AUA Scholars Award Program 2020-2021

Application Guidelines

The Asian Universities Alliance (AUA) set up the "AUA Scholars Award" in March 2018 with the purpose of increasing the mobility of scholars among the AUA member universities. The Award is open to all faculty members and researchers of the AUA universities. The AUA provides financial support to scholars who wish to conduct short-term academic visits at another overseas AUA university. Scholars are encouraged to take this opportunity to advance research, share knowledge, conduct field study or establish international academic links in the community of AUA.

1. **General Information**

   a) AUA Scholars shall research/lecture/study at the host university for a minimum of 10 working days.

   b) AUA provides a total of 2,000 USD grant to each AUA Scholar.

   c) A maximum of 60 applicants will be granted the AUA Scholars Award in the year of 2020-2021.

2. **Benefits to AUA Scholars**

   a) AUA Scholars will have the opportunity to broaden research perspectives and establish/maintain international academic links with their overseas peers.

   b) AUA Scholars may have the opportunity to advance their research by approaching needed facilities, unique data, or leading scholars.

   c) AUA Scholars will gain international experience in teaching and research in a new academic environment.

   d) AUA Scholars will receive a total of 2,000 USD grant (including tax and bank charges generated from the recipient's side) and a certificate after the visit.

3. **Eligibility of AUA Scholars**

   This award is open to scholars who meet the following requirements.

   a) Candidates must be employed as full-time faculty members or researchers of an AUA member university. (**Appendix I: List of AUA members**) This award is open to scholars of all disciplines and research areas. Those candidates who were selected to the AUA Scholars Award Program 2019-2020 are **NOT** eligible to apply this time.

   b) Candidates shall schedule their academic visit between **1 May 2020 and 31 March 2021**, i.e., the first day of the visit is no earlier than 1 May 2020 and the last day of the visit is no later than 31 March 2021.

c) The academic visit shall be no shorter than **10 working days**. Please kindly note:

- A working day means a **weekday** that is scheduled with academic activities.
- Arrival or departure days are **not** considered as working days.

For more details regarding the calculation of working days, please refer to **Appendix II: An Example of How to Calculate Working Days**.

d) Candidates shall have a detailed visit plan, which is approved by the host professor. The host professor shall be a professor or researcher employed by the host university.

e) Candidates' research/lectures/study shall be based at the host university.

4. Submission of Application Materials

To apply for this award, applicants shall submit the following materials to the AUA Secretariat (AUA@tsinghua.edu.cn) by **14 February (Fri) 2020**.

a) 2 copies of the Application Form (attached in a separate file), one scanned copy with signatures and one editable electronic copy without signatures.

b) A current curriculum vitae of the candidate

c) A scanned copy of an employment certification of the candidate issued by the candidate's home university. The certification shall be signed, dated and stamped. Please kindly note the certification shall indicate the permission/acknowledgement of the candidate's leave during the period of the planned academic visit.

Application materials shall be written in English. The subject of the application submission email shall follow this format: AUASAP2020 App + abbreviation of **host** university name + last name of applicant + starting date of visit, e.g., AUASAP2020 App UAEU Mahmood 15-11-2020.

5. Review of Application Materials

a) Applicants who meet the eligibility and have submitted a complete set of application materials by deadline will receive an acknowledgement email from the AUA Secretariat by 28 Feb (Fri) 2020.

The AUA Secretariat will contact the applicants who do not meet the eligibility or have missing/wrong application materials.

b) Application materials that meet the basic requirements will be forwarded to the host university for selection.

c) The AUA Secretariat will inform the successful applicants by 24 April (Fri) 2020. An email attached with the official offer letter will be sent to successful applicants. Other applicants will also receive a notification email regarding the application result from the AUA Secretariat.

6. **Reception of Grant**

   a) The AUA Secretariat will contact each AUA Scholar and their home university to confirm the details of grant remittance about 1 month ahead of the academic visit. The grant may be remitted to the AUA Scholar directly or via the AUA Scholar's home university.

   b) In most cases, the grant is remitted before the academic visit. However, those scholars whose visits are scheduled in May 2020 are very likely to receive the grant after the academic visits. In the event that the grant is remitted after the academic visit starts, the AUA Secretariat will contact the AUA Scholar in advance.

7. **Requirements for AUA Scholars**

   a) AUA Scholars shall conduct the academic visit as stated in the Application Form. Each AUA Scholar is permitted to change the visiting dates for only once. Once awarded, AUA Scholars are not allowed to change the host professor or the host university.

   b) Each AUA Scholar is required to complete the form of *AUA Scholars Award Academic Visit Summary and Review* (attached separately) within one month since the end of the visit.

   A certificate of the AUA Scholars Award will be mailed to the AUA Scholars who have successfully completed the academic visit and submitted all required documents including the form of *AUA Scholars Award Academic Visit Summary and Review*, boarding pass copies, photos, etc.

Should you have any queries regarding the application, please feel free to contact

the AUA Secretariat (AUA@tsinghua.edu.cn)

Appendix I. List of AUA Members

University Name	Location	Abbreviation
Chulalongkorn University	Bangkok, Thailand	CU
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Hong Kong, China	HKUST
Indian Institute of Technology Bombay	Mumbai, India	IITB
King Saud University	Riyadh, Saudi Arabia	KSU
National University of Singapore	Singapore	NUS
Nazarbayev University	Astana, Kazakhstan	NU
Peking University	Beijing, China	PKU
Seoul National University	Seoul, South Korea	SNU
Tsinghua University	Beijing, China	THU
United Arab Emirates University	Al Ain, United Arab Emirates	UAEU
Universitas Indonesia	Jakarta, Indonesia	UI
University of Colombo	Colombo, Sri Lanka	UoC
University of Malaya	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	UM
The University of Tokyo	Tokyo, Japan	UTokyo
University of Yangon	Yangon, Myanmar	UY

Appendix II. An Example of How to Calculate Working Days

For example, a professor from Tsinghua University will visit the University of Malaya on 1-19 August 2020. His schedule is as follows. Please refer to the columns of "Any Academic Activities Scheduled?" and "Working Day" for the calculation of working days.

Date	Item	Any Academic Activities Scheduled?	Working Day
1 Aug 2020 (Sat)	Depart from Beijing and arrive in Kuala Lumpur	No	Arrival day is not considered a working day.
2 Aug 2020 (Sun)	Weekend	No	Weekends are not considered working days.
3-7 Aug 2020 (Mon-Fri)	Give lectures to students at UM, meet with UM professors and conduct lab-based research at UM	Yes	Working Days 1-5
8 Aug 2020 (Sat)	Weekend	No	/
9 Aug 2020 (Sun)	Meet with UM professors and discuss of possible research collaboration	Yes	AUA Scholars could schedule academic activities on weekends, but weekends are not considered as working days.
10-11 Aug 2020 (Mon-Tue)	Attend academic conferences	Yes	Working Days 6-7
12 Aug 2020 (Wed)	Rest at hotel	No	AUA Scholars may choose not to schedule academic activities on a weekday. In that case, the weekday is not considered a working day.
13-14 Aug 2020 (Thu-Fri)	Meet with postgraduates and give presentations	Yes	Working Days 8-9
15-16 Aug 2020 (Sat-Sun)	Weekend	No	/
17 Aug 2020 (Mon)	Meet with host professor and discuss of working papers	Yes	Working Day 10
18 Aug 2020 (Tue)	Meet with host professor, discuss of working papers, and depart from Kuala Lumpur	Yes	Departure day is not considered a working day, even it is scheduled with academic activities.
19 Aug 2020 (Wed)	Arrive in Beijing	No	/