

Orientation on the „BPSA-Program“: Career-oriented placements and study periods

Why a BPSA-Program?

Career-oriented placements and study periods (in German = Berufsvorbereitende Praktika – und Studienaufenthalte – BPSA) is a programme offered by STUBE in Germany (a development-policy educational programme) for students from Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern European Development Countries (according to DAC-List).

Students from Rheinland can apply through the ESG of the following university locations: Aachen, Bonn, Cologne and Duisburg-Essen.

BPSA offers the opportunity

- to get to know local working conditions
- to try out possible career options
- to expand contacts with potential employers

A connection between the acquired knowledge of academic learning in Germany and the practical (development policy) fields of work in the home country should be made possible through this period of practical training.

Services of the BPSA Program

The support consists of the payment of the flight costs at the most reasonable rate and the maximum amount is 1.280, - EURO. For additional expenses a one-time payment of 300, € to max. 500, - € can be given (according to the residence period) as compensation for double living costs. The maximum funding amount is 1,780 euros.

What is supported?

- A research (minimum duration of at least 4 weeks till 3 months) for a thesis or academic project or
- An internship (minimum duration of at least 4 weeks till 6 months) relevant to your degree course or
- A stay (1-2 months) for job information in the final year of the student's study

Who will be supported?

Students who,

- ◆ are from DAC-countries (<http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/daclist.htm>)
- ◆ are already known at STUBE (for at least one semester and 2 seminars)
- ◆ don't receive a scholarship
- ◆ participated in the STUBE-BPSA preparation seminar
- ◆ a BPSA can only be granted to a person once.
- ◆ PHD students cannot be considered!
- ◆ Medical students have to submit an application to DAAD-PAGEL program first

www.daad.de/der-daad/unsere-aufgaben/entwicklungszusammenarbeit/foerderprogramme/hochschulen/infos/de/44500-pagel-partnerschaften-fuer-den-gesundheitssektor-in-entwicklungslaendern/

There are a limited number of spaces for the BPSA-program. Therefore the student should demonstrate an active interest and commitment to topics relating to social issues and living conditions in their home country as this is an essential selection criteria for the program.

Students, who participate in those key areas in their home country or in Germany should provide a written report about the activities and a prove of their respective activity. The student should be already known to ESG and STUBE for a period of time.

How do I apply?

A complete application should include the following:

- ◆ BPSA application form
- ◆ curriculum vitae (in tabular form)
- ◆ Study report on the course of your studies, showing your main interests
- ◆ Detailed description about the purpose of the BPSA-stay (min. 1 DIN A4 page)
- If you are planning to do an internship, please describe: In which company, which department you will be involved? Which tasks you will have to do?
- If you are planning the preparation of final exams/thesis, please describe which investigations (interviews, research, technical examinations, etc.) you are going to carry out, which institutions you are contacting and the overall context of your work.
- ◆ A certificate of the internship by the (company/organization/institution), stating that the internship is approved. The exact period, task content should be mentioned.
- ◆ If you are planning the preparation of final exams/thesis, you need a letter of confirmation of your study department/supervisor that your project is connected to and relevant for your studies. The supervisor should support the BPSA.
- ◆ Participation in STUBE seminars beforehand

What do we expect from a beneficiary of the programm

- ◆ Original flight documents (bill, ticket/Boarding cards, etc.)
- ◆ A written report about your stay, at latest in 6 weeks after return
- ◆ Give a personal account of the experience to your ESG-counselor
- ◆ A copy of the internship report or thesis for your university
- ◆ Willingness to report your experience during the next BPSA preparatory seminar

Please contact your ESG by telephone or in person before your application! The processing time for your application takes about 8 weeks !

Please make your application in time, at least 2 months before the project. The BPSA preparation seminars usually take place in May and November.

(You can get the date on our homepage STUBE Rheinland or at your local ESG)

Decisions on the application are taken by a panel of consultants in consent with your local ESG.