



SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

INTERNATIONAL COURSE TRAINING PROGRAM IN SOIL GEOLOGY FOR ENGINEERS NO SPECIALISTS - 3RD ONLINE EDITION

From June 1st to 12th, 2026

Call for applications available at <https://www.agcid.cl>

Chilean Agency for International Cooperation for Development y AGCID

BACKGROUND

The Government of Chile, through its Chilean Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AGCID), together with the Faculty of Physical and Mathematical Sciences of the University of Chile, committed to the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals and its responsibility to cooperate so that no one is left behind on the paths to development, has proposed to promote an alliance for the implementation of the *Soil Geology Training Program for Non-Specialist Engineers*.

Based on the results of recent technical assistance experiences provided by AGCID to Central American countries, geology has been identified as a priority thematic area in which Chile possesses recognized strengths and capabilities. Therefore, this scholarship program offers a short-term, online international course designed to provide engineers without geology specializations with the knowledge and skills necessary to identify, analyze, and apply fundamental geological concepts in engineering projects. This will enhance their ability to assess ground conditions, construction materials, and the influence of geological processes on the safety and viability of infrastructure.

GENERAL INFORMATION

I. OBJECTIVE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURSE

To provide engineers who are not specialists in geology with the knowledge and skills necessary to identify, analyze and apply fundamental geological concepts in engineering projects, improving their ability to assess ground conditions, construction materials and the influence of geological processes on the safety and viability of infrastructure.

II. EXPECTED RESULTS

Participants in the course are expected to improve their knowledge and skills in:

1. Understand the fundamental principles of geology and how these influence the soil formation and behavior in engineering projects.
2. Identify and classify minerals and rocks based on their physical and petrographic properties, using basic field and laboratory recognition techniques.
3. Recognize the main geological processes that affect soil stability, such as plate tectonics, weathering, and structural deformations (faults and folds).
4. Evaluate the mechanical properties of soils, such as their strength, permeability, and compactness, applying this knowledge to infrastructure projects and soil studies.
5. Apply geotechnical techniques for soil exploration and analysis, interpreting the results in the context of engineering requirements.
6. Interpret geological and geotechnical studies to assess the suitability of a site for construction, considering risk factors such as landslides, subsidence, and other geological hazards.
7. Make informed decisions on infrastructure projects.
8. Collaborate effectively with specialized geologists

III. IMPLEMENTING INSTITUTION

The Faculty of Physical and Mathematical Sciences at the University of Chile will be responsible for developing and delivering the training program. Its mission is the generation, development, integration, and communication of knowledge in basic sciences, engineering, earth sciences, and economics and management. This mission is fulfilled through teaching, research, and outreach activities at the highest levels of complexity and with international standards of excellence.

IV. DURATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURSE

The course will be implemented online between June 1st and 12th, 2026. It lasts 2 weeks, comprising a total of 30 hours distributed among lectures, workshops, and synchronous group activities (classes Monday through Friday, 5 sessions per week, 3 hours per session).

This course is 100% online (via streaming) and will be delivered through the Zoom platform for live transmission of each class by the instructors/experts. The U-Cursos Teaching Support Platform will also be used.

V. LANGUAGE

The International Course will be conducted entirely in Spanish.

VI. BENEFITS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

The Program will finance¹ :

- Tuition and program fees.
- Certificate of approval.

VII. INVITED COUNTRIES AND/OR ORGANIZATIONS

The governments of the following countries and regions will be invited to nominate candidates for the International Course: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Uruguay and the following CARICOM Member States: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.

VIII. TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

The total number of participants from invited countries will not exceed 30 in total² and there are no pre-established quotas per country.

¹ No additional items beyond those mentioned above will be funded. Personal expenses must be covered by each participant.

² This academic program requires a minimum number of participants to be offered and, due to unforeseen circumstances, may experience changes in its schedule, teaching staff, and/or delivery method. Any changes will be communicated by the Program Coordinator.

IX. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

The International Course is primarily aimed at people who meet the following requirements:

- Be a citizen of the country being convened and have residency in one of them. If you are temporarily in a country other than your country of citizenship, you must apply through the focal point of the country of which you are a citizen.
- To be nominated by your Government in accordance with the procedures indicated in Paragraph X.
- Hold a university degree related to engineering sciences and/or earth sciences.
- Possess work experience in the public or private sector, in matters of earth sciences, geological hazard assessment, engineering or disaster risk reduction, among others.
- Professionals working in institutions of relevance in the field of geology and/or earth sciences.
- Have internet access for at least 15 hours per week for class development on-line.

Important note:

Priority in the selection will be given to candidates who are working on projects related to the national development of their country and/or who have been linked to AGCID technical assistance projects.

X. APPLICATION PROCESS

Candidates must submit their application, along with all requested information, digitally via email (a complete copy of their application, including signatures and seals) to the Focal Point in their country of origin (Annex IV) for official processing. The required documents are as follows:

- a) Application Form (Annex I) duly signed by the participant and their leadership;
- b) Proposed Action Plan (Annex II);
- c) Letter of commitment (Annex III);
- d) Title certificate;
- e) Applicants who are not Spanish speakers must present proof of language proficiency such as: certification through an international exam, a copy of a university degree if they have completed undergraduate or postgraduate studies in a Spanish-speaking country, or a letter of confirmation from the Embassy of Chile in the country.

Interested parties should submit their applications to the respective Focal Point in each country (see list of focal points in Annex IV) in order to formalize their application .

**Applications received without official approval from the Focal Point will not be considered.
selection moment.**

Each Focal Point will determine the deadline for submitting applications; therefore, it is the responsibility of each applicant to consult directly with the Focal Point in their country (Annex IV) regarding the respective application deadline. These deadlines may vary from country to country.

This call for applications for the International Course will have the following stages and reference application dates:

Stage	Dates
Dissemination and publication of the call for applications	December 16th, 2026
Closing of the call for applications (for applicants, after prior confirmation with the AGCID Focal Point)	April 20, 2026
Candidate pre-selection and application submission to the Platform AGCID Scholarships (<i>for Focal Point</i>)	April 24, 2026
Selection Committee	April 27 to 4 May 2026
Publication of results and notification of selected candidates	May 6, 2026

The final date for receiving applications by AGCID is **April 20, 2026, and may be closed before the date indicated by the AGCID Focal Point of each country**, so it must be confirmed in the country of origin of each applicant, according to the contacts in Annex IV.

TO CONSIDER:

• No incomplete, illegible or late applications will be processed.

Only applications officially submitted by the Focal Point will be evaluated.
will not consider any application submitted directly by the applicant.

- It is the responsibility of the applicants to carefully read the call for applications with all its requirements, application procedures and all attached documents; as well as to submit their application complying with the professional requirements specified in each offer.

The information provided in the application form and its respective annexes constitutes a sworn statement. Therefore, in the event of having falsified, altered, concealed, or presented inaccurate information for the purpose of obtaining the scholarship, the applicant will be held liable.

The applicant will be subject to the corresponding administrative, civil, and criminal penalties, in accordance with the regulations of their country of origin. Furthermore, the applicant will be indefinitely barred from applying to future calls for proposals. This will be communicated by the Committee established for the implementation of the scholarship.

XI. SELECTION

The selection will be made by a Technical Committee comprised of representatives from AGCID and the University. This same Committee may assess the feasibility of including other experts in geology and earth sciences.

The results of the selection will be published on May 6, 2026 on the AGCID website, available at www.agcid.cl, for the information of all interested parties.

The organizers of the International Course will contact each selected participant by email to notify them, according to the contact information provided in the Application Form, and will directly coordinate all the arrangements related to their participation.

Important: Only those selected will be notified and, once they have confirmed acceptance of the scholarship, they will be sent a guide with the corresponding instructions and procedures to follow.

The final decision regarding who receives the scholarship is the sole responsibility of the Selection Committee and this decision is final. _____

XII. PARTICIPANT'S OBLIGATIONS

• Applicants are responsible for providing current contact information (Annex I: Application Form) and for periodically checking their email accounts in case of official requests and notices from the coordinating team, according to the dates described in section XI.

Participants will strictly adhere to the International Course program. Requests for changes or alterations to the initially established International Course program will not be accepted.

- Respect the instructions given by teachers and ensure good coexistence among the scholarship recipients of the International Course.

The International Course is designed to be delivered exclusively online for this edition. **A minimum of 90% attendance is required for successful completion.**

- Complete all necessary procedures for your participation in the program, **including obtaining authorization from your supervisor to attend live classes.** - Interruption of participation in the International Course will only be authorized in duly justified cases that prevent continuation of the training.

CONTACTS

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