

REGULATIONS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP NATIONAL SYSTEM

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS.....	2
CHAPTER 2. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS	4
CHAPTER 3. TUTOR AND CO-TUTORS OF POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS	6
CHAPTER 4. SUSPENSION AND CANCELLATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS.....	7
CHAPTER 5. POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS	9

Chapter 1. General provisions

Article 1: The organization and operation of the National Research and Innovation Agency (ANII) is governed by article 256 of Law No. 17930 of 19 December 2005, Law No. 18084 of 28 December 2006, and its regulatory decree, as well as by the provisions of ANII's General Bylaws. According to letter e of article 5 of the General Bylaws (powers): "The Board of Directors has the authority to approve the specific regulations for the operation of the programs mentioned in the preceding paragraph. Article 304 of Law 18172 created the National Scholarship System (SNB) within the scope of ANII as a program to support scholarships for research initiation, postgraduate studies in the country and abroad, postgraduate and postdoctoral insertion, the return of compatriot scientists, and links with the productive sector, among others".

The purpose of these Regulations is to regulate the scholarships granted within the framework of the National Scholarship System (SNB), establishes the minimum requirements to be complied with and may be supplemented with specific regulations for each call. In case of discrepancies between these Regulations and the specific regulations of the call, the provisions of the latter shall prevail.

This includes scholarships granted under agreements with other national or foreign institutions.

Article 2: Definitions. For purposes hereof, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

- Scholarship: is the economic subsidy granted to the beneficiary for the purpose of fulfilling a certain plan of activities, in the country or abroad.
- Beneficiary or scholarship holder: is the person to whom a scholarship has been awarded.
- Tutor of the postgraduate scholarship holder: is the person who guides and directs the scholarship holder in his or her postgraduate activities; must be designated by the postgraduate program and plays a guiding role in the scholarship application.
- Co-Tutor of the postgraduate scholarship holder: is the person who accompanies the scholarship holder, together with the tutor, in the postgraduate activities. Can be more than one person. Must be recognized by the postgraduate program and is who fulfills a co-tutoring role in the scholarship application.
- Research group leader: is the person responsible for the research group where the postdoctoral scholarship holder will be inserted and must have academic ties with the institution that will receive the scholarship holder.
- Academic center: a university, university institute, polytechnic or equivalent, any of them authorized by the competent public authority in Uruguay and, in the case of those abroad, by the competent authority of the institution's country of origin. A national academic center is understood as a center established in Uruguay, including those that are part of an institutional network of origin abroad, provided that they are authorized to operate by the competent public authority.
- Postgraduate program: is the postgraduate, master's or doctoral program that is being pursued with the scholarship and must be approved by the competent authority in the country of the degree-granting institution.
- Researcher categorized in the National System of Researchers (SNI): a researcher who is a member of the SNI.
- Scholarship Assessment and Follow-up Committee (CESBE): is the generic name of a group formed by members of the academic, scientific and technological community, appointed in accordance with

the Regulations of the Assessment and Follow-up Committee, which is responsible for evaluating ANII scholarship applications. As established in article 24 letter g of Law 18084, the integration of these technical committees must be approved by the National Council for Innovation, Science and Technology (CONICYT). There are different CESBEs with different integrations, depending on the specificities of the calls to be assessed.

- ANII calls: these are calls in which the entire application, assessment and follow-up process is carried out by ANII.

Article 3: The types of scholarships included in the SNB and governed by these Regulations are as follows:

- a. Research Initiation Scholarships: intended for advanced tertiary level students and people with equivalent training, provided that their link with research is justified.
- b. Employment Insertion Scholarships: for undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate students, aimed at the employment insertion of highly qualified human resources.
- c. Mobility Scholarships: aimed at strengthening human resource capacities in national research institutions, in research centers or other recognized organizations abroad.
- d. Postdoctoral Scholarships: for postdoctoral studies in the country for researchers of academic excellence.
- e. Postgraduate Scholarships: for both master's degrees and doctorates, in national or foreign academic centers.
- f. Other types of scholarships that ANII includes in the SNB and that must comply with these Regulations.

Article 4: All scholarships will be awarded through transparent competitive processes.

The actual appointment of the scholarship holder is made by ANII's Board of Directors, and all scholarships must be approved by the Board.

The starting date of the activities defined in the scholarship agreement must be set after the resolution of ANII's Board of Directors.

Article 5: By applying to the calls, the applicant authorizes ANII to communicate and disseminate, through different channels (web page, press, etc.), without time limitation and within the framework of its legal duties, the applicant's identification data, as well as information on the call, the project, the scholarship, the amount, and any other information or personal data necessary to ensure transparency in the fulfillment of ANII's legal duties.

Article 6: Any work resulting from or related to the scholarship must be deposited in the open access digital repository of the scholarship holder's institution of affiliation in Uruguay or, failing that, in ANII's Open Access Digital Repository (REDI), as established in the Agency's Open Access Regulations. Specifically, these must be submitted in the case of postgraduate scholarships and for the other scholarships, the results obtained will be compiled in a final report and a part of this report will be published in REDI (redi.anii.org.uy).

Article 7: General conditions of admission:

Beneficiaries of any of the scholarships referred to in these Regulations must fulfill the following requirements:

- a. Updated CVUY
- b. Not be disqualified by a resolution of the Board of Directors or ineligible to apply due to non-compliance.
- c. Comply with the requirements set forth in the regulations of the specific call.

Article 8: Incompatibilities:

- a. A person may make only one application per call.
- b. A person may not simultaneously hold a mobility scholarship abroad and a postgraduate scholarship abroad.
- c. The same activity may not be financed by two ANII instruments.
- d. A person may be the beneficiary of only one master's scholarship and one doctoral scholarship, whether a national or foreign scholarship, including scholarships by agreement.
- e. If the person obtained a doctoral scholarship, he/she cannot apply for a master's scholarship.
- f. Be a postgraduate scholarship holder and be under the Total Dedication Regime or equivalent. This item does not apply to scholarships to be completed entirely abroad.
- g. National postgraduate scholarships are incompatible with other national equivalent financing.

Article 9: Assessments. The assessment of applications for ANII scholarships will be carried out by CESBE, which will be appointed by the Agency's Board of Directors and approved by CONICYT.

The CESBE will be comprised of experts in the different topics related to the call.

The assessment criteria for proposals will be defined in each call, taking into account, among other aspects, the applicant's background, the work plan presented and the contribution of the proposal to the related field of knowledge.

Article 10: Upon request of the applicants who object to errors in the application of the proceedings established for the assessment of their proposals to ANII calls, a Proceedings Review Committee will be appointed. Applicants will have 15 calendar days, from the moment they receive the communication, to file their claim. The Committee shall be appointed by ANII's Board of Directors and shall issue its report within 30 calendar days of its establishment. In no case shall the filing of one or more requests for review have a suspensive effect on the proceedings of the competitive process. The Committee's report will be submitted to ANII's Board of Directors, which will make the final decision.

Chapter 2. Rights and obligations of scholarship holders

Article 11: The rights of the scholarship holder during the term of the scholarship are as follows:

- a. To receive financial assistance for the fulfillment of the agreed plan of activities.
- b. In the event of pregnancy, the scholarship holder may request pre- and postnatal leave from ANII for up to 14 weeks without suspension of the scholarship. The request must be accompanied by a medical certificate. The months used for pre- and postnatal leave will not be considered for the computation of the original scholarship term and, therefore, the original term will be extended for

the term of the leave. The term may be extended for premature, multiple or complicated deliveries for an additional 4 weeks.

- c. In the event of the birth of a child, the father may request postnatal leave from ANII for a maximum term of 2 weeks without suspension of the scholarship. The request must be accompanied by the birth certificate. The term used for parental leave will not be considered for the computation of the original scholarship term and, therefore, the original term will be extended for the term of the leave. The term may be extended for premature, multiple or complicated deliveries for an additional 2 weeks.
- d. In case of adoption of a child, the scholarship holder may request leave to accompany the child's integration into the family for a period of 6 weeks without suspension of the scholarship. The request must be accompanied by evidence of the adoption. The term used for adoption leave will not be considered for the computation of the original scholarship term and, therefore, the original term will be extended for the term of the leave.
- e. In the event of illness, accident, or other force majeure, duly proven, that makes it impossible to perform the activities related to the scholarship for more than 30 days, the scholarship holder may request a leave of absence of up to 3 months without suspension of the scholarship. The request must be accompanied by a medical certificate. This term will not be considered for the computation of the original scholarship term and, therefore, the original term will be extended for the term of the leave.
- f. In the event that the scholarship holder requires a period of suspension from scholarship-related activities for personal reasons, he/she may request a leave of absence for up to six months.

Article 12: The obligations of the scholarship holder are the following:

- a. To sign a scholarship agreement prior to the start of activities.
- b. To comply in due time and manner with the activity plan and use the approved financial resources exclusively for their intended purposes.
- c. To notifying ANII, within 15 calendar days from the date of its initiation, of the total or partial suspension of activities. In these cases, the tutor must present a note confirming that he/she is aware of the situation.
- d. To submit activity reports (progress or final, as appropriate) at the intervals and on the dates indicated. The reports shall be sworn statements and shall be signed by the tutor, a representative of the foreign institution or other designated person, as appropriate.
- e. To report, within a maximum term of 30 calendar days from the date of knowledge of the modification, any substantial change in the data provided at the beginning of the relationship, in relation to the employment situation, work schedule, residence in the country or a change of domicile.
- f. To notify ANII each time he/she is absent from the country for more than 30 days for an activity not foreseen in the work plan submitted. A note from the tutor supporting the activity must be attached.
- g. To notify completion of scholarship activities no later than 10 days after completion of the activity plan (e.g., thesis defense). In the case of postgraduate scholarships, to defend the thesis and inform ANII of the award of the degree in accordance with article 26 of the Regulations.
- h. To keep a fluid communication with the Agency.

- i. To provide ANII with the information necessary to respond to any surveys that ANII may conduct after the end of the agreement. This obligation of the scholarship holder shall survive for a period of 5 years from the termination of the scholarship agreement.
- j. To keep CVUy updated during the entire term of the scholarship.
- k. When appropriate, to indicate in publications, communications, or announcements concerning the scholarship, regardless of the medium used, that ANII is the source of financing.
- l. To report to ANII on the accompaniment and guidance provided by the tutor during the postgraduate training of the national postgraduate scholarship holder, when requested by the Agency, as well as when the scholarship holder deems it necessary.
- m. Postgraduate scholarship holders abroad must return to the country in accordance with article 29 of the Regulations.

Chapter 3. Tutor and co-tutors of postgraduate scholarships

Article 13: The obligations of the tutor are the following:

- a. To comply with all the provisions of these Regulations and of the specific regulations of each call.
- b. To be responsible for the scholarship holder's education and training, compliance with the proposed plan of activities, timely submission of reports, and notification to ANII of noncompliance. To personally direct the activities of the scholarship holder, respecting the approved plan of activities, and shall not be required to perform other activities outside the scholarship holder's specific training. To sign or endorse the progress reports and the final scholarship report requested by ANII from the scholarship holder.
- c. To report any circumstance that may affect the fulfillment of the scholarship activity plan.
- d. To keep a fluid communication with the Agency and respond to electronic requests made by ANII during the course of the relationship and keep the electronic communication address updated.
- e. To keep CVUy updated during the entire term of the scholarship.
- f. In the case of national postgraduate scholarship holders, the tutor must reside in the country and sign the tutor acceptance note attached to the scholarship agreement.
- g. To report to ANII on the performance of the national postgraduate scholarship holder in the work performed, accompanying each activity report prepared by the scholarship holder with his or her academic evaluation.
- h. In the event of resignation or prolonged absence of the national postgraduate tutor, ANII must be notified and, together with the postgraduate program, it must be informed who will carry out the task of tutoring the scholarship holder until the end of the postgraduate program.

Article 14: A co tutor or co tutors of the postgraduate program may be appointed.

These persons must be acknowledged by the postgraduate program.

The co-tutors must also generate and guarantee the necessary conditions for the fulfillment of the activities described in the scholarship activity plan, together with the postgraduate tutor.

In the event that the tutor of the national postgraduate program resides abroad or in the case of a sandwich postgraduate program abroad, the co-tutor residing in Uruguay must sign the note of acceptance of the tutor role attached to the scholarship agreement, as well as comply with the obligations mentioned for the tutor in article 13.

Article 15: In the case of master's and doctoral programs, and considering previous calls, the overall allocation of scholarship holders per tutor is as follows:

SNI - RESEARCHER Initiation Level	2 scholarship holders
SNI - RESEARCHER Level I	3 scholarship holders
SNI - RESEARCHER Level II	4 scholarship holders
SNI - RESEARCHER Level III	4 scholarship holders
SNI - EMERITUS RESEARCHER	4 scholarship holders
Not a member of SNI	2 scholarship holders

In the event that the tutor resides abroad, a co-tutor residing in the country will be responsible for fulfilling the scholarship holders quota. Each call will establish the reference date to be taken into account by a tutor in determining this allocation.

Chapter 4. Suspension and cancellation of scholarships

Article 16: In case of irregularities or delays in the fulfillment of obligations by the scholarship holder, ANII may suspend or cancel the scholarship.

Article 17: Suspension of the scholarship.

ANII may suspend payment of the scholarship in the following cases:

- a. When inconveniences or delays are found in the execution of the activity plan.
- b. When there are delays in the delivery of reports to ANII.

In such cases, ANII will notify the scholarship holder and grant a 90-day term for the regularization of the situation. During those 90 days the scholarship holder will keep on receiving payment of the scholarship. Once this term has expired and if the situation has not been regularized, ANII will notify the scholarship holder that payment of the scholarship will be suspended. After 6 months of suspension of the scholarship payment, if the situation has not been regularized, the scholarship will be canceled, and the scholarship holder will be in default with ANII.

Article 18: Cancellation of the scholarship.

ANII may cancel scholarships in the following cases:

- a. In the event of resignation or abandonment of the scholarship by the scholarship holder.
- b. For failing to comply with the regulations of the call, the agreement signed or these Regulations.
- c. For delays in the plan of activities that exceed the terms of the agreement and its extensions.

- d. For detecting serious misconduct, such as omission of relevant information or misrepresentation in any of the information provided by the scholarship holder.

ANII will notify the scholarship holder of the cancellation of the scholarship. Cancellation implies the loss of financing.

Cancellation of the scholarship requires a resolution of ANII's Board of Directors or of whom the Board of Directors determines. For this purpose, the situation, the defenses presented, and the corresponding reports will be analyzed. ANII may, as a precautionary measure, temporarily suspend the scholarship benefits, while the resolution is pending.

The resolution adopted may be appealed in accordance with the provisions of article 18 of Law 18084.

Article 19: Scholarship holders in default with ANII will not be eligible to apply for agency instruments for a term equal to the contractually agreed scholarship term.

The scholarship holder is in default when:

- a. The scholarship is canceled for resignation or abandonment, as well as for noncompliance with the regulations of the call, the agreement signed or these Regulations.
- b. The delay in the execution of the activity plan exceeds the duration of the scholarship and the extensions granted. If the scholarship holder completes the agreed activity plan during the default period, the commitment to ANII is considered fulfilled.
- c. The scholarship holder of postgraduate programs abroad does not comply with the commitment to return and stay in the country.

In the event of resignation due to health reasons, serious family problems or force majeure, the cancellation will not imply default with ANII.

In the event that the scholarship holder resigns to the scholarship benefit, but maintains the commitment to complete the postgraduate program, this will not be considered default.

Article 20: In cases of serious misconduct, such as omission of relevant information or misrepresentation of any information provided, the scholarship holder will be placed on a debarment list. This list will be considered by ANII in future calls, and the inclusion on the list will be sufficient reason to reject a new application, whether it is made by the scholarship holder or a proposal in which the scholarship holder participates. Likewise, the presence of the scholarship holder on the list implies the suspension of the benefits that he/she is receiving for any other approved or ongoing project. The scholarship holder may request a review of his or her inclusion on the list by providing the reasons for the request.

Article 21: Failure on the part of the research group tutor to comply with the obligations established in these Regulations, the commitment subscribed or any applicable contractual or legal provision, may result in his/her replacement or disqualification from acting as research group tutor in subsequent scholarship competitions of the Agency, as well as in other ANII scholarships that he/she is simultaneously tutoring.

Chapter 5. Postgraduate scholarships

Article 22: Postgraduate scholarships will exclusively be for master's or doctorate programs.

These scholarships provide financial aid for up to 24 consecutive months for master's degrees and 36 consecutive months for doctorates. In exceptional and duly justified cases, depending on the regulations of each call, doctoral studies may be financed for up to 48 months, counted from the date of entry into the postgraduate program.

Postgraduate scholarships awarded within the framework of ANII projects are covered by these Regulations.

To be eligible for postgraduate scholarships, in addition to complying with article 7, candidates must:

- a. Be Uruguayan or foreigners residing in the country.
- b. Have a university degree or equivalent, obtained in national or foreign universities.
- c. Be admitted to a postgraduate local or foreign program.
- d. Have completed the master's scholarship before signing a doctoral scholarship.

Article 23: Scholarships for national programs. Postgraduate degrees must be awarded by a national institution and recognized by the competent national authority.

In the case of scholarship holders who belong to graduate programs that, due to their particularity, allow them to defend a doctoral degree without the need to obtain an intermediate master's degree, ANII will maintain the master's degree scholarship until the term for which it was granted expires. In order to access the doctoral scholarship, the scholarship holder must apply to an upcoming ANII call and go through the selection stages corresponding to that call.

Article 24: Scholarships for postgraduate programs abroad. The postgraduate degree is awarded by a foreign institution. Postgraduate programs may be carried out completely abroad or part of the activities may be carried out abroad and part in Uruguay. In the latter case, the postgraduate program is called a sandwich program. The amount of the scholarship that the scholarship holder will receive during the period that he/she resides in Uruguay will correspond to the amount of the national postgraduate scholarship, according to the approved budget of the proposal.

Each call may include specific agreements with foreign institutions that may provide additional benefits to scholarship holders.

Postgraduate scholarship holders abroad must complete full-time postgraduate programs.

Article 25: Dedication. During their stay in Uruguay, national postgraduate scholarship holders and sandwich postgraduate scholarship holders abroad may not work more than 30 hours per week.

In the event that the 30 hours of work dedication to another activity is exceeded, ANII will grant the scholarship as long as the employer assigns work hours to the postgraduate program. ANII may grant the scholarship in cases where the scholarship holder is required to be on-call or to teach in a non-tertiary capacity. In these cases, the corresponding justification must be presented.

Article 26: The beneficiaries will have the obligation to defend the postgraduate thesis within a period of no more than 6 months for master's degrees and 12 months for doctoral degrees, after the end of the scholarship period stipulated in the agreement. Once the postgraduate degree has been obtained, a copy of the degree or proof of its processing and proof of deposit of the thesis in the corresponding repository must be submitted at the Agency within 120 days of its issuance.

Article 27: Extensions. Once the scholarship term stipulated in the agreement (plus the term mentioned in the previous article) has elapsed, the scholarship holder may request an exceptional extension of up to 12 months to complete the postgraduate program. Upon expiration of this extension term, if the scholarship has not been finalized, the scholarship holder will be in default with ANII (article 19). In duly justified cases in which the fulfillment of the activities is impaired for reasons beyond the control of the scholarship holder, an exceptional extension of up to 6 months of the scholarship may be requested.

Article 28: In the cases mentioned in articles 26 and 27, the extensions will be without payment of scholarship. In the event that the scholarship holder completes the ANII call postgraduate program before the end of the scholarship term stipulated in the agreement, ANII will analyze the continuity of the scholarship payment until its completion.

Article 29: Upon completion of the postgraduate scholarship abroad, the scholarship holder must return to the country and reside there for a period equal to the duration of the scholarship awarded.

The scholar will have a maximum of 4 years from the completion of the master's scholarship and 8 years from the completion of the doctoral scholarship to complete the period of stay in the country. Upon expiration of this term, if the commitment has not been fulfilled, the person will be in default with ANII (article 19).

Alternatives to the obligation to remain in the country after completion of the postgraduate program will be considered. In any case, the alternative activities that could be recognized as a form of consideration must have a direct impact on the development of science, technology and innovation in the country. For example: teaching in Uruguay, publications with residents in the country, postgraduate tutoring in Uruguay.

These alternatives will be evaluated by CESBE or whoever ANII appoints and may replace the mandatory period of stay in the country once the postgraduate scholarship has ended. The degree of responsibility assumed in these activities will be taken into account.