

Beat: Business

## Sciences Po 1st university to integrate the MasterCard Foundation Scholarship

### In continental Europe

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**USPA NEWS** - The MasterCard Foundation announces a six-year partnership worth \$ 8.2 million (approximately € 7.6 million) with Sciences Po. 120 a new generation of decision-makers a high-level university education in the social sciences in One of the largest European institutions.

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"For more than ten years, Sciences Po has made investment in the players of the Africa of tomorrow a strategic priority. This initiative, in addition to being consistent with our mission, also responds to strategic challenges and opportunities that specifically affect Africa. We are delighted to partner with the MasterCard Foundation, which shares our values "and our goal," said Frédéric Mion, Director of Sciences Po.

The MasterCard Foundation Scholarship Program at Sciences Po will benefit African students facing difficulties in accessing higher education and wanting to integrate the undergraduate program between Europe and Africa at the University College (20 fellowships) , A Master in one of the seven graduate schools (40 scholarships), or the Summer School (60 scholarships) which focuses on current issues of leadership, African issues and other international issues of equal importance.

#### MASTER CARD FOUNDATION SHCOLARSHIP PROGRAM WELCOMES SCIENCES PO-----

"We are pleased to welcome Sciences Po as a partner in the MasterCard Foundation Scholarship Program," said Peter Maretu, Director of Education, Learning and Youth News at the MasterCard Foundation. "Nearly half of the participants at Sciences Po have a professional activity outside their teaching activity. Fellows will have access to theoretical and practical knowledge that will enable them to catalyze and implement positive developments in their communities. "

Sciences Po is committed to doubling the number of African lycées involved in this program. From 30 in 2015, it should increase to 70 in 2017. Sciences Po will target countries currently underrepresented in the Fellowship Program, for example Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal and Madagascar.

#### SCIENCES PO WILL PROVIDE A BETTER PROFESSIONAL INTEGRATION IN AFRICA-----

Sciences Po will provide fellows with a set of resources to facilitate their professional integration, in particular a special online employment forum for Africa and access to its business incubator. Students will also benefit from its extensive network of employers and alumni in the African continent and its network of entrepreneurs. It complements and builds on the African Employment Network, a platform of skills matching services deployed by the African Leadership Academy, funded by the MasterCard Foundation. In collaboration with other partners in the Scholarship Program network, Sciences Po aims to develop research on how higher education institutions can assess their capacity to accompany the return of scholarship recipients in Africa, Actors of change in their country of origin.-----

Strongly anchored internationally, Sciences Po's mission is to train the actors of tomorrow, curious and open-minded. Sciences Po hosts an African community of 800 students and 80 lecturers, 20 fellows and doctoral students. More than 600 alumni working on the continent. The university has more than 20 partnerships with African higher education institutions and is already working on new collaborations with some institutions belonging to the Scholarship Program.-----

Sciences Po has an international network of 28 partner organizations committed to ensuring that all young people, regardless of their background, have the same opportunities to obtain quality education and pursue their ambitions. The Program provides training and leadership development to nearly 35,000 talented young leaders who are deeply committed to changing their environment. These young people will create significant changes in their communities and will have a mission to contribute to a new era of inclusive prosperity in Africa and elsewhere.

The first bursaries for the first cycle will be awarded in September 2017. The Sciences Po scholarship site contains further information on eligibility, applications and the selection process: [http://formation.sciences-po.fr/ Students-hue](http://formation.sciences-po.fr/Students-hue).

Sciences Po will organize information sessions in South Africa and Kenya in March 2017, and in Senegal, Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire in May 2017. The dates will be announced shortly on its website.

**ABOUT MASTER CARD FOUNDATION-----**

The MasterCard Foundation works with visionary organizations to provide greater access to education, training and financial services for the poor, primarily in Africa. As one of the largest private foundations, its work is guided by its mission of advancing learning and promoting financial inclusion to create an inclusive and equitable world. Based in Toronto, Canada, its independence was established by MasterCard from its inception in 2006. For more information and to register for the MasterCard Foundation newsletter, please visit [www.mastercardfdn.org](http://www.mastercardfdn.org). Follow the MasterCard Foundation on Twitter.

**ABOUT SCIENCES PO UNIVERSITY IN PARIS-----**

Based on values “of openness and excellence, Sciences Po is a selective research university of international standing, whose unique model combines specialization in human and social sciences, multidisciplinary and professional anchoring to form players who understand and transform society. Because diversity is a key element in its identity, Sciences Po has 47% of international students from 150 countries and 27% of students are scholarships, compared with 6% in 2000. Source Sciences Po

**Article online:**

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