



In partnership with

SciencesPo

Scholars Program

Frequently Ask Questions (FAQ)

I. Eligibility criteria for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program at Sciences Po

How do I prove that I am enrolled or an alumni of an institution listed in the reference institution list?

You must provide one of the following documents:

- A student certificate from a university listed in the [reference institution list](#), in which you are/were enrolled.
- OR a certificate from a bridging organisation listed in the [reference institution list](#) in which you are/were enrolled.

Can I still apply to the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program if I am not enrolled nor an alumni of any institution listed in the reference institution list?

No, for the 2024-2025 application campaign, you can only apply to the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program at Sciences Po if you:

- Have completed or are enrolled in a bachelor's degree programme of a university which is listed in the [reference institution list](#).
- OR are enrolled (or have been enrolled) in a training foundation or mentoring programme offered by a bridging programme organisation listed in the [reference institution list](#).

Which procedure should I choose to apply for a Master's programme at Sciences Po and the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program ?

The only admission procedure for applying to a Master's programme and the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program is through the international graduate admission procedure.

I obtained my undergraduate diploma in a French speaking country, should I apply through the domestic procedure ?



In partnership with

SciencesPo

Scholars Program

No. The domestic procedure is only for students who obtained a French diploma in an institution located in France or abroad. The only procedure opened for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program at Sciences Po is the international graduate admission procedure.

Is there a minimum academic grade to be accepted at Sciences Po?

Yes, minimum 70-80%, more information [here](#).

What supporting documents will be required on my application?

You will need to provide the following documents. You must prepare them well in advance (before the opening of the admissions platform):

- All [supporting documents](#) required for international graduate admissions at Sciences Po.
- Valid photo ID.
- Proof of income (or lack thereof) demonstrating your situation of financial need: tax documents and/or income statements; scholarship certificates; or any other legal document attesting to your financial situation. You must submit at least one document with your application. Bank statements are accepted. If you are currently receiving a scholarship (from the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program or another funding body), or have received one in the past, please also attach the scholarship certificate.
- Proof of current or past enrolment at one of the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program at Sciences Po's reference institutions, listed in the [reference institution list](#).

Which financial documents are required for the application to the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program?

You must provide the following documents:

1. Photocopy of tax notice indicating income or lack thereof for the past year for you and/or both parents or legal guardian.
2. Recent proof of earnings for you and/or both parents or legal guardians (last three pay slips, retirement pension or unemployment benefits).
3. A scholarship certificate or legal document attesting to your financial needs.



In partnership with

SciencesPo

Scholars Program

4. If you are currently receiving a scholarship (from the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program or any other funding body), or have received one in the past, please also attach the scholarship certificate.

Bank statements **are not accepted** as proof of your financial status.

II. Master's programmes eligible for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program

Which master's degree programmes are eligible for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program?

You can apply to all Sciences Po master's degree [programmes](#), **except:**

- Dual degrees and joint degrees;
- One-year master's degree programmes;
- Master's degree programmes offered by the School of Journalism.

Can I apply for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program at the undergraduate level?

No, the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program is only opened to applicants at the [graduate level](#).

Are one-year master's degree programmes eligible for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program?

No, only two-year master's degree programmes are eligible.

Do you offer online master's degree programmes?

No, all master's degree programmes are in person for a duration of two years (ten months per year).

Do I need to speak French to study at Sciences Po and apply for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program?



In partnership with

SciencesPo

Scholars Program

There is no requirement of language to apply to the Program to the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program at Sciences Po, which welcomes students from both francophone and anglophone countries.

However, to be admitted to a master's degree programme at Sciences Po, you must meet the language requirement of the master's degree programme you are applying for.

More information on the language requirements for each [master's degree programme](#).

III. Application fee waiver

I am applying to a master's degree programme at Sciences Po and the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program, how can I get a fee waiver?

You must submit your application with all the required documents. If you meet the eligibility criteria for the Program, you will be exempt from paying the Sciences Po application fee and may submit your overall application online for free.

Please note that:

- **Receiving an application fee waiver does NOT guarantee the admission to Sciences Po nor the acceptance into the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program.** These are successive stages, and you will be informed of each one as it happens.
- If you do not receive a fee waiver, you can still apply to a Sciences Po master's degree programme, but your application will not be considered for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program.

I have been deemed not eligible for the fee waiver, can I still apply to Sciences Po?

Yes, you can apply to Sciences Po even if you are not eligible for the fee waiver for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program. In this case, you will need to pay for the application fee and your application will only be considered for the admission at Sciences Po.

IV. Admission deferral, students currently enrolled at Sciences Po and more



In partnership with

SciencesPo

Scholars Program

I am currently a first-year graduate student at Sciences Po. Can I apply for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program for the second year?

No, candidates who are currently enrolled or who already hold a master's degree programme at Sciences Po or elsewhere, are not eligible to the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program.

I already hold a master's degree, is it possible to apply for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program?

No, if you already obtained a master's degree you are not eligible to the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program.

However, you can apply for a master's degree programme at Sciences Po.

I applied for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program last year, and I was not selected, but I was admitted to a master's degree programme at Sciences Po. I asked for a deferral for next academic year. Can I apply once again for the Program?

No, if your application has not been selected for the 2025 intake, you will not be able to apply for the next intake.

I don't want to apply to a master's programme at Sciences Po but only to the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program, is it possible ?

No. The Mastercard Foundation scholarships are only awarded to students who are admitted in a master's degree programme at Sciences Po. If you want to apply for the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program, you need to apply to one of Sciences Po's master's degree programmes. The application is through one single procedure and platform.

For how long can I be part of the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program?

The Program will support you for the duration of your graduate studies at Sciences Po, i.e .2 years. Every master's programme is in person, in Paris.

Will the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program support my family and dependents as well?



In partnership with

SciencesPo

Scholars Program

No. The scholarship is only awarded to the Scholars themselves. It cannot be extended to family members.

Who is my main contact person for academic purposes?

Each master's degree programme has an academic advisor, you can find the contact of your academic advisor online on the "contact" section of your [Master's programme](#).

NB: Before starting your application, please ensure you have read all the guidance provided to you on our website.

If you are still unable to find an answer to your query, please contact the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program at Sciences Po team at: info.mcfsp@sciencespo.fr.

For daily news of the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program at Sciences Po and more content to prepare your application process also follow us on [LinkedIn](#).