



COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

FUNDACIÓN PARA EL FUTURO DE COLOMBIA

AND

THE UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

The *Fundación para el Futuro de Colombia* (COLFUTURO) and the University of Leicester share an interest in strengthening bilateral cooperation in the field of education between Colombia and the United Kingdom 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 the University of Leicester, within the framework of a joint graduate Loan-Scholarship Program.

The joint graduate Loan-Scholarship Program will operate as follows:

1. Students in Colombia interested in this joint graduate Loan-Scholarship Program will seek admission to the graduate degree programs offered by the University of Leicester (Master's and Doctor of Philosophy Degrees), following the normal application procedures and meeting all the standard admission requirements (including official language tests) established by the University of Leicester.
2. Students admitted to graduate degree programs offered by the University of Leicester 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 the University of Leicester 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 University of Leicester will provide to eligible students on an annual basis two scholarships of 50% of the tuition fees and an unlimited number of additional scholarships of 20% of the tuition fees.
5. The University of Leicester will offer this financial support for the whole of the normal registration period, that is 1 year for a Master's degree and 3 years for a PhD degree.
6. 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 USD25,000 annually for a maximum financing of two years, or USD50,000.

7. 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.
8. 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:
 - a) that the University of Leicester and COLFUTURO provide prospective Colombian scholars with information on their programs of interest and guidance on how to apply to the University of Leicester.
 - b) that the University of Leicester provides COLFUTURO with all the relevant promotional materials and brochures on the different graduate degree programs offered by the University of Leicester to encourage interest among prospective Colombian students.
 - c) that the University of Leicester 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) that COLFUTURO informs the University of Leicester of successful candidates by sending the list of Colombian students admitted to the University of Leicester and selected as beneficiaries of the Loan-Scholarship Program of COLFUTURO.
 - e) That the University of Leicester will select from the list mentioned in Numeral 8 item d, the students who will be granted the University scholarship mentioned in Numeral 4, when the number of joint scholars is limited. The University will then inform COLFUTURO of this decision.
 - f) that COLFUTURO provides the University of Leicester with institutional information on COLFUTURO and pertinent details on its Loan-Scholarship Program and the payment scheme (see Annex 1) and that the designated coordinator of the University of Leicester ensures that relevant authorities of the University of Leicester (i.e., bursars and student account offices) in charge of student accounts accept the terms of COLFUTURO's Loan-Scholarship Program.
 - g) that both institutions make the necessary financial arrangements for confirmed scholars.
 - h) that both institutions have the obligation to inform the other party of any change in the designated coordinator or signatory in charge of this agreement.

9. The designated coordinators are:

For The University of Leicester:
Caroline Berry
International Officer

For COLFUTURO:
Eden Bolivar
Academic Counselling Coordinator

10. 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.



David Hall
Registrar and Secretary
The University of Leicester



Jerónimo Castro
Executive Director
COLFUTURO

Date: 28 April 2010

Date: 23 April 2010

Annex 1
General Terms and Payment Scheme of COLFUTURO's 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, or 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 from COLFUTURO and the other currencies.
5. COLFUTURO's selection process for the Loan-Scholarship Program is done yearly. The on-line application becomes available by mid-January and applicants can start complying with documentary requirements beginning the first week of March up to the last working day of May. Results are published between the last week of June and the first week of July each year.
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 USD1.300 per month. This amount can be increased by 25%, USD1.625, if student will travel with family)
 - Text books and computer allowance (maximum USD2.000 per year)
 - Debtors insurance
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 tuition fees directly to the universities as follows:
- 1) For students beginning their studies in the October semester, COLFUTURO may pay the full tuition fees in one installment in March if the University is unable to send the invoice before October 31st.
 - 2) For students beginning their studies in January, COLFUTURO may pay the tuition fees in two installments (March and November). The University must send the invoice for the full fees not later than February 28th and this would show the two installments of tuition fees. If the University is unable to send the invoice by the 28th February then full payment should be made in November.
 - 3) For students beginning doctoral studies at any other time of the year, COLFUTURO will pay in two installments in November and March. The University must send the invoice for the full fees not later than October 31st and this would show the two installments of tuition fees.
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. This loan turns into a partial scholarship when the student returns to Colombia and resides in the country for a pre-established period. In order to qualify for the scholarship ranging between 25% and 50% waiver of the loan, the student must comply with all the requirements previously agreed to with COLFUTURO. The loan component must be paid by the beneficiary on a monthly basis, upon his return to Colombia, according to the established amortization period, which cannot exceed a 5-year term. An additional 10% scholarship is given to beneficiaries who work full time for the government or an academic or research institution for a minimum period of one year.