694-p, then you need to do nostrification. Details of the procedure of nostrification can be found on the website http://obrnadzor.gov.ru/ru/activity/main_directions/recognition_of_documents

I already have several degrees. Will this hinder the possibility to get the grant?

No.

Is it possible for students of last years of study to participate in the Program before receiving diploma?

Yes. In case when participants are not able to provide all the documents before the session of Observatory Board of the Program, they are selected as finalists of the Program under condition of providing all the required documents in the period of maximum 6 months.

Do I need to have a work experience to be eligible to apply?

No, you do not need to have a work experience to apply, but it is one of the criteria of competitive selection.

I have over 10 years' work experience, am I overqualified for the Program?

You are eligible to apply. Work experience is one of the criteria of competitive selection.

II. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: UNIVERSITIES, STUDY AREAS AND PROGRAMS

What are the priority study areas?

There are five priority study areas: 1. science, 2. engineering, 3. education, 4. medicine, and 5. management in social sphere.

What were the criteria for selection of universities and programs?

All the universities approved under the Program were or are in the top 300 in the Academic Ranking of World Universities, QS World University Rankings, and The Times Higher Education World University Rankings at the same time, and the programs - in the first 150 positions. You can find the list of approved education institutions on the official website <u>http://educationglobal.ru/en/</u> List of higher education institutions

Is it possible for a university or a study program to be added to the list if it goes up in rankings over the year?

This issue may be discussed at a meeting of the Program Supervisory Board.

Are there any priority countries, study areas and programs, which should be focused on when enrolling?

No, all the universities, study areas and programs on the list approved by the Government of the Russian Federation on June 20, 2014 No. 1094-r have equal weight.

Do Program participants apply for admission to a chosen educational institution on their own or does the Program Operator assist them in applying?

Program participants apply for admission to a chosen university on their own. Program Operator does not assist them, though detailed information about general admission procedure for applying to a foreign university is provided in the "Applicant" section on the official website http://educationglobal.ru/en/applicant/

Are pre-Master programs funded?

No.

Are MBAs funded?

No.

Are part-time programs funded?

No. Educational program should be a full-time program.

Does the Program apply to distance learning programs?

No, the Program applies only to full-time education programs on the university campus.

Are law degrees such as LLMs funded?

No. You can view a list of all the approved study areas and programs in the Government Decree of June 20, 2014 No.1094-r.

Are the following programs funded: linguistics, international relations, comparative politics, psychology, archaeology, contemporary art?

No. You can view a list of all the approved study areas and programs in the Government Decree of June 20, 2014 No.1094-r.

Am I eligible to apply in case the name of my educational program does not fully correspond to the names of educational programs approved by the Program?

In case the name of the educational program does not fully correspond to the names of educational programs approved by the Program, candidate should provide study plan with details of courses and credits proving that educational program correspond to the requirements of the Program.

Do I need to have been accepted onto a course of study before I apply for the Program?

Yes, you need to have been accepted onto a course of study before you apply for the Program.

Can I change the university and study program after I have submitted my application form?

No, you cannot change the university and study program after you have submitted your application form for verification to the Program Operator.

What is the minimum length of a study program required to be eligible to apply for the Program? Are short-term programs eligible?

The minimum length of a study program should be 1 year.

After receiving a Master's degree, can I do a PhD with another source of financing and after that work in Russia?

No. Upon finishing their Masters, Program participants must return to Russia within 30 calendar days to obtain employment.

Is it possible to study at a joint program at several educational institutions, when one of the institutions is on the list?

Yes. It is possible to study at a joint program at several foreign educational institutions, when one of the institutions is on the approved list.

Is it possible to study in a joint program between Russian and foreign educational institutions?

No. Program does not cover a Joint program between Russian and foreign educational institutions.

Can you study at a branch of a university on the Program list, but in another country? (For example, can I attend Monash University in Malaysia or is it required to go to Australia?)

Program is intended primarily for studying on the main university campus in the country of its location. (You cannot study at Monash University in Malaysia, but only in Australia).

Can I participate in the Program if my main education is specialist/engineer rather than Bachelor/Master?

In accordance with the Decree of the Russian Federation Government dated June 20, 2014 N_{2568} one of the requirements for Russian citizens applying for the Program, is the availability of the document on education and training (a bachelor's degree or a specialist diploma).

Yes, if you can provide the document on education and training (your specialist diploma).

Can I apply for the Program if I have admission documents for two or more educational programs?

Yes, you apply for the Program if you have admission documents for two or more educational programs. You need to place them in a priority order.

If your education programs are of various levels and/or areas of study, you will be registered in the appropriate electronic queues.

III. APPLICATION: ONLINE REGISTRATION, NECESSARY DOCUMENTS AND RATING

How do I apply for the Program?

You can find detailed information on how to apply for the Program in the "Applicant" section of the website <u>http://educationglobal.ru/en/applicant/</u>

On what basic are electronic queues formed?

Electronic queues are formed on the basis of: 1) degree you are going to pursue (Master, PhD, medical residency training); 2) program you have enrolled in (scientific, educational, medical and engineering programs, and management in the social sphere programs).

When do Program participants get their number in electronic queue: at the moment of registration on the Program website or at the moment when they upload unconditional offer and all the required documents?

To register for the electronic queue on the official program website participants are to fill out the online application form and upload Supplemental Documents.

As soon as they have filled out the application form, they are given the date and the time of the registration which will serve as one of the criteria for assigning a queue number.

However, to be admitted to the selection process they have to upload unconditional offer and all the required documents.

After submitting the application (after pushing the button "send for verification"), Program Operator verifies the documents and assigns a queue number to a participant.

What documents do I need to provide with my application?

Full set of documents required to apply for the Program can be found on the website http://educationglobal.ru/en/applicant/

List of required documents

Do I have to upload a full set of documents or is it possible to upload some documents later? (For example, a certificate of no criminal record)

It is possible to upload a partial set of documents at the time of registration. However, the full set of documents that includes scanned copies, originals and certified copies must be verified by the Program Operator. If some documents are missing or do not correspond to the requirements, the candidate will not be admitted to the competition phase.

When and where do I need to provide originals and/or notarized copies of documents after registration in electronic queue?

Originals and/or notarized copies of documents can be provided starting the next day from the day when the Program Operator sends an e-mail confirmation.

Documents are accepted at the office of Program Operator: 119021, Russian Federation, Moscow, Bolshoi Chudov Lane 8, building 1.

What if I am not from Moscow and I cannot come in person or transfer original documents with anyone?

Originals and certified copies of documents may be provided either through a legal representative, or by mail with a return receipt to the office of the Program Operator: 119021, Russian Federation, Moscow, Bolshoi Chudov Lane 8, building 1.

How do I get a certificate of no criminal record and/or a certificate of prosecution or termination of criminal prosecution, if I am not in the Russian Federation when applying for the Program?

You can find information on how to get a certificate of no criminal record and/or a certificate of prosecution or termination of criminal prosecution, if you are not in the Russian Federation, on the public services portal of the Russian Federation http://www.gosuslugi.ru/pgu/service/10000006704 425.html#! description

Who can notarize documents when I am abroad?

According to the Article 1 of the Fundamentals of the Russian Federation legislation on notaries from February 11, 1993 N 4462-1 notarial acts on behalf of the Russian Federation on the territory of other states are performed by the officials of consular offices of the Russian Federation authorized to commit these acts.

What if I am already studying outside of the Russian Federation and I have no power of attorney for any of my relatives?

You should apply for the authorization of a legal representative in the manner prescribed by law for the citizens of the Russian Federation outside the territory of the Russian Federation. According to the Article 1 of the Fundamentals of the Russian Federation legislation on notaries from February 11, 1993 N 4462-1 notarial acts on behalf of the Russian Federation on the territory of other states are performed by the officials of consular offices of the Russian Federation authorized to commit these acts.

What do I do if I receive a certificate of enrollment in a leading foreign educational institution only after application deadline in the electronic queue in which I am registered?

There are several competitive selections during a year. Candidates will be able to apply for the relevant competitive selection within the year.

Is "conditional offer" enough for registration in the Program?

You can register on the official website of the Program, but in to order to participate in the Program you need to have either a «conditional offer» on the official letterhead of a leading foreign educational institution with the only condition being the confirmation of financial provisions to pay for an education program or a «unconditional offer» from a leading foreign educational institution.

What data about scientific work should be provided in the application? How will it be checked?

You specify both the bibliographic references to your publications, and links (url) to the electronic version of publications, if any.

Program Operator checks these publications in the databases: Scopus and Web of Science.

What costs should I included in the estimate of costs?

- 1) The payment document(s) from a foreign educational institution, indicating the total cost of a study program/cost of one year of a study program, bank details for payment.
- 2) Invoice for the remaining period of a study program (if a candidate has paid part of the study period).

More information about the full set of required documents submitted by a Program candidate can be found on the official website in the "Applicant" section - http://educationglobal.ru/kandidatu/

Can I make changes to my application after it is submitted?

After you have submitted the application form by clicking "Send for verification", you cannot change anything. In case you have uploaded a wrong document, you may send an email to <u>globaledu@skolkovo.ru</u> and ask the Program Operator to send your application for changes.

What should I do if my email address, phone number or mailing addresses changes?

If your email address, phone number or mailing addresses change before you have submitted your application, you can change your contact information in your account on the Program website. If your contact information changes after you have submitted the application, you can notify the Program Operator by sending an email to globaledu@skolkovo.ru

IV. TIMELINES AND DEADLINES

When is the application deadline?

You can find detailed information on deadlines of the Program in the "Applicant" section of the website <u>http://educationglobal.ru/en/applicant/</u>

How frequently is Program completion is held?

There are four competition rounds of the Program during a year. You can find detailed information on deadlines in the "Applicant" section of the website http://educationglobal.ru/en/applicant/

V. SELECTION

Who is allowed to competitive selection?

In order to participate in the competitive selection a candidate should:

- Register on the Program official website www.educationglobal.ru
- Submit Claim and Supplemental Documents online
- Provide Notarized Copies of Documents under the following conditions:

Candidates who failed to register and submit a complete set of documents will not be admitted to the current competitive selection.

What are the criteria of competitive selection?

Competitive selection criteria are the following:

1. Place of a candidate in online registration system (date and time of registration on the website)

2. Professional experience

3. Publications in scientific journals indexed in the Scopus and Web of Science (only in the study area - Science)

4. Studying at a foreign leading educational institution when applying for the Program Education

Regulations for competitive selection can be found on the official website of the Program in the "Regulations" section <u>http://educationglobal.ru/o_programme/</u>

Does the calculation of the coefficient on experience in high-tech companies abroad count?

The coefficient is calculated on the basis of experience gained at the territory of the Russian Federation.

What are the quotas for levels and areas of studies?

Target number of participants in 2015 is 850 people with the establishment of the following quotas: 1. PhD: all five areas of study - Science, Education, Engineering, Medicine and Management in social sphere - 120; 2. Master: Engendering – 200, Science – 126, Education – 126, Management in social sphere – 126; 3. Medicine – 170.

Who makes the scholarship awarding decisions?

All applications are reviewed and evaluated by the experts in the respective fields of study and by the Program Operator in accordance with the Principles and procedures for competitive selection. Final decision is made by the Supervisory Board. The list of Supervisory Board members can be found on the website

http://educationglobal.ru/fileadmin/downloads/Prikaz_%E2%84%96_788_ot_24.07.2014 .pdf

My application has been rejected. Who do I contact to make an appeal and receive feedback?

If your application has been rejected, the reasons for rejection will be clarified. In order to clarify the reasons of your application being rejected, you can send an email to the Program Operator to <u>globaledu@skolkovo.ru</u> or to the following address: 119021, Russian Federation, Moscow, Bolshoi Chudov Lane 8, building 1.

When and how will I be notified of the status of my application?

Notifications about any change in the status of your application are sent to your email address.

How competitive is the Program?

Target number of participants in 2015 is 850 people with the establishment of the following quotas: 1. PhD: all five areas of study - Science, Education, Engineering, Medicine and Management in social sphere - 120; 2. Master: Engendering – 200, Science – 126, Education – 126, Management in social sphere – 126; 3. Medicine – 170.

VI. GRANT

What is the amount of a Program grant?

Total amount of a grant may not exceed 1 381 800 rubles per year. The grant is given for the whole duration of an educational program.

In addition to tuition fees, the Program will cover travel expenses to and from the student's place of residence to the university, medical insurance, accommodation, meals, and academic literature.

If I am chosen as a finalist, when and how will I get a grant?

You can find the information about the procedure and deadlines for transferring a grant on the official website of the "Regulations" section http://educationglobal.ru/fileadmin/downloads/8_%D0%9F%D0%BE%D1%80%D1%8F %D0%B4%D0%BE%D0%BA_%D0%B8_%D1%81%D1%80%D0%BE%D0%BA%D0 %B8_%D0%BF%D0%B5%D1%80%D0%B5%D1%87%D0%B8%D1%81%D0%BB% D0%B5%D0%BD%D0%B8%D1%8F_%D0%B3%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%BD%D1%8 2%D0%BE%D0%B2.pdf

Am I allowed to accept other awards and scholarships in conjunction with the Program grant?

If other sources of funding cover tuition fees, you will not be able to get the Program grant for covering your tuition, only for other expenses.

For the information about regulations on tuition fees and other expenses, please visit the "Regulations" section on the official website of the Program. http://educationglobal.ru/o programme/

Apart from tuition fees, what is covered and to what extent?

In addition to tuition fees, travel expenses to and from the student's place of residence to the university, medical insurance, accommodation, meals, books and academic literature are covered. The total expenditure for one year of study may not exceed 1 381 800 rubles.

For the information about the regulations on tuition fees and other expenses, please visit the "Regulations" section on the official website of the Program. http://educationglobal.ru/o_programme/

Does the program cover the application fee and the cost of such exams as TOEFL/IELTS, GRE, GMAT?

No. In order to apply for the Program, you should already have been enrolled in an educational program from the approved list of foreign educational institutions.

Does the program cover the foundation year?

No.

When applying for a visa to study at a leading foreign educational institution I should state that I have funding for all years of study. How can I guarantee my financial provision if the Program lasts until 2016?

The grant is given for the whole duration of the educational program at leading foreign educational institutions and will be transferred each year if the participant fulfills the requirements of the Program.

For visa application purposes you can use the Agreement under the Program as a proof of funding provision.

Who will the grant be transferred to: a citizen of the Russian Federation or the leading foreign educational institution?

In accordance with the Decree of the Russian Federation Government dated June 20, 2014 №568 the grant will be transferred to the participant's bank account or to the leading foreign educational organization (upon participant's request).

Is it possible to reimburse previous costs of study program?

The grant is not intended to reimburse the costs which were already paid, but you can participate in the Program to finance the remaining time of a study period.

Is the size of the grant fixed depending on a country in which the university is located?

The amount of the grant is calculated on the basis of study program costs for one year and may not exceed 1 381 800 rubles. When the duration of the educational program is more than one year, the amount is increased proportionally.

Information about the regulations on tuition fees and other expenses can be found in the "Regulations" section on the official website of the Program. <u>http://educationglobal.ru/fileadmin/downloads/9_%D0%9D%D0%BE%D1%80%D0%BE</u> <u>C%D1%8B_%D1%80%D0%B0%D1%81%D1%85%D0%BE%D0%B4%D0%BE%D0</u> %B2.pdf

VII. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE PROGRAM: GENERAL

What are the requirements of the Program?

Program participant is required to use the given grant in accordance with the Program aims, to provide evidence of his educational achievements, including information about his study progress, participation in conferences and contests. Participants are obliged to return to Russia after completion of their educational programs and get a job in a Russian company in accordance with the qualification gained for a period of at least 3 years.

Does a participant need to personally sign the Agreement with the Program Operator?

Signing the Agreement with a Program participant may take place in the personal presence of the participant, or a legal representative acting under power of attorney.

If my educational program at a leading foreign educational institution lasts for several years, should I participate in the grant competition under the Program every year in case I am chosen as a finalist?

No, the grant is given to a participant for the whole duration of education program at a leading foreign educational institution and it will be transferred each year if a participant fulfills the requirements of the Program.

Can I work during my studies?

Yes, you can work or participate in internship programs. Yet be aware of your visa requirements in regard to working hours during studies.

Does participation in the Program dispense from military service? Is it a reason for draft determent?

Participation in the Program does not dispense from military service.

Yet, in accordance with the Decree of the Russian Federation Government dated June 20, 2014 N_{2568} , the agreement with a Program participant can be prolonged due to drafting in the army after graduation, but no longer than for 1 year (with the notification paper from military commissariat, stating time and place of departure to the place of military service). The period of military service is not included in the employment period at the employer-organization.

Can I prolong the Agreement under the Program if I take a sabbatical for medical reasons?

Yes, you can prolong the Agreement for a period of no longer than 2 years if you provide medical commission findings from an official medical organization. The prolonged period is not included in employment period under the Program.

Can I prolong the Agreement under the Program if I am on maternity leave?

Yes. The prolonged period is not included in employment period under the Program.

VIII. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE PROGRAM: EMPLOYMENT

Where can I find a list of employers?

You can find the list of employers formed in accordance with the criteria established by the Program, on the official website of the Program among the "Official Documents" http://educationglobal.ru/fileadmin/downloads/5_%D0%9F%D0%B5%D1%80%D0%B5 %D1%87%D0%B5%D0%BD%D1%8C_%D0%BE%D1%80%D0%B3%D0%B0%D0% BD%D0%B8%D0%B7%D0%B0%D1%86%D0%B8%D0%B9-%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%B1%D0%BE%D1%82%D0%BE%D0%B4%D0%B0%D1%8 2%D0%B5%D0%BB%D0%B5%D0%B9.pdf

Will there be new employers, which are currently not on the list of organizations, providing employment for Program participants?

During the implementation of the Program the Supervisory Board may give recommendations for changes in the Program and other documents related to its implementation, including the specification of the list of employers, which provide employment to Program participants. This issue might be discussed at the meetings of the Supervisory Board of the Program.

I have an agreement with a certain employer regarding my placement in the company. Should I report this? Can I get employment in this company upon completion of my studies?

Yes, you should report about this agreement to the Program Operator. Confirmation should be provided in a written form on the official letterhead. If the organization is included in the approved list of employer-organizations, then a general procedure for employment takes place. If this organization is not included in the approved list of employer-organizations, the employer should go through the procedure of inclusion to the list of employers.

Is there correlation between the duration and cost of an educational program at leading foreign educational institution and the duration of employment upon completion of studies?

No, upon completion of studies at a foreign university all participants disregarding the duration and cost of their educational programs are required to carry out employment in accordance with the qualification gained for a period of at least 3 years.

Can I work for the representative office of a Russian company located abroad after completing my studies under the program?

No, an employer must be registered and located on the territory of the Russian Federation.

Do you have regional quotas for program participants and for graduates for future work?

Currently there are no regional quotas for Program participants, but the Supervisory Board has the authority to determine the procedure for establishing quotas for the training of scientific, educational, medical and engineering personnel, as well as management personnel in the social sphere under the Program.

Number of Program participants employed in organizations located in Moscow and St. Petersburg should not exceed 10 percent of the total number of Program participants who gain employment.

What conditions of employment will be offered by the employers, registered in advancing social and economic development regions, located in Eastern Siberia and the Far East of Russia?

In accordance with the Decree of the Russian Federation Government dated June 20, 2014 N_{2568} , during the implementation of the Program, employers will post on the official website of the Program the list of vacancies and update it on a monthly basis with an indication of wage conditions for each position and guarantees for social support (if available), as well as participate in activities organized by the Program Operator aimed at ensuring the employment of Program participants.

Information on activities and interaction between Program participants and employers can be found on the official website of the Program - <u>http://educationglobal.ru/</u>

Do I choose an employer-organization on my own?

Yes, participants choose an organization and a vacant position on their own. Program Operator assists them in issues of employment and interaction with employers.

Is it possible to change an employer?

Yes, but no more than 2 times during the required three years of employment period.

Do I need to notify the Program Operator about the change of employer?

Yes. If you change an employer-organization you need to notify the Program Operator about the reasons of this change and provide the name of a new employer and position within 10 days.

In what time period upon completion of studies are Participants obliged to get employment?

Program Participant must return to the territory of the Russian Federation within 30 calendar days upon completion of their studies at leading foreign institutions. And in a period not exceeding 3 months after their arrival to Russia, they are obliged to find a job in a Russian company from the approved list of employers.

Participants who get their education in the area of medicine or pharmacology from foreign educational institutions get employment after they notarize their diploma and pass necessary examinations.

What are the penalties in case of breach of Program terms and conditions?

In case of breach of Program terms and conditions a participant is obliged to return the amount of a given grant, and to pay a fine of twice the amount of a given grant.