

Announcement for potential full-degree Master Students from Nepal under the NORSTIP scholarship program at Nord University

The Faculty of Biosciences and Aquaculture (FBA; www.nord.no/en/fba) at Nord University is currently leading the collaborative project CEER (**Establishing the Circular Economy-based livestock sector through collaborative Educational and Research activities**; <https://site.nord.no/ceer/>) with two partner institutions in Nepal: Kathmandu University (<https://ku.edu.np/>) and Agriculture Forestry University (<http://afu.edu.np/>), Nepal.

Currently, we are looking for applications from outstanding candidates for full-degree master studies at the Faculty of Biosciences and Aquaculture (www.nord.no/en/fba), Nord University, Norway, under the NORSTIP scholarship program. The objective of this scholarship is to contribute to economic development and welfare in a list of partner countries in the global south:

- Through student mobility to Norwegian Higher Education Institutions, the scholarship will contribute to educate strong candidates to join the labor market in their home countries and to strengthen knowledge within certain academic areas.
- The scholarship is a supply to existing collaborations, such as NORPART, and is meant to contribute to strengthen the collaborations, recruitment to further research collaborations, and to facilitate for more strategic partnerships.

Target group:

- Students or staff at Nord University's NORPART partner institutions in Nepal.
- Recipients are in the age group 20-30 years old
- Must be citizens of, and live in, the partner country (Nepal)
- Recipients cannot have a master degree from before
- Females or candidates from disadvantaged or minority groups will be prioritized

Terms to receive a NORSTIP scholarship

- Fulfill the academic qualifications for admission to Master of Bioscience at the Faculty of Bioscience and Aquaculture at Nord University.
- Possess and maintain a valid residence permit from The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI).
- Have accepted an offer of admission to Master of Bioscience at Nord University
- Continually fulfill the terms set by Nord University to maintain the student status and the right to participate in the master program
- Arrive at campus at Nord University in Norway and start the studies in accordance with the master program's teaching plan and have a residence at the study location.
- Maintain the terms of study progression set by Nord University
- The Scholarship is personal and cannot be transferred to a third party.

- The scholarship can be ended if one or more of the conditions mentioned above are not fulfilled.

The scholarship includes costs for:

- Tuition fee
- Stipend
- Start-up stipend
- Travel costs, including visa-related costs
- Fieldwork as part of the degree

Additionally, we offer:

- Excellent research environment, including lab or field activities
- Master courses and specific training, such as data analysis, and scientific writing

The scholarship does not include costs, including, but not limited to:

- Family members/ children in home country or in Norway
- Travel- and accident insurance for travel to or from Norway
- Costs related to sending extra luggage to or from Norway

General requirements for admission for master studies at FBA, Nord University:

The student must fulfill admission and language requirements for master degree in biosciences at Nord University as stated on the webpage: <https://www.nord.no/en/studies/master-of-science-in-biology-and-aquaculture#&acd=StudyAdmissionRequirementsHeader>. In short, a bachelor's degree within a biological field with an average grade of B or better is required. In addition, of the 180 ECTS or equivalent degree, students should have taken a minimum of 60 ECTS in biosciences courses, and they must also have a basic knowledge of mathematics, statistics, and chemistry at the university level. The students also show documented proficiency in the English language. The deadline for application for non-EU students is December 1, 2024, and the Nord University online application portal is open from October 1, 2024.

In this context, we hereby invite applications from qualified candidates to recruit **four full-degree master students** through Agriculture and Forestry University and Kathmandu University. The successful candidates will be involved in various education and research activities at FBA, Nord University, and will obtain a Master in Biosciences degree with a specialization in Animal Sciences or Ecology or Aquaculture or Genomics.

Application requirements:

- All academic transcripts including a Bachelor degree in Agriculture or Aquaculture or Veterinary Sciences or Environmental sciences obtained from relevant academic institutions in Nepal.
- Master thesis outline demonstrating how a strong link between study programs and potential master thesis activities could be established (max. 2 pages).
- Previous academic or professional experiences.
- English language requirements:
 - English test certificate by TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) with a minimum score of 580 on the written test OR 90 (with no individual score less than 20) on the online test. Nord University's TOEFL code is 1648. OR
 - English test certificate by IELTS Academic (International English Language Testing System) with a minimum score of 6.5. OR
 - University of Cambridge First Certificate in English OR Certificate in Advanced English OR Certificate of Proficiency in English

Application procedure:

Applications, including all required documents, must be submitted electronically at, ceer@afu.edu.np, ceer@ku.edu.np and prabhat.khanal@nord.no. All documents should be submitted as a single pdf file, and NORSTIP_FULL-DEGREE_APPLICANT'S FULL NAME should be used in the email subject line.

Application deadline:

Applications must be submitted by the application deadline of 15th September 2024.

Publication of list of qualified candidates:

By 15th October, 2024.

Interview and publication of list of successful candidates:

By 30th October 2024.

Then, the selected candidates will be provided complete guidance to formally apply through the Nord University application portal.

Contact information:

Further information about the NORSTRIP can be obtained by contacting:

Prof. Bed Mani Dahal (bedmani@ku.edu.np)

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sundar Tiwari (stiwari@afu.edu.np)

Assist. Prof. Dr. Himal Luitel (hluitel@afu.edu.np)

Assist. Prof. Dr. Ujjal Tiwari (utiwari@afu.edu.np)

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Prabhat Khanal (prabhat.khanal@nord.no).