



**COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT**  
**BETWEEN**  
**FUNDACIÓN PARA EL FUTURO DE COLOMBIA**  
**AND**  
**VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT AMSTERDAM**

The *Fundación para el Futuro de Colombia* (COLFUTURO) and Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam share an interest in strengthening bilateral cooperation in the field of education between Colombia and the Netherlands and promoting stronger ties between the two institutions to increase the financial support available for graduate studies of Colombian students.

The purpose of this agreement is to foster cooperation and enhance the links between the two institutions through the provision of shared financing for talented Colombian students admitted to graduate degree programs at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, within the framework of a Joint Graduate Loan-Scholarship Program.

The Joint Graduate Loan-Scholarship Program will operate as follows:

1. Colombian students interested in this Joint Graduate Loan-Scholarship Program will seek admission to the graduate Master's degree programs offered by Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, following the normal application procedures and meeting all the standard admission requirements (including official language tests) established by Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.
2. Students admitted to graduate degree programs offered by Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam will submit a Loan-Scholarship application to COLFUTURO, following the normal application procedures and meeting all the standard requirements established by COLFUTURO.
3. Students who are offered a place for full-time graduate studies at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and who are selected as beneficiaries of the Loan-Scholarship Program of COLFUTURO will be eligible or considered for the shared financing under this agreement.
4. The Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam will provide a 30% discount on the tuition fee to all eligible students. (Tuition fees may be subject to annual increases)
5. This agreement between Colfuturo and Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam will be valid for 3 years, starting October 1st, 2018. The parties will review and evaluate their cooperation annually.

6. The 30% discount on the tuition fee cannot be combined with other (partial) tuition waivers, e.g. the VU Fellowship Program.
7. The Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam will offer this financial support for students for the nominal duration of the degree program, which is one or two years, depending on the program.
8. COLFUTURO will provide the remainder of the tuition fees, living allowance and will cover other related costs, in accordance with its policies and procedures, i.e. up to USD 25.000 annually for a maximum financing of two years, up to USD 50.000.
9. The students are responsible for obtaining financial resources to cover other costs (that are not included in this Loan-Scholarship agreement) related to their study program
10. Students should not hold an EU/EEA passport and not be eligible for support under the Dutch system of study grants and loans.
11. Students must be able to comply with the Dutch visa regulations and prove to the immigration authorities that they have sufficient financial means.
12. Each institution will designate a coordinator to implement and monitor this Joint Graduate Loan-Scholarship Program. In particular, the designated coordinators will be responsible for ensuring that:
  - a. Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and COLFUTURO as partners provide prospective Colombian scholars with information on their programs of interest and guidance on how to apply to Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.
  - b. Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam provides COLFUTURO with all the relevant promotional materials and brochures on the different graduate degree programs offered by Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam to encourage interest among prospective Colombian students.
  - c. Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam provides all Colombian students admitted to their graduate degree programs information on the Loan-Scholarship Program of COLFUTURO and encourages these students to contact and submit an application to COLFUTURO.
  - d. COLFUTURO informs Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam of successful candidates by sending the list of Colombian students admitted to the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and selected as beneficiaries of the Loan-Scholarship Program of COLFUTURO.
  - e. Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam will inform the students on their 30% discount.
  - f. COLFUTURO provides Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam with institutional information on COLFUTURO and pertinent details on its Loan-Scholarship Program and the payment scheme (see Annex I) and that the designated coordinator of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam ensures that relevant authorities of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (i.e., bursars and student account offices) in charge of student accounts accept the terms of COLFUTURO's Loan-Scholarship Program.
  - g. Both institutions make the necessary financial arrangements for confirmed scholars.
  - h. Both institutions have the obligation to inform the other party of any change in the designated coordinator or signatory in charge of this agreement.

13. The designated coordinators are:

For Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam:

Silvia van Glabbeek, Academic Advising Coordinator in Colombia  
e-mail: s.van.glabbeek@vu.nl  
Phone number: (57)3142101841

For COLFUTURO:

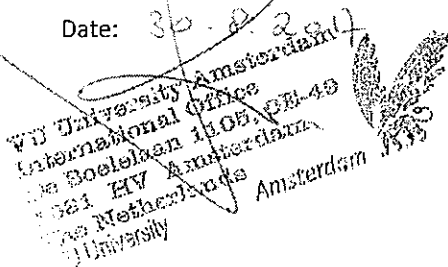
Johanna Torres, Academic Advising Director  
e-mail: johanna.torres@colfuturo.org  
Phone number: (57)1 3405394 Ext. 124

14. Both institutions will promote the agreement to prospective Colombian graduate students.

This agreement shall remain in force from the date of signature by the designated representatives of each party and may be reviewed or renegotiated at the request of either party. Either party may terminate the agreement by providing at least thirty days prior written notice to the other party.

Frans Snijders  
Director International Office,  
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Date: 30.9.2017



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerónimo Castro".

Jerónimo Castro Jaramillo  
Executive Director  
COLFUTURO

Date: 5 Sep 2017

Annex 1  
General Terms and Payment Scheme of COLFUTURO  
Loan-Scholarship Program

1. COLFUTURO's financing system consists of a Loan-Scholarship of up to USD25.000 annually for a maximum financing of two years up to USD50.000.
2. The applicants for the Loan-Scholarship determine the amount to be requested from COLFUTURO in accordance with COLFUTURO's policies and procedures.
3. Successful applicants or beneficiaries of this program can use the Loan-Scholarship to cover the full or partial costs of their graduate studies abroad.
4. COLFUTURO's Loan-Scholarship is granted in US Dollars. All payments to beneficiaries (i.e, settling allowance and living allowance) are done in US Dollars but COLFUTURO can pay tuition to universities in other currencies. However, COLFUTURO beneficiaries have the obligation to assume any discrepancy arising from foreign exchange fluctuations, between the US Dollar amount requested to COLFUTURO and the other currencies.
5. COLFUTURO's selection process for the Loan-Scholarship Program is done yearly. Applicants can comply with documentary requirements when the on-line application becomes available by January 10<sup>th</sup> and up to February 28<sup>th</sup>. Results are published by the mid of May. These dates may change each call.
6. COLFUTURO notifies partner universities immediately regarding the results of the selection process by sending them the list of COLFUTURO beneficiaries admitted to their graduate degree programs.
7. Once students are selected and notified as beneficiaries of COLFUTURO, the latter arranges a meeting with the student to explain in detail, the terms and conditions of the Loan-Scholarship. The student who accepts these terms and conditions, decides the allocation of this Loan-Scholarship taking into account the maximum amounts mentioned in item 1. The beneficiary can allocate approved financial support on the following cost items:
  - Airfare
  - Settling Allowance (one-time payment of up to USD2.000)
  - Tuition
  - Health insurance
  - Living allowance (Up to USD2.000 per month)
  - Text books and computer allowance (maximum USD2.000 per year)
  - Debtors insurance

COLFUTURO provides each beneficiary with a sponsorship letter indicating the total amount of the loan-scholarship.

8. COLFUTURO clearly informs the beneficiaries, which of the above items are payable directly to them and to the universities or service providers.

9. COLFUTURO pays annual tuition and fees (and health insurance, when this is included as part of the University's fees) directly to the universities in two installments:

For those beneficiaries who begin their programs during the second semester of the year:

- First payment: November 15th, Student must submit the corresponding invoice to COLFUTURO not later than October 31st
- Second payment: March 15th, Student must submit the corresponding invoice to COLFUTURO not later than February 28th

For those beneficiaries entering during the first semester of the year, the payment scheme is vice-versa, first payment in March and second payment in November.

10. The students are responsible for obtaining financial resources to cover other costs (that are not included in this Loan-Scholarship agreement) related to their program of study.
11. The students have financial responsibility towards the University; COLFUTURO will pay on their behalf. After the final payment is made by COLFUTURO, any outstanding balance, including those resulting from exchange rate fluctuations, must be covered by the student.
12. Starting 2017, this loan turns into a partial scholarship when the student returns to Colombia and resides in the country for a pre-established period of three years. In order to qualify for the scholarship, the student must comply with all the requirements previously agreed with COLFUTURO. The scholarship is granted as follows: 20% for MBA programs and masters in the fields of administration and law, and 40% for masters in all other areas and all doctoral programs. Two additional 20% bonuses can be given as follows:
- a. Beneficiaries who work full time in the public sector or as academic or researcher will receive 10% during the first year, 5% for the second year and 5% for the third year, to get up to 20%.
  - b. Beneficiaries who work in a city different from Bogotá or its metropolitan area will receive 10% during the first year, 5% for the second year and 5% for the third year, to get up to 20%.

The loan component must be paid by the beneficiary on a monthly basis, upon his or her return to Colombia, according to the established amortization period, which cannot exceed a 5-year term.

