

TAGDev 2.0

Transforming African Agricultural Universities to meaningfully contribute to Africa's Growth and Development



In partnership with



Call for Scholarship Applications under the TAGDev 2.0 Programme for the 2026/2027 Academic Year at The National University of Agriculture

Call ID: RU/2026UNA/TAGDEV2.0



1.0 Background

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) in partnership with Mastercard Foundation, Gulu University (Uganda), Egerton University (Kenya), Africa University (Zimbabwe), University of Free State (South Africa), Malawi University of Science and Technology (Malawi), University of Eldoret (Kenya), Uganda Martyrs University (Uganda), University of Port Harcourt (Nigeria), University of Cape Coast (Ghana), University of Bamenda (Cameroon), National University of Agriculture (Benin), and Université Mohammed VI Polytechnique (Morocco) are implementing a 10 year programme (2023-2033) called Transforming African Agricultural Universities to Meaningfully Contribute to Africa's Growth and Development (TAGDev 2.0). The programme seeks to strengthen universities and TVET institutions to better serve communities by skilling and empowering Africa's young people and their institutions to drive inclusive, equitable and climate resilient transformation of agriculture and agrifood systems. The TAGDev 2.0 programme will support young African students that are economically disadvantaged but academically competent to access university education. The scholarship is open to both female and male applicants. However, females, refugees, internally displaced persons, and persons with disabilities are highly encouraged to apply.

2.0 Eligible Programmes

This call for Scholarships for the 2026/2027 academic year is open to applicants interested in and eligible to study : Bachelor of Science in Conservation and Processing of Agro-products, Bachelor of Science in Management and Operations of Livestock, Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness and Agricultural Policies, Bachelor of Science in Horticulture, Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Equipment, Bachelor of Science in Rural Sociology and Agricultural Extension, Master of Science in Plant Biotechnology and Seed production, Master of Science in Food Science and Technology and Human Nutrition, Master of Science in Tropical Forestry, and Master of Science in Aquaculture at the National University of Agriculture, Benin.

2.1. Admission requirements to National University of Agriculture and the specific academic programmes

Undergraduate Programmes	Admission Requirements
All Bachelors programme	<p>The undergraduate Programmes are open to all candidates with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baccalaureate or A-Level in science disciplines (BAC série C & D) (Biology, Geology, Math, Physics, Biology, Geology, Chemistry, etc.), or DEAT; • Any other diploma admitted as equivalent. • The BSc in Agricultural Equipment is also open for candidates with DEAT/AER, DT/FM, DT/CEMS, DT/MA, DT/Electrotech.
Masters Programmes	Admission Requirements
Master of Science in Plant Biotechnology and Seed production	<p>This training Programme is open to candidates with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor's degree in Agronomic and Water Sciences, with a major in Crop and Seed Production (direct admission to the Master's Programme); • Bachelor's Degree in any of the Agronomic and Water Sciences disciplines (Admission to the master's Programme after successful completion of the preparatory courses: knowledge and capacity building courses in Crop and Seed Production); • Professional Bachelor's degree in Life and Earth Sciences (Admission to the master's Programme after successful completion of the preparatory courses: knowledge and capacity building courses in the fundamentals of Agronomic Sciences); • Any other degree admitted as equivalent.

Master of Science in Tropical Forestry	This training Programme is open to candidates with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor's degree in Forestry, Agronomic Sciences; • Any other degree admitted as equivalent. • Depending on the diploma and transcripts provided by the candidate, he/she may be required to follow additional some courses before admission.
Master of Science in Food Science and Technology	This training Programme is open to candidates with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor's degree in Food Sciences and Nutrition Agronomic Sciences; • Any other degree admitted as equivalent. • Depending on the diploma and transcripts provided by the candidate, he/she may be required to follow additional some courses before admission.
Master of Science in Aquaculture	This training Programme is open to candidates with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor's degree in Aquaculture, Agronomic Sciences • Any other degree admitted as equivalent. • Depending on the diploma and transcripts provided by the candidate, he/she may be required to follow additional some courses before admission.

2.2 Appeal to potential applicants

Interested applicants are requested to visit the university website to familiarize with admission requirements for each degree Programme of their interest.

2.3 Contact Information

Prof. Flora Chadare

TAGDev 2.0 Programme Coordinator,
National University of Agriculture (UNA)
Email: tagdevuna@gmail.com
Website: www.una.bj

3.0 Eligibility for Scholarships

3.1. Who is eligible to apply?

Scholarships are open to candidates in Benin from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Candidates from conflict and post-conflict areas of Africa residing in Benin are also encouraged to apply. The applicant has to be in position to qualify for admission into undergraduate and/or postgraduate programmes at the National University of Agriculture (UNA), Benin. All applicants should read and thoroughly understand the admission criteria for the relevant programmes at the National University of Agriculture (UNA). Students already having a scholarship of any kind are not eligible to benefit from this scholarship opportunity. Anyone with a double scholarship if found will automatically be discontinued. Beneficiaries of TAGDev scholarships are not eligible to apply.

3.2. Selection criteria

i. Be a Beninese or a refugee resident in

Benin to benefit from the national respective scholarship quota.

- ii. Be from economically disadvantaged, marginalized communities, and/or coming from conflict and post conflict areas in Benin
- iii. Be less than 25 years for undergraduate and less than 35 years for masters' studies at the time of application.
- iv. The applicant should meet admission criteria to be eligible programmes in National University of Agriculture.
- v. Demonstrate interest in agriculture, agribusiness and entrepreneurship especially in the agricultural areas.
- vi. Demonstrate leadership qualities.
- vii. Have commitment to working in agriculture and agricultural value chains.
- viii. Have a strong commitment to community transformation.
- ix. Female candidates are highly encouraged to apply.

3.3. What the scholarship covers

This is a full board comprehensive scholarship that covers: tuition fees, research costs, workshop and conference costs, living expenses including stipend and hostel, laptop, internship attachment, community engagement and field attachment, and entrepreneurship training. Consequently, considering the level of investment, successful applicants will be required to become high achievers, highly engaging and focused students/ graduates and change makers contributing to outreach services in the communities, capable of creating enterprises that create jobs for themselves and others and have personal satisfaction and dynamism.

3.4. Nature of the scholarship

This is a comprehensive scholarship with direct and indirect costs that will be covered by the TAGDev 2.0 programme through the implementing university where the student will be studying. Indirect costs such as participation in the international conference will be directly covered by the RUFORUM Secretariat. The following further apply:

- i. Direct costs for student training will be transferred to the university as a grant payable to the university. The students will receive their respective services and entitlements from the university as the implementer and where necessary from RUFORUM.
- ii. All scholarships will be on a rolling basis implying that, the scholarship will be renewed on annual basis subject to satisfactory academic performance at National University of Agriculture.
- iii. Retaking more than four courses will lead to the withdrawal of the scholarship awarded to the candidate.
- iv. Applicants who may be discovered to have falsified information in order to gain advantage of the scholarship shall be disqualified on confirmation of the falsification and/ or forgery.
- v. Any misconduct (breaching university

rules especially examination malpractice, violence towards others) on the part of the successful applicant shall lead to automatic disqualification and loss of the scholarship.

- vi. Successful applicants will be expected to become champions and transformative leaders, entrepreneurs and change makers at various levels and shall remain communicating with RUFORUM and the Universities as part of the Programme Alumni.

4.0 Application process and procedure

4.1 Application for university admission at the National University of Agriculture

The application process will be in two stages. The first stage is application for admission to the Programme of choice (see section 2.0 of the call) submitted to the National University of Agriculture (UNA). The second stage is application for the TAGDev scholarship submitted to RUFORUM. Both stages have to be done concurrently.

All applications for admission must be submitted both by delivering hard copy documents to the respective University Office and should also be sent in a single Pdf file by mail to the address indicated below. **Both submission channels are mandatory for a complete application.**

Academic Programmes	Applications submissions channels	
	Applications Submission Office	Online Application submission
All BSc programmes	Academic Registrar Office of UNA	tagdevscholariteuna@gmail.com With a copy to tagdevuna@gmail.com
MSc. Plant Biotechnology and Seed production	Academic Registrar Office of UNA	adanappo2013@gmail.com With a copy to tagdevuna@gmail.com
MSc. Food Science & Technology	Academic Registrar Office of UNA	scolaritestctpa@yahoo.com With a copy to tagdevuna@gmail.com

MSc. Tropical Forestry	Academic Registrar Office of UNA	tlougbe@yahoo.fr With a copy to tagdevuna@gmail.com
MSc. Aquaculture	Academic Registrar Office of UNA	tndarius@yahoo.com With a copy to tagdevuna@gmail.com

To apply to the National University of Agriculture for undergraduate Programme, applicants are required to provide the following:

- A request addressed to the Rector specifying the field/Programme of choice;
- A certified copy of Baccalaureate or A-Level in science disciplines and its transcripts;
- A certified copy of diploma and their equivalences or proof of submission (issued by the General Direction of higher education in Benin (DGES)) for all foreign diplomas.

To apply to the National University of Agriculture for Master degree Programme, applicants are required to have the following:

- A request of admission addressed to the Rector specifying the field/Programmes of choice;
- A curriculum vitae;
- A certified copy of the birth certificate;
- A certified copy of the certificate of nationality;
- A copy of the Personal Identification Certificate or the Biometric Card (ECOWAS identity card);
- A certified copy of the diploma or certificate;
- A certified copy of the transcripts of the Bachelor's degree;
- A certified copy of the Baccalaureate (BAC D or C);
- Two (02) letters of recommendation from University Lecturers familiar with the applicant and his/her academic background;
- Certified copies of foreign diploma and their equivalences or proof of submission (issued by the General Direction of higher education in Benin (DGES)) for all foreign diplomas;
- Proof of English language or commitment to

enroll in and attend intensive English language courses;

For additional information about the scholarship at the National University of Agriculture Please contact:

Prof. Flora Chadare

TAGDev 2.0 Coordinator
National University of Agriculture (UNA)
Email: tagdevuna@gmail.com
Website: www.una.bj

4.2 Application for Scholarship

The procedure for submitting the TAGDev 2.0 scholarship application through the RUFORUM Information Management System (RIMS) is as follows:

- Access the RIMS Web Portal through; <https://rims2.ruforum.org/>
- Create your account by clicking on **Register Here**
- An email will be sent to your valid email address to activate your account. Please check in the Spam or Junk for message incase activation mail is not reflected in your inbox
- Login using your email and password you used for creating.
- After successful login, the Applicant Dashboard will appear with different options.
- Go to Calls – > Scholarship Calls
- Select the Call ID: RU/2026UNA/TAGDev 2.0/001
- Click Apply to start filling the Application Form.
- Remember to save while filling the form by **“Clicking Save Draft”**

- x. Download, print and submit it with your application form for admission to the University.
- xi. Submit the document in hard copy or simply attach it on the university online portal.

For any assistance, kindly contact the administrator at mcf@ruforum.org

Submission Deadline: 1st May 2026

Dates for key Virtual Information Session Days shall be communicated in the due course. All information sessions will be virtual and start at 16:00 Hrs East African Time.