

MAS ETH DFAB Scholarship of Excellence

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

How do I apply for the MAS ETH DFAB Scholarship of Excellence? If you wish to apply for this scholarship, you must tick the option to apply for this scholarship when completing your admissions application on the [eApply platform](#). In order to be a beneficiary of this scholarship, the applicant must apply to the MAS ETH DFAB programme from November 15th to January 15th.

Does my need for financial support affect my admission process to the MAS ETH DFAB programme? No. Please note that the admissions process is “need blind”: the academic evaluation committee does not know which applicant has applied for this scholarship and does not have access to this or any related financial information. Scholarship applications will only be reviewed by the MAS ETH DFAB Scholarship Committee once all admissions decisions have been made and can no longer be changed.

How does my academic performance influence the decision to award this scholarship? This scholarship seeks applicants of exceptional level of performance. However, they must also prove financial need. Both criterias combined define the assessment of your eligibility for this scholarship.

Funding from this scholarship

What funds can I hope to receive from the MAS ETH DFAB Scholarship of Excellence? Financial support takes the form of tuition fee reduction. It can be a full or partial fee award. The assessment of the candidate’s financial need will determine the amount of the award.

Please note that a tuition fee reduction or award does not exempt the student from paying the registration fee to apply to the program of CHF 150 (or CHF 50 for Swiss university applicants), and the administration fee for the School of Continuing Education of CHF 1 460.

A candidate must also prove his or her capacity to cover costs for all other expenses required for their study at the ETH Zurich.

I am not able to gather the proof of finances for visa purposes (non EU applicants)? All Applicants for this scholarship are required to sign a confirmation letter stating that they can provide both living expenses as well as any requested funds for visa purposes. This can be a very high sum if you are a non EU applicant. You will not receive the scholarship award if you cannot organize the other financial requirements to attend the programme.

Can I apply for this scholarship and try to obtain another scholarship externally? Yes, and we strongly encourage you to do so. Please remember to inform us accordingly, as a change in your funding must be documented. Failure to do so may result in our scholarship being revoked. (see 2 questions below)

If you have not yet received decisions from other scholarship applications, it is important to add the pending award (s) in your financial information document. Document 1 (see scholarship application)

If I am unsuccessful in obtaining this scholarship, are there any other options or alternative support measures for me? Yes, you can explore other options of funding which may be available in your country. You may also contact private donors and foundations that welcome direct student contact.

What happens if I get a job in the MAS ETH DFAB programme or elsewhere? All MAS ETH DFAB Scholarship of Excellence beneficiaries who wish to pursue paid employment or internship or who accept any other form of external financial support during the academic year are required to inform the MAS ETH DFAB Scholarship Committee.

The accumulation of income from different sources is permitted only if the sum of the additional income does not exceed CHF 35,000 per year. Otherwise, the financial support from this scholarship may be reduced accordingly.

Changes in your financial circumstances that arise between the application and the end of the funding period must be reported immediately to the MAS ETH DFAB Scholarship Committee. (mail: scholarship-masdfab@arch.ethz.ch)

If I am a beneficiary of this scholarship, may I travel during the academic year and continue receiving my stipends? Yes, you may travel during the academic year within your visa requirements. However, your residence in Switzerland for the entire year of the programme is a requirement.

About the scholarship

What will this scholarship be used for? Your MAS ETH DFAB Scholarship of Excellence award will be used solely towards tuition costs. The award will be paid directly to the School of Continuing Education. The beneficiary does not receive any money in hand.

For Non EU applicants what are other financial requirements? International students, please note that besides CHF 21 000 proof of financial autonomy for visa purposes, the living costs in Switzerland are very high. The beneficiary cannot claim this money in any way, nor mention it in the proof of personal funds required by the immigration service for foreign students.

Applicants will be required to sign a confirmation that they can provide both living expenses as well as any requested funds for visa purposes.

Regarding the application process

When do I apply for a scholarship? Prospective students/incoming students for the MAS ETH DFAB programme apply for the MAS ETH DFAB Scholarship of Excellence when applying for admission in the first application window. The School of Continuing Education will inform you about the outcome of your application. Scholarship applications will open on November 30th and close on January 15th midnight. **Candidates must send both applications at once on the eApply platform.** Late registrations will not be considered.

What happens if I miss the application deadline? You will not be considered for this scholarship for the coming programme.

How can I be sure that my application for this scholarship has been received and treated? New applicants can track their status via the online follow up module through your eApply platform.

How long does it take to receive a response regarding this scholarship? Beneficiaries would receive the decision in a separate letter and email as the admission letter to the programme before or on the 15th of February.

When do I have to make a decision about the programme and this scholarship award? All students who are accepted in the MAS ETH DFAB programme must confirm their admission 30 days after receiving the admission and eventual scholarship award..

Late fees will apply if students do not confirm acceptance on time. [More information here.](#)

I have been offered the MAS ETH DFAB Scholarship of Excellence but will not be able to enroll at the MAS ETH DFAB programme this year. Will I need to re-apply for a scholarship if I apply again the following year?

Yes. Your financial aid application is valid only for the academic year for which you have been admitted. Beneficiaries that must cancel their admission will have to start again next year (fees and application process).

What happens if I fail my studies or have to interrupt my studies temporarily?

If you interrupt your studies, this scholarship award will be canceled with immediate effect. Students who do not meet their curriculum requirements in each trimester, who have violated the study regulations or the [Code of Conduct of the ETHZ](#) will lose the remaining scholarship funds in the following trimester.

Your financial information

What level of income represents financial need? We are basing this definition as in the [Federal Rules of Financial support from the ETHZ and EPFL](#): the income of the applicant and of the persons required to provide for his maintenance according to the average salary of the country in which they principally reside. (resolution 414.155, Article 10).

What kind of proof is required as proof of income? We require the income statement for the last financial year from you, your spouse (if applicable) and/or your parents. Please send us the recap sheet of the income tax.

However, if this document is not available in your country or due to special circumstances, you can provide us with your proof of income and that of your parents/spouse in another form: e.g. by an employment contract stating the salary; recent payslips; bank statements showing available funds; Savings; pensions; investments; family contributions; pensions; alimony, alimony and child support; disability insurance; widower's pension; etc. If no tax/income tax return is available, please add this explanation concerning the reasons or exceptional circumstances. in your application package PDF.

If you receive - or plan to receive - another type of grant and/or loan, please provide us with these documents.

What does "gross wealth" mean? "Gross wealth" includes all assets owned by you and your family: for example physical goods and real estate/land; liquidity in the form of bonds; and interests. These assets can generate regular income or have the potential to generate future income.

I am an independent student and my parents do not help me financially. What proof of income do I need to submit? Under Swiss law, parents are required to financially support their children enrolled in full-time education up to the age of 25. So if you are under the age of 25, you are considered financially dependent on your parents. You must document your parents' income, even if these rules do not apply in your country.

If you are 25 years of age or older, you may be considered an independent student if you can certify that your parents are not contributing financially to your education and other expenses. Please note that you may be asked to provide relevant evidence.

Even if you are over the age of 25, we strongly recommend that you provide us with your parents' financial records as this will give us a clear view of your family's financial situation.

More information**Who can I get in touch with if I did not find an answer to my questions regarding financial aid?**

Please contact the MAS ETH DFAB Financial Aid Committee for any questions regarding your MAS ETH DFAB Scholarship application. email: scholarship-masdfab@arch.ethz.ch