



Socioeconomic Institute for Advanced Studies (SIAS)

*Pioneering Socioeconomic Solutions
& Development by Multidisciplinary Holistic
Academic Programs*

SIAS Students Tuition & Scholarship Plan 2023-2025

Updated March 2023

<http://www.sias.rw/>

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ONE- SIAS Tuition Concept & Plan

1-1 SIAS Tuition Concept

Socioeconomic Institute for Advanced Studies (SIAS) was established in Rwanda to be unique in both its approaches and in recruiting its targeted postgraduate students. SIAS takes into consideration the need for candidates (future socioeconomic experts) that come from diverse backgrounds that would thrive in the learning process and who would be more competent due to their holistic integration to bring innovative solutions to the world.

SIAS targets to allow greater chances for those who are passionate about changing their communities or dealing with the world's socioeconomic challenges, regardless of how much they can afford the educational fees and expenses to pursue their postgraduate studies. Therefore, SIAS has established priorities for its student recruitment, such as giving more preference in its limited seats to African region students, besides the students that would be coming from poor developing countries or underprivileged communities.

In reference to this philosophy, SIAS have setup fees to be charged compared to the students' socioeconomic status, but also taking into consideration the diversity of the students' backgrounds needed. As part of its commitment to creating a sustainable model, SIAS works to have tuition as one of its stable revenue sources, even though not necessarily the main one.

Since SIAS is not keen on taking many students, but rather a selected number of students, of up to 30 students, especially the first three years the official tuition fee is set to be **\$899 to \$3999 per semester or what is equivalent in (rwf) depending on the students nationality and country status**. Special discounts, as in cases of the targeted under-privileged students specific discounts would be applied. The purpose here is to bring in a selected number of postgraduate students that would bring unique socioeconomic solutions to the world through their research and field projects. Besides this SIAS policy, the number of students' intake per semester won't be more than 30 in the first 3 years.

1-2 SIAS Tuition Plan

The tuition fees and payment scheme plan per Annum for both MSc and PhD are similar. This is meant to encourage students to pursue postgraduate learning in SIAS from MSc to PhD and to finish on time.

The fee structure was set after studying the market, and the capacity of the potential postgraduate students locally, regionally and internationally. The structure in the first three years also affected by the concepts of the programs, which are new, besides the inflation that are impacting the world post the COVID-19 pandemic. The fees are meant to be competitive after benchmarking the nearly similar local, regional and international postgraduate programs in order to support SIAS penetration in the market, without

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jeopardising its efforts to attract the best students and being more financially independent.

1-3 Structure of Fees per Semester

- **Local Rwandan & East African \$890 (950,000 rwf)**
- **Regional (African) Students \$998 (1,112,000 rwf)**
- **Developing Countries (such as India, Algeria, etc.) \$1400 (1,651,000 rwf)**
- **Other International Students \$3999 (to be paid in USD\$, or according to Rate of rwf to USD\$ at the time of payment).**

1-4 Structure of Fees per Module

- **Local Rwandan & East African \$250 (280,000 rwf)**
- **Regional (African) Students \$300 (335,000 rwf)**
- **Developing Countries (such as India, Algeria, etc.) \$400 (450,000 rwf)**
- **Other International Students \$1000 (to be paid in USD\$, or according to Rate of rwf to USD\$ at the time of payment).**

Notes-

- 1- Specific discounts would apply to those students who pay the annual fees in full payment.
- 2- The amount of fees might increase with service charges of up to 10% for students paying in instalments.
- 3- Students that are found to be entitled to discount can be divided into three categories:
 - a) Students who are sponsored by an organization that has more than one student.
 - b) Under-privileged students, or international students that come from poor communities in Africa or Developing countries.
 - c) Unique background students that have proven records of contribution towards entrepreneurship or the community.
 - d) International Students pay the full annual tuition fees (i.e. for the 2 semesters).
- 4- SIAS Admissions and Accounts would announce about the scheme for paying the fees in monthly, or in Quarterly instalments, where a discount would apply for one time or two instalments.
- 5- In case students, for any reason, do not finish the program in the specified time and need to take an extra year, the same fees would be applied.
- 6- Special discounts would need to be approved by the Governing board or delegated to the Vice Chancellor.

TWO- SIAS Scholarship Plan

2-1 Scholarship Basis and Criteria in SIAS

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SIAS realizes that the cost of graduate education is a significant investment, and therefore strives to offer several forms of financial aid to its postgraduate students, or candidates to be enrolled in the different programs.

To be considered for any form of scholarship or financial aid, the student must be eligible for this scholarship by fulfilling more than four of the following points:

1. The candidate student has a good record of attempting to create change in his/her community or the world.
2. The candidate would have finished the BSc program from an accredited HLI in his country or had the qualifications have been matched or approved by the HEC-Rwanda.
3. The candidate has the capacity to apply multidisciplinary thinking or is able to adopt the concepts of SIAS.
4. The candidate can self-sustain and complete the program effectively, if given the scholarship or obtain the planned financial aid.
5. The candidate can communicate well with the faculty in English.
6. The candidate has above average academic history.
7. The candidate already has a successful record of Social-for-Profit or Entrepreneurship initiatives.

SIAS would always try to bring alternative students support, or new types of scholarship as the programs pick up and the demands increase. Also, more sources of financial aid would be offered by SIAS partners as the first cohort or batch completely graduate.

2-2 Priority of Scholarship by Nationality and Conditions

Following law No 010/2021 of 16/02/2021 & the Ministerial Order No 001/MINEDUC/2021 of 20/10/2021, Rwandan and then East African would have the priority in scholarships, followed by poor developing countries candidates. Eligible students from other countries must also have exceptional academic records, and see that their participation in the program would bring great advantage to SIAS or its programs, or its projects.

Candidates that come from disadvantaged backgrounds, but demonstrate leadership potential, or have demonstrated commitment to give back to their community, and have demonstrated commitment to transforming Africa or developing communities from poverty to prosperity would have SIAS top priority.

In certain cases, SIAS might offer the concerned ministries in the Government of Rwanda one scholarship for those who would like to lead and implement changes that come from the different SIAS programs and framework.

SIAS is committed to spreading the concepts of socioeconomic problem-solving and development among the most needed communities. The scholarship policy might change based on the number of student intake since SIAS have put a cap of a maximum

of 15 students for each program. Hence, depending on the demand, SIAS might offer between 10-25% of the seats on Scholarship.

2-2 Scholarship Commitment for 2023/2024

SIAS has committed for the first year after accreditation for 3 MSc full-scholarships per years, and 1 PhD only for Rwandan Students and especially those who come from vulnerable or poor communities, or have good records or doing change in the community. The number will increase every year as we are expecting to get many sponsorship from main partners.

SIAS also committed to sponsoring at least 2 students from developing countries, based on that they can manage to live or pay their travel or lodging expenses.

2.3 Applying for SIAS Scholarship

SIAS would establish a committee that would study the potential candidates for the scholarship where the following or more criteria would expect from the applied candidate:

- Clear above-average academic records,
- Having a clear rationale for applying for scholarship,
- The candidate has outlined the challenges of paying some of the fees.
- Experiences in the field in relevance to community development,
- The candidate has clearly mentioned how he/she would benefit from this postgraduate degree scholarship.

THREE- Main Outline of SIAS Tuition Changes

Tuitions can change based on the approval of the governing board, in cases where tuitions need to be modified for meeting marketing demand, or economic situations. However, in general, tuition might gradually increase every 2-3 years, after assessing the SIAS programs.

In cases when tuition changes, SIAS leadership would strive to get funds for the most affected students, where possible. Also, over time SIAS would conduct different schemes with different banks in Rwanda to offer financial support to eligible students.

FOUR – Other SIAS Students' Fees

Table (1) Shows the other Fees at the time of Application or Registration in SIAS.

Description	Amount
Application Fees (non-refundable)	100,000 Frw
Registration Fees	25,000 Frw
Student Union fees	5,000 Frw

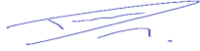
VERSION CONTROL

Version Number	2
Prepared by	DR. Mohamed Buhijji
Version Reference number	SP/18/2022
Description	SIAS Students Tuition Fees & Scholarship Plan (2023-2025)
Policy owner	Socioeconomic Institute for Advanced Studies (SIAS)
Responsible division	Directorate of Quality Assurance & the Postgraduate Advisory Board
Internally validated	Yes
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Approved by	Governance Board
Date of approval & Update	22/12/2022 and 15/6/2023
Amendments	1
Proposed Review date	2024
Web address of this policy	www.sias.rw

POLICY APPROVAL FORM

Checked by:

Signature:



DR. Donya Ahmed
Vice Chancellor
Socioeconomic Institute for Advanced Studies

Approved by:

Signature:



DR. Mohamed Buhiji
Founder & Chairman of the Board of Trustees
Socioeconomic Institute for Advanced Studies

Updated at Kigali on: 21st/ 4/2023

