# Intra-Africa Mobility for Training Agribusiness and Food Systems Scientists for African Agriculture (TAFSA)

**Call for Credit Seeking Mobility, Cohort I**

***About TAFSA Program***

Intra-Africa Mobility to Train Agribusiness and Food System Scientists for African Agriculture (**TAFSA**) is funded by the European Union (EU). The program is run by 5 African Universities namely, Eduardo Mondlane University (Mozambique); Gulu University (Uganda); Makerere University (Uganda); University of Abomey Calavi (Benin), and University of Pretoria (South Africa). The goal of TAFSA project is to enhance synergetic cooperation amongst selected Agricultural Universities in Africa. Specifically, the project aims at supporting these African universities with research and training of skilful and competent professionals to contribute to the improvement of food systems, and agribusiness to respond to challenges associated with food insecurity and malnutrition, poverty and unemployment.

Through students training and staff mobility, TAFSA project is expected to contribute to:

1. Improving the skills and competencies of students to increase their employability;
2. Improving the quality of higher education in Africa and its relevance to Africa's development vision; and
3. Strengthening partnerships and research collaboration amongst African higher education institutions and research collaboration.

# Target beneficiaries

Beneficiaries of TAFSA scholarship are categorised into two target groups (TGs).

* TG-I include staff and students from TAFSA project hosting countries i.e., Benin, Mozambique, Uganda, and South Africa. To qualify for TG-1, a candidate must be either a former student (degree seeking) or current student (credit seeking) of a participating university.
* TG-II includes students from all other African countries, with priority being given to students from conflict-affected and disadvantaged countries, including Burundi, Cameroon, Liberia, Mali and Sierra Leone.
* Both TG-I and TG-II candidates are eligible to apply for either credit or degree seeking mobility.

# Selection Criteria

For **admission** into the TAFSAMaster’s credit program, candidates must be enrolled and doing a Master’s programme from an accredited and qualifying university and hold a Bachelor’s degree within the fields of agriculture, agricultural economics, agribusiness, food science and technology, human nutrition and consumer science. Students applying for a PhD degree must be enrolled and doing a PhD programme from an accredited and qualifying university and hold a Master’s degree in a field relevant to the area of PhD studies in the respective University. Further details on entry requirements into a specific course for study can be found on the host institution website or from the TAFSA project website ([http://www.tafsa.org](http://www.scifsa.org/)). Candidates are eligible to apply to more than one academic programme of their choice. Details of the programmes for mobility and numbers are summarised in the program summary table below.

Additionally, applicants **must be willing to study in an institution outside of their home countries** and **must demonstrate proficiency in the language of instruction**.

Female candidates and candidates with disabilities are highly encouraged to apply.

Selection of beneficiaries of the TAFSA Mobility Program will follow a 2- step process i.e**., i)** **admission of the candidates to the host institution for the program applied for, and ii) selection for the scholarship award.** Selection of applicants will be carried out by a designated TAFSA admission committee. This committee will evaluate the eligibility of both TG-I and TG-II candidates based on TAFSA’s selection criteria which include the student's academic

profile, professional background, and motivation. TAFSA selection criteria will ensure equitable access, inclusion, and will give opportunity to participants from all backgrounds, including those with fewer opportunities such as junior academic staff, professional athletes, disadvantaged people, people living with disabilities and women.

The **assessment of eligibility** of candidate will follow the following criteria:

1. Proof that the candidate is from an eligible country;
2. The candidate fulfils the Target Group requirements;
3. The application deadline is respected;
4. The right application form is used;
5. All required supporting documents are provided and are official and legible;
6. The application is in the language of instruction for that country (see mobility table below).

**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

1. Be a student enrolled in the post graduate program (Masters and PhD) of partner universities.
2. Be recommended by major academic supervisor
3. Fulfil the requirements for traveling to the hosting country
4. Have the required language proficiency required for the exchange
5. Have acceptance/invitation letter from the host institution

**SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**

1. Attend a degree and short courses
2. Have the academic credentials required to attend the course
3. Be available for the duration of the course
4. Have a signed learning agreement

**Research and Lab Work**

1. Have completed successfully the first academic year for Masters students
2. Have a research proposal approved by academic advisor to be implemented in the hosting institution
3. Have a signed learning agreement
4. Have a draft of manuscript or outline for co-authorship paper

**Language of instruction**

The language of instruction varies with the TAFSA project hosting institution/country. This will range from English (Uganda, South Africa), Portuguese (Mozambique) and French (Benin). Details of the language of instructions is provided in the program summary table. **Language proficiency may be required** for students to be considered for the training. For those students with **language deficiency** in the language of instruction, they will be offered a **language course before** the mobility at their home university (short-term mobility), and for long-term mobility students they will be offered a **language course at the beginning** of the mobility at the host university.

**Application Process**

Intending candidates should follow the procedure below to apply for TAFSA Scholarship:

1. Apply for admission to a participating University Program of choice under the TAFSA project.
2. Upon receiving admission and/or evidence of application for admission, apply for TAFSA Scholarship.

***Note****:* ***Candidates who apply for the scholarship without evidence of application/admission to host institution shall not be considered in the selection.***

**6. Application Deadline**

The call for applications and scholarship is open from 12th February 2024 and will close on 29th February 2024. Interested candidates should download and fill the application form, and submit by email to the project

coordination office, tafsa21@gmail.com, with a copy to the project coordinator, 3ngiva@gmail.com. Additional information on admission criteria and application forms are available on the TAFSA website <https://www.tafsa.org> or can be accessed through the following link (see the program summary table). All applications must be submitted by the deadline date (February 29 th 2024, 12:00 GMT).

**Late and incomplete applications will not be considered**

**Scholarship Package**

TAFSA project offers full board scholarship that includes a **monthly stipend, insurance** (health), **travel costs, tuition fees and research associated costs**

For additional information about TAFSA scholarship please contact Dra. Nícia Givá (tafsa21@gmail.com) or visit TAFSA website: [https://www.tafsa.org](https://www.tafsa.org/)

| **Host institution** | **Courses offered** | **Credits** | **Term** | **Language of instruction** | **University Website** | **University Contact person** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| University of Abomey-Calavi | Laboratory work including: * 1. Development and standardization of processing method of foods and beverages,
	2. Food sample analysis on sensory, nutritional and microbiological aspects,
	3. Food safety and risk assessment
	4. Predictive microbiology and food shelf-life prediction
 | 60 | 10 to 12 monthsAny time betweenFeb -July and Sep-Dec 2024 and Jan-July 2025 | French (proficiency certificate required) | <https://fsa-uac.bj/> | Dr. Pélagie B. Agbobatinkpoabpelagie@yahoo.fr |
| Makerere University | Research Methodology | 4 | Aug -Dec 2024Jan - May 2025 | English | [https://www.m](https://www.mak.ac.ug/) [ak.ac.ug](https://www.mak.ac.ug/) | Assoc. Prof. Jackline Bonabana; jackline.bonabana@mak.ac.ugjbexim@gmail.com |
| Research Methods | 4 | Aug - Dec 2024Jan - May 2025 |
| Gulu University | Scholarly Writing and presentation skills | 3 | 2nd Jan-April, 2025 | English | www.gu.ac.ug | Dr. Odongo Walter Odongo78@gmail.com |
| Graduate Community attachment | 5 | 3rd (May-August, 2024) |
| Scholarly Writing and presentation skills | 3 | 1st semester,(August-Dec, 2024 |
| University of Pretoria | Research Methodology and seminars FST 700 | 15 | 1st Semester (February – June ) | English | [https://www.u](https://www.up.ac.za/) [p.ac.za](https://www.up.ac.za/) | Dr. Gerrie du Rand gerrie.durand@up.ac.za or gerrie.durand12@gmail.com |
| Sensory Evaluation FST 712 | 10 | 1st Semester (February – June ) |
| FNH 420 Advanced Food Nutrition and Health  | 20 | 1st Semester (February – June ) |
| FST 720 Advanced Food Science | 15 | 1st Semester (February – June ) |
| Eduardo Mondlane University | Agribusiness Management | 4 | 3rd term [Mar-May 2024] | English or Portuguese |  | Prof. João Mutondojoaomutondos@gmail.com |
| Natural Resource Economics | 4 | 3rd term [Mar-May 2024] |