The Open Society Foundations Scholarship Programs is pleased to announce the Civil Society Leadership Awards (CSLA) for the 2015-2016 academic year. Awards are available for MA degree study in the following fields at universities participating in the CSLA program:

- Development Studies
- Public Health & Health Management
- Education Management & Leadership
- Law & Human Rights
- Public Policy & Administration
- Environment & Natural Resource Management
- Social Work & Social Policy
- Politics & International Studies
- Select Humanities & Social Sciences
- Environment & Natural Resource Management
- Social Work & Social Policy

ELIGIBILITY:

Civil Society Leadership Awards are available to citizens of the following countries:

- Azerbaijan
- Belarus
- Cambodia
- Democratic Republic of Congo
- Egypt
- Equatorial Guinea
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- Laos
- Libya
- Republic of Congo
- South Sudan
- Sudan
- Syria
- Turkmenistan
- Uzbekistan

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be a citizen of an eligible country;
- Demonstrate maturity, flexibility and leadership potential;
- Have excellent academic records and an earned bachelor's degree before applying;
- Have proficiency in the language of instruction (English or French) at the desired university program, as evidenced by standardized language test scores;
• Be able to participate in an intensive academic writing program in July or August 2015 and start their degree program in August or September 2015;
• Be able to receive and maintain a visa or study permit as required by the host country; and
• Demonstrate a clear commitment to return to their home country or region to continue supporting open society development.

Further information about the Program, including a list of participating universities and eligible graduate degree programs, is available here

http://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/grants/civil-society-leadership-award

TO APPLY:

Applicants must complete the CSLA application to be considered for CSLA support. Please note that some universities require a separate application for graduate study at that institution. In these cases, OSF will notify candidates and assist with the university application process.

The CSLA program does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, or disability. Award decisions are open and merit-based.

DEADLINE:

The deadline for submitting all application materials is Monday December 15, 2014.
The Open Society Foundations work to build vibrant and tolerant democracies whose governments are accountable to their citizens. To achieve this mission, the Foundations seek to shape public policies that assure greater fairness in political, legal, and economic systems and safeguard fundamental rights. On a local level, the Open Society Foundations implement a range of initiatives to advance justice, education, public health, and independent media. At the same time, we build alliances across borders and continents on issues such as corruption and freedom of information. The Foundations place a high priority on protecting and improving the lives of people in marginalized communities.

Investor and philanthropist George Soros established the Open Society Foundations, starting in 1984, to help countries make the transition from communism. Our activities have grown to encompass the United States and more than 70 countries in Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America. Each Foundation relies on the expertise of boards composed of eminent citizens who determine individual agendas based on local priorities.

The Open Society Scholarship Programs support individuals passionate about improving their knowledge and their ability to advance positive social change in their home countries.

University-based education will empower these individuals to explore and develop intelligent and humane ideas generated by free and open inquiry, critical analysis, and a nuanced understanding of the complex challenges facing open societies.

Through professional degree and international research awards, we help individuals in constrained environments access academic resources more readily available in open societies. We prioritize grants to individuals in countries particularly challenged by repressive governance and constant threats to human rights.

Using transparent, open and merit-based competitions, we offer awards for advanced study in the social sciences and humanities. Awards include enhancements such as preparatory summer programs, regional conferences, and internship opportunities, all designed to strengthen the networks and communities of the open society leaders we seek to build.

The Scholarship Programs collaborate with universities, private donors, and government agencies around the world, as well as with other Open Society programs and affiliated organizations.