

SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT:

For Master's Degree in Cryptology and Information Security (CRYPTIS) At the University of Limoges, France 2020-2021

I. General information

“The Science and Technology Scholarship Program for Master's and Ph.D. overseas studies” (hereinafter referred to as ‘**Program**’) is a component of the Science and Technology Resources Development Project for Vietnam funded by Vingroup.

The mission of the Program is to find talents and develop them further so that they have the ability to lead and advance the development of science and technology in Vietnam. Key areas which are given high priority include molecular biology, renewable energy, genetics, automation, artificial intelligence, machine learning, and information security, etc.

Vingroup will provide fully-funded scholarships throughout the Master's/Ph.D. degree program to cover tuition fee, stipend, airfare and insurance, etc. for scholarship recipients.

The Program will award the scholarships to talented Vietnamese applicants in the fields of Science and Technology who are living and working either in Vietnam or overseas. Applicants must not be over 30 years of age at the time they start their Master's degree program and must be under 35 for Ph.D. degree. Selection criteria are based on individual merit, including academic performance and preparation, intellectual capability, language proficiency, and the potential and commitment for contribution to scientific education and research in Vietnam.

The scholarship application and selection process is **open, competitive, transparent and free** conducted by a Selection Committee of well-known professors/scientists in the fields.

In 2020, the Program will award up to **ten (10)** full Master's CRYPTIS scholarships including five (05) scholarships for the Master's degree in mathematics, cryptology, coding and applications (MCCA) and five (05) scholarships for the Master's degree in IT Security (SI) to study at the University of Limoges, France.

Announcements on other full scholarships of the Program will be updated on our website at: <https://scholarships.vinuni.edu.vn/>

II. About the Master's CRYPTIS Program at the University of Limoges

About the University of Limoges

Founded in 1968, the University of Limoges is a public university located in Nouvelle-Aquitaine region in the center of France. According to Campus France, an official office of the French Embassy in Vietnam, whose mission is to promote French education, in 2018, the University had 15,000 students, in which 14% is international students. The University consists of 5 faculties, 4 institutes, 3 schools of engineering, and a graduate school with a total of 350 disciplines, of which the most well-known are

Cryptography and Security, Material Science, Medicine, Physics & Electronics. Further information can be found at the University's official website at: <https://www.unilim.fr/>.

About the Master's CRYPTIS Program

Master's CRYPTIS is the first Master's program in France in the field of cryptology and has always been one of the best-rated cryptology training programs over the past 30 years in the country. Master's CRYPTIS provides training in both Mathematics and Information Technology. Both Master's degree in Mathematics, Cryptology, Coding and Applications (MCCA) and Master's degree in IT Security (SI) offer some common subjects and some specialized subjects in mathematics, cryptology, coding and application with a focus on information security. Both Master's programs receive certification issued by ANSSI – the National Cybersecurity Agency of France.

Information about the Master's CRYPTIS program is available at <http://www.cryptis.fr/>. The scholarship recipients who are accepted to study the Master's CRYPTIS at the University of Limoges will commence their study in September 2020 and the teaching and learning medium is French.

III. Options to Enroll in the Master's CRYPTIS Program

Applicants who are applying for the Master's CRYPTIS under the Scholarship Program have either of the following three options to enroll in the program:

- **Option 1:** Applicants apply for two-year Master's CRYPTIS Program at the University of Limoges and start enrolling from the first year. The scholarship will cover two years of study at the University of Limoges, France.
- **Option 2:** Applicants who have already completed the first year of study from a recognized Master's degree in cryptology in Vietnam (such as the Master's program at the Vietnam Institute for Advanced Study in Mathematics –VIASM) or from abroad are eligible to apply to study the one year Master's 2 track at the University of Limoges. The scholarship is granted for one year of study at Limoges. The Master's degree is conferred by University of Limoges.
- **Option 3:** Applicants may also apply to study the first year at a recognized Master's program in cryptology in Vietnam which is approved by the Selection Committee (such as the Master's program at VIASM) and then pursue the second year of study at the University of Limoges. The scholarship is granted for two years of study, in which the scholarship will cover tuition fees and part of the living expenses for the first year of study in Vietnam, for the second year, the scholarship will cover fully for the recipients to study at the University of Limoges, France. The Master's degree is conferred by the University of Limoges.

The Scholarship Selection Committee will evaluate applicants' qualifications and take into consideration applicants' preference to make the recommendations on the most suitable option.

IV. Scholarship entitlements

The Master's CRYPTIS scholarships are **fully funded scholarships** that cover the full cost of attendance the Master's CRYPTIS: MCCA or SI. The scholarship will cover the following costs:

1. **Visa to France:** Visa application fee (Excluding travel expenses, accommodation expenses

or any other expenses associated with the visa application process)

2. **French language training:** Tuition fees for French language training courses at Campus France Vietnam before departure, excluding expenses related to accommodation and travel in order to participate in the French learning courses
3. **Airfares and train tickets:** Round trip economy tickets from Vietnam to the city of Limoges, France
4. **Tuition fees:** Full tuition fees of the Master’s program, health insurance included.
5. **Monthly stipend:** 1,000 Euro per month for 12 months per year to cover living expenses at Limoges. *Note: The French government also provides other support to help reduce the costs of insurance and student housing.*
6. **One-time allowance:** 1,000 EUR for settling-in allowance when departure in France, and 1,000 EUR for reintegration allowance after graduation and return to Vietnam.

Note: For those who choose Option 3 in Section III, the Program will cover tuition fee and other related cost of attendance of the first year program in Vietnam.

V. Eligibility Criteria

1. Vietnamese people who are living, studying or working in Vietnam or overseas and commit to contributing to the development of science and technology in Vietnam while not being over 30 years of age at the commencement time of the Master’s program .
2. Meet **one** of the following conditions:

No.	Applicant	Requirement
1	College seniors (final year students) majoring in Mathematics, Informatics, Mathematics-Informatics or related fields who will graduate by July 2020.	Overall undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of at least 7/10 at the time of application in which the GPAs of the specialized subjects related to Mathematics and Informatics must be at least 8/10 .
2	University graduates or students pursuing Master’s degree in Mathematics, Informatics, Mathematics-Informatics or related fields	GPA of commencing Master’s degree must be at least 7/10 and undergraduate GPA must be at least 8/10 at the time of application. The GPAs of specialized subjects related to Mathematics and Informatics throughout university and graduate schools must be at least 8/10 .

3. Two (02) letters of recommendation/reference from the applicant’s professors/lecturers under whom the applicant has studied or pursued research related to his/her proposed field of

study, or from supervisors, who have supervised the applicant's work related to his/her proposed field of study. The letters of recommendation must be written in French or English (if written in Vietnamese the letter(s) must be translated into French or English) and must have the letterhead and the signature of the referee.

4. A statement of motivation that includes the applicant's educational background, research experience, extracurricular activities and social works, as well as career goals.
 - The essay must be well-organized and composed in excellent French or English; and
 - Must not exceed 1,000 words.
5. A curriculum vitae (CV) that outlines the applicant's education and research experience
6. Language proficiency: Priority is given to candidates who know French. However, French language proficiency certificate is NOT required at the application round. The scholarship recipients will be sponsored to undertake French language training courses before departure if necessary.
7. Priority will be given to candidates who competed in the National Mathematics/Informatics Competition at high school level or have prizes in National Olympiads in Mathematics or Informatics at undergraduate level or other relevant awards.
8. Complete the online application form at:
<https://scholarships.vinuni.edu.vn/scholarship/account/>

Note: The Scholarship Program does NOT require applicants to have working experience.

VI. Application and Selection Process

▪ Round 1: Initial Screening:

During the application opening time, applicants have to complete the online application form at <https://scholarships.vinuni.edu.vn/scholarship/account/>

After the application deadline, the Program will conduct an initial eligibility screening to assure that the applicants meet all the minimum requirements.

▪ Round 2: Technical Review:

The Selection Committee consisting of professors from the University of Limoges and professors with expertise in the field will conduct a technical review of the applications to select the best candidates for the interview round.

▪ Round 3: Oral Exam/Interview:

The Selection Committee will conduct an interview round if necessary. The interview will be informed at least one week in advance and the candidates can choose to answer interview questions in English or French.

After the three selection rounds, the Selection Committee will make the final decision. Shortlisted candidates will receive letters of admission from the University of Limoges and are entitled to receive the Vingroup scholarships. All applicants will be notified of the final results.

VII. Selection criteria

The application and selection process of the Scholarship Program is open, competitive, and transparent. The Selection Committee consists of prominent professors in the field of science and technology. Applicants do not need to pay any fees to anyone in order to apply for, and to be awarded, the scholarship. Scholarship winners are chosen based on individual merit, including academic performance and preparation, intellectual capability, language proficiency, and the potential and commitment for contribution to scientific education and research in Vietnam.

VIII. Conditions of the Scholarship

Applicants must fully meet the application requirements of the Scholarship as well as the admission requirements of the University of Limoges. Applicants must also meet the health requirements through the General Health Check Program before commencing their studies. During the study program, applicants must meet the minimum academic requirements set out by the Master's program as well as report their academic performance and research progress periodically to the Scholarship Program.

Upon completion of the Master's Program, if the scholars are admitted to a Ph.D. program, the CRYPTIS Selection Committee will assess such cases. If approved, the scholars will be entitled to continue receiving the Vingroup scholarships to pursue the approved Ph.D. program.

Scholars who have completed the final academic requirements of the Master's and/or Ph.D. degree can stay in the host country to work in their field of study for the up to one year for Master's graduates and up to two years for Ph.D. graduates. Scholars will then return to Vietnam to work at a Vietnamese public university or research institute or work for a member company of the Vingroup Ecosystem at least for a duration of time equal to the duration of study that they had participated in the Master's or Ph.D. degree under the scholarship sponsorship. If violated, scholars have to return all the scholarship costs to the Vingroup Scholarship Program.

IX. Reintegration Support

In order to complete a comprehensive investment process in the science and technology resources development in Vietnam, each talented candidate selected for the scholarship will have a contact point of the Project to help design a roadmap and provide advice and support throughout the course of study and research. This support scheme ensures that the scholarship recipients can be able to optimize their intellectual capability in an overseas university environment while staying connected with the Vietnamese settings to assure that, after graduation, 100% of the students can integrate effectively, have a suitable job with decent remuneration, and can contribute to the development of Vietnam when they return.

X. Important dates and timeline

Deadline extended: The application closing date of the 2020 Master’s CRYPTIS Scholarship Program has been extended to **6:00 PM, 15 March 2020**. The timeline for Review/Interview Round is, thus, moved to take place by 30 March 2020 and all applicants may receive the final results by 05 April 2020.

25 December 2019	11:00 AM Vietnam time – Online application is open
15 March 2020	06:00 PM Vietnam time – Online Application is closed
By 30 March 2020	Interview round
By 05 April 2020	Notification of the scholarship results
From April to August, 2020	Scholarship recipients participate in French training courses in Vietnam
June, 2020	Pre-departure orientation
September, 2020	Commence studies in France

XI. How to apply

Applicants can submit their online application at: <https://scholarships.vinuni.edu.vn/scholarship/account/>

Application deadline: 06:00 PM on 15 March 2020 (Vietnam time)

Note: Only online applications are accepted.

XII. Contact us

If you need more information on the Scholarship Program or if you have any inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact the Scholarship Program via email at: scholarships@vingroup.net or call at (+84) 24 71089779 (Ext: 9032 or 9006).

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Please check carefully the eligibility requirements listed above and submit the application **by the application deadline.**

All the scholarship recipients must abide by all regulations and requirements of the Program, or else the scholarship will be revoked.

The Program has the right to change the terms and conditions when necessary. Any changes will **ONLY** be posted on the Program's official website at: <https://scholarships.vinuni.edu.vn/> Changes, if any, will only affect applicants who have not signed the Scholarship Grant Contract with the Program.