FINANCIAL AID FOR
LATIN AMERICAN
& CARIBBEAN
INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS
IN THE UNITED STATES

75 YEARS
ANNIVERSARY
1948-2023

Lina M. Sevillano
WIEC 2023
Organization of American States
The OAS is the oldest regional organization in the World, dating back to the establishment of the Pan American Union in 1889, the predecessor of the Organization of American States (1948).

34 Member States from the Caribbean, Latin America, Mexico, USA and Canada

70 Permanent Observers from around the world and the European Union
THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS)

Brings together the countries of the Western Hemisphere to:

I. strengthen mutual cooperation  
II. promote common interests

It is the region's principal multilateral forum for political dialogue and collective action.

- Integral Development
- Democracy
- Security
- Human Rights

Department of Human Development, Education, and Employment

The Rowe Fund financial aid program
EIGHT OAS – Integral Development areas

1. Social Development and the Creation of Productive Employment
2. Education
3. Economic Diversification and Integration, Trade Laterization, and Market Access
4. Scientific Development and Exchange and Transfer of Technology
5. Strengthening of Democratic Institutions
6. Sustainable Development of Tourism
7. Sustainable Development and the Environment
8. Culture
Headquarters in Washington, DC
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION, AND EMPLOYMENT (DHDEE)

Features educational opportunities for citizens or permanent residents of the 34 OAS Member States

Educational Portal of the Americas
www.portal.educoas.org

Offers affordable online professional development training opportunities and capacity development initiatives

Inter-American Teacher Education Network (ITEN) www.oas.org/iten

Provides a platform for educational institutions and practicing teachers to work collaboratively across borders to address challenges in STEM teacher education in the Americas.

OAS Scholarship Program
www.oas.org/en/scholarships

- OAS Academic Scholarships
- Partnerships Program for Education and Training (PAEC)
- Professional Development Scholarships Program (PDSP)

Rowe Fund Financial Aid Program
www.oas.org/en/rowefund

Supplementary financial aid for Latin American or Caribbean citizens enrolled at universities in the United States (informative video)
75 years serving students!

A CITIZEN OF THE AMERICAS

Dr. Rowe’s Video

Dr. Leo S. Rowe, Director General of the Pan American Union, 1920-1946
What We Do

The OAS-Rowe Fund program grants financial aid, in the form of interest-free loans, to international students from Latin America and Caribbean countries for studies in the United States.
Why We Do It

To promote intellectual and cultural exchange, communication, and understanding in the region
What Beneficiaries Say...

FINANCIAL AID FOR STUDIES IN THE USA

“I am grateful to the Rowe Fund for believing in the potential of Latin American students!”
BENEFICIARY FROM VENEZUELA

“The Rowe Fund improved my chances to complete my master”
BENEFICIARY FROM COLOMBIA

“Investing in higher education abroad has been one of the best decisions I have ever made”
BENEFICIARY FROM NICARAGUA
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Eligible Countries</th>
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<td>Antigua and Barbuda</td>
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<td>Argentina</td>
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<td>Trinidad and Tobago</td>
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<td>Uruguay</td>
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<td>Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)</td>
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The Permanent Council of the OAS is in charged of the program through a Committee comprised of representatives of member states and the Secretary General.
Requirements

- Citizen of an OAS member State
- F/J visa holder
- Enrolled in the last two years of undergraduate or graduate studies
- Good academic records: GPA ≥ 3.0
- Proof of other financial resources
- Guarantor
Characteristics

Maximum USD 15,000

Covers a portion of tuition and/or living expenses

No deadline. Apply at any time during studies

Repaid in 50 equal installments

Disbursement is sent directly to the Student

Repayment starts three months after finishing studies
The Rowe Fund in a nutshell...

- **Payment Starts**: Three months after completion of studies.
- **Students**: May stay in the U.S. for OPT.
- **Interest-Free**: Student loans.
- **Up to $15,000**: Per student.
- **Easy**: Online application process.
- **Applications**: Are received and reviewed year round.
- **Contact Us At**: rowefund@oas.org, RoweFund
- **Funds are Disbursed Directly**: To the student in the U.S.
- **Learn More**: www.oas.org/en/rowefund
Application process

Visit the Rowe Fund’s website www.oas.org/en/rowefund

Determine if you are eligible. Read the Frequently asked Questions FAQs and eligibility requirements

Gather the supporting documents List of Documents page

Apply by the fifth of the month you wish to receive funding

1. Fill out the online application form and upload documents on the platform https://www.oas.org/roweloanapp

2. You’ll receive a confirmation email within two business days

3. Review
The Rowe Fund Committee will evaluate the application

4. Selection
If approved, read and sign an Agreement

5. Disbursement
funding will be sent directly to your U.S. bank account, via wire transfer

Associate degree, Medical School are not eligible

Language learning, Online studies
The Financial Aid Guide consists of a list of additional funding opportunities (scholarships, grants, loans, etc.), offered by governments, institutions and other organizations, in member States to help students pay for their educational expenses in the United States.
Beneficiaries in 2021-2022:

By Degree:
- PhD: 3%
- Master’s: 72%
- Junior/Senior Bachelor: 23%
- Other: 1%

By Gender:
- Male: 47%
- Female: 53%

By Region:
- Caribbean: 53%
- Central America: 12%
- Mexico: 17%
- South America: 17%

By country of origin:
- Chile
- Bahamas, the
- Guatemala
- Dominica
- Argentina
- Peru
- Mexico
- 32 eligible countries
How did they learn about Us

- Friend: 40% (2021) vs 20% (2022)
- U.S. University advisor: 10% (2021) vs 5% (2022)
- OAS Website: 5% (2021) vs 2% (2022)
- EducationUSA advisor: 5% (2021) vs 3% (2022)
- Online search: 10% (2021) vs 7% (2022)
- Government in home country: 5% (2021) vs 2% (2022)
- Social media: 1% (2021) vs 1% (2022)
- Other: 5% (2021) vs 3% (2022)
The Rowe Fund is offering USD 2,000 scholarships upon the approval of an interest-free loan to Latin American and Caribbean citizens holding F and J visas who are currently completing their studies at universities in the United States.
Emergency Relief Fund
100% of online donations go towards scholarships of $2,000 to Latin American and Caribbean students in the U.S. who are financially affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

DONATE NOW!

rowefund@oas.org /Rowefund http://www.oas.org/en/rowefund
Without a doubt, the current economic situation makes it difficult for many international students to fulfill their dreams.

Thank God that this organization exists and helps students like me to accomplish our goals.
“The Rowe Fund is a resource that can lift a heavy burden off our shoulders.” Andres from Mexico

75TH ANNIVERSARY, 1948-2023

Over USD$56 million granted since its inception, current price

Serving international students from 32 countries enrolled at universities in the U.S.

Benefited Latin Americans and Caribbeans (F/J visa holders) enrolled at 98 U.S. universities since 2020

Granted COVID-19 Emergency scholarships (2020-2021) benefiting citizens of 19 countries, see short video
THANK YOU!

www.oas.org/en/rowefund
RoweFund@oas.org
@RoweFund