



Universities UK  
International

# TERMS OF PARTICIPATION IN UUKi-BEC.AR ARGENTINIAN SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME NOVEMBER 2016

## Contact:

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## Audience:

Directors International and International Office  
staff with responsibility for Latin America

## Executive Summary

UUKi has signed an agreement with the Ministry of Modernisation of the Republic of Argentina, enabling the UK to be a destination country for Argentine government sponsored students of the national BEC.AR scholarship programme for the first time.

# ACTION

To inform Universities UK International (UUKi) if your institution does not wish to participate in a new scholarship scheme, as a host institution for Argentinian students funded under the BEC.AR programme.

All UK higher education institutions (HEIs) will automatically be included as a study destination for Argentinian scholars; UK institutions which prefer not to participate are requested to notify UUKi using the contact details provided in this note.

# INFORMATION

## About the scheme

- UUKi was approached by the BEC.AR programme who sought a UK partner to centrally coordinate and administer the BEC.AR scholarship programme in the UK on their behalf
- There have up until now been few official mechanisms for fully-funded UK-Argentinian academic mobility, making the UUKi-BEC.AR agreement a significant and positive development in the relationship between the UK and Argentina
- In year one (2017), it is anticipated that the UK will welcome a small cohort of approximately 20 BEC.AR funded Master's students in STEM subjects (please see Annex I) to complete their studies at UK universities of their choice
- From year two, the agreement will additionally allow for provision of short term PhD mobility of Argentinian students to the UK (up to 9 months)
- The first call for student funding applications will open in early November 2016 and will be for a September 2017 academic start
- The scholarship will cover academic tuition fees, travel expenses, a monthly maintenance allowance (£1,400 GBP), travel and health insurance and visa costs

## UUKi's role

- Acting as a point of assistance and guidance to BEC.AR scholars from the point of applying to a UK University, right up until they return to Argentina following completion of their course
- Liaising with host UK institutions on behalf of BEC.AR for any issues pertaining to the students' academic performance and/or well-being
- UUKi will be responsible for transferring the appropriate funds to participating UK universities for any BEC.AR funded students, both tuition fees and the student's monthly stipend (see "Host UK university role" for more details)

## Host UK university's role

UK universities, research centres or institutes that will host scholars under this scholarship programme would be required to:

- Receive the sum of 10 months of the scholarship recipients' annual living allowance from UUKi and transfer the sum to the scholars during their stay in the UK on a quarterly basis (students will receive the first two months directly from BEC.AR, in advance of their arrival in the UK)
- Communicate to UUKi the amount of tuition fees due, to allow UUKi to transfer the agreed sum to the host institution in a timely manner
- Provide UUKi with a named point of contact for any queries relating to BEC.AR students or the university's participation in the scheme
- Keep UUKi informed of any changes or issues regarding the students' academic performance and/or well-being throughout the term
- Sign a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with Universities UK in relation to the scheme



### Political context

- Argentina's centre-right leader, President Mauricio Macri, was inaugurated in December 2015, signalling the end of Cristina Fernández de Kirchner's 12-year presidency and ushering in a new political era for the country. Macri's administration aims to develop Argentina's position in global affairs, amongst which is the stated desire to establish a positive relation with the UK.
- These ambitions mark an improvement of prior UK-Argentinian relations which have typically been characterised by diplomatic tensions over the Falkland Islands.
- President Macri has stated that he will continue to negotiate a claim to sovereignty in relation to the Falkland Islands, but the new President has nevertheless affirmed his desire for greater cooperation with the UK, signifying a shift in bilateral relations between the two countries.
- Macri's conciliatory rhetoric has already had a visible impact on his policies. In September 2016, UK Foreign Office Minister Sir Alan Duncan met Argentina's Foreign Affairs Minister Susana Malcorra in Buenos Aires. The meeting saw the officials pledge to work together more closely on a range of bilateral issues, including trade and security, and has since been hailed the most positive development in UK-Argentinian relations for over 15 years.

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**The UUKi-BEC.AR agreement is a significant and positive development in the relationship between the UK and Argentina.**

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#### Further information:

For further information about the BEC.AR programme: <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/becar>

# ANNEX I

Area	Disciplines included in the Area (not limited)
Biological Sciences of Cells and Molecules	Molecular and Cellular Biology - Biochemistry - Human Biology - Plant Biology - Biomathematics - Biophysics - Genetics - Immunology - Microbiology - Virology - Radiobiology - Biotechnology - Biochemical Technology
Biological Sciences of Organisms and Systems	Zoology - Physical Anthropology - Ethology - Entomology - Paleontology - Botany - Symbiosis - Oceanography - Ecology - Microbiology - Genetics - Neuroscience - Toxicology - Nutrition
Physical, Mathematical and Astronomical Sciences	General Logic and Applications - Algebra - Analysis and Functional Analysis - Computer Science - Geometry - Theory of Numbers - Numerical Analysis - Operative Investigation - Probability - Statistics - Topology - Acoustics - Electromagnetics - Electronics - Mechanics - Molecular Physics - Atomic and Nuclear Physics - Nuclear Science - Optics - Physical Chemistry - Solid State Physics - Theoretical Physics - Thermodynamics - Units and Constants - High Energy Physics - Meteorology - Climatology
Medical and Clinical Sciences and Public Health	Epidemiology - Biomedical Technology - Pharmacological Treatment of Illnesses - Genetics - Neuroscience - Microbiology - Virology - Parasitology - Pharmacodynamics - Pharmacology
Chemical Sciences	Analytical Chemistry - Biochemistry - Inorganic Chemistry - Macromolecular Chemistry - Nuclear Chemistry - Organic Chemistry - Pharmaceutical Chemistry
Earth and Hydro-Atmospheric Sciences	Atmospheric Sciences - Climatology - Geodesy - Geology - Geochemistry - Geomorphology - Geophysics - Hydrology - Geotechnics - Meteorology - Oceanography - Earth Sciences - Space Sciences
Agricultural and Forest Technology	Agricultural Engineering - Agrochemistry - Agronomy - Forest Engineering - Horticulture - Plant Pathology - Animal Production - Technology in Wood Industries
Livestock and Fishery Technology	Animal Production - Fish and Wildlife - Aquaculture - Veterinary Sciences
Environmental Technology	Technology and Environmental Engineering - Waste Engineering - Atmospheric Contamination, of soil and water - Waste Water Technology - Regeneration and Bioremediation - Sanitary Engineering
Chemical Technology	Biochemical Technology - Metallurgical Technology - Engineering and Chemical Technologies - Carbon and Petroleum Technology - Biotechnology - Mining Technology - Textile Technology
Food Technology	Food Technology - Biochemical Technology - Food Preservation Technology - Food Microbiology
Industrial, Energy, Transport, Mining, Mechanical and Material Engineering	Construction Technology - Material Technology - Electric Technology - Instrumentation - Mechanical Technology - Energy and Nuclear Technology - Mining Technology - Mechatronics - Naval Technology - Road Technology
Information, Communication and Electronic Technology	Information and Communication Technology - Computer Engineering - Informatics - Electronics - Instrumentation - Systems Engineering - Robotics - Advanced Production Technology