

SEARCA Invites Applications for PhD Research Scholarship

SEARCA is inviting applications for PhD Research Scholarships from qualified nationals of Southeast Asian countries, namely: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam.

Any Southeast Asian citizen pursuing a PhD in agriculture or related sciences is eligible to apply for the scholarship. The applicant's research must focus on any of SEARCA's priority thrusts under the broad themes of promotion of agricultural competitiveness and natural resource management.

The research scholarship aims to provide PhD students the opportunity to use the resources and facilities available at SEARCA and its network of universities for their research. It also intends to help PhD students produce quality research papers for publication and enable them to work with SEARCA's R&D personnel on mutually identified areas of concerns/interests in agriculture and rural development. The research scholars are required to spend two months at SEARCA and present a seminar related to the research.

The application requirements are:

- 1) Filled out Application Form;
- 2) Letter of application for the research scholarship;
- 3) Recommendation letter from the Dean of Graduate School of the university where the student is pursuing his/her degree program;
- 4) Dissertation research outline/proposal approved by the Advisory Committee and Dean of Graduate School;
- 5) Budgetary requirement for the entire research duly attested and recommended by the major adviser and Dean of Graduate School;
- 6) Certified transcript of academic records for all courses taken at the PhD level;
- 7) Curriculum vitae;
- 8) Letter from the student certifying that he/she is not receiving any other research grant from any other institution. If partial funding has been obtained from other sources, a certification from the funding agency indicating the amount of grant and the items in the research that are covered by the grant; and
- 9) Research timetable indicating the activities involved in the research, the expected date of defense and expected date of seminar paper presentation.

Applications should be addressed to the Manager, Graduate Scholarship Department, SEARCA, College 4031 Laguna, Philippines.

For the **first batch** of PhD scholarships to be awarded for school year **2007-2008**, the deadline for applications is **1 September 2007**.

Application form may be downloaded at http://web.searca.org/files/phd_app_form_07.pdf

SEARCA Priority Thrusts

a. Natural Resource Management

a.1. Sustainable Land Use and Water Management
watershed management
integrated land use and water management
- soil conservation or land use management

a.2. Biodiversity Conservation for Food Security
- resource profiling and assessment
- resource management and planning
- environmental valuation and modelling

a.3. Agricultural research and policy issues addressing food security

b. Agricultural Competitiveness

b.1. Improving the quality of human capital

b.2. Access to productive resources and technology

b.3. Policy and institutional constraints

b.4. Rural support services/systems