



EMBAIXADA DA REPÚBLICA FEDERATIVA DO BRASIL

ბრაზილიის ფედერაციული რესპუბლიკის საელჩო

EMBASSY OF THE FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL

To The Minister of Education and Science
Mr. Aleksandre Jejelava

I have the pleasure to convey to you information just received from “CAPES” on programs that provide the possibility to study in Brazil.

CAPES - Brazilian Federal Agency for Support and Evaluation of Graduate Education presents programs for postgraduate students from around the world.

The National Postgraduate System involves the offer of masters and doctorates in higher education institutions in all regions of the country. All courses in this system are routinely evaluated to ensure the quality of the courses on offer. This guarantees: the training of teachers and lecturers for all levels of the education system; training of highly qualified human resources for the non-academic market; strengthening of the scientific, technological and innovation (S,T&I) bases of the country; production of knowledge attuned to the advances in S,T&I; all associated with internationalization of higher education and research.

For the detailed information, as well as the list of the Universities and the Program Names, please, see the following link: <http://www.capes.gov.br/excellence-postgraduate/catalog.pdf>

A basic leaflet, extracted from the above mentioned link, is annexed.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Garcia".
Yours sincerely,
Cícero Martins Garcia
Ambassador of Brazil



Tbilisi, 16 August 2016.

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Postgraduate Programs of International Quality Offered by Brazilian Universities

Worldwide ranking of scientific production shows Brazil in 13th position since 2008¹. This improvement in Brazilian science is seen not only in terms of the quantity of papers published in peer reviewed journals but also in quality with Brazilian research being published in journals such as Nature, PNAS, Science, among others, in all fields of research. The advance in science recorded in recent years has contributed to an increased demand by international students and researchers for postgraduate qualifications as well as integration with Brazilian research groups and network creation on an international level. Brazil also shows a diverse ethnic, cultural and environmental background, which offers additional attractions for foreign students and researchers.

The development of quality education, available to the whole population, has been a priority in Brazil over the last two decades. This can be seen in the publication Education at a Glance 2015, by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OCDE)², where, among the 38 countries evaluated in 2012, Mexico, New Zealand and Brazil were at the top of the list in terms of proportion of the GDP devoted to education. The consequences of this can be seen at all levels of the education system, from primary schools to post-graduate studies in world renowned universities.

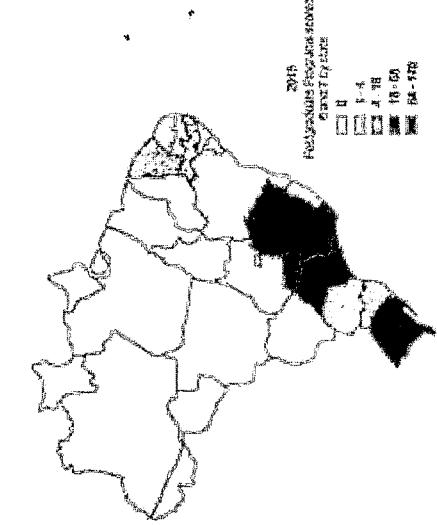
The National Postgraduate System involves the offer of masters and doctorates in higher education institutions in all regions of the country. All courses in this system are routinely evaluated to ensure the quality of the courses on offer. This guarantees: the training of teachers and lecturers for all levels of the education system; training of highly qualified human resources for the non-academic market; strengthening of the scientific, technological and innovation (S, T&I) bases of the country; production of knowledge attuned to the advances in S, T&I; all associated with internationalization of higher education and research.

The scientifically orientated masters and doctorate courses are designed to provide, within the university, the appropriate environment and resources to develop independent scientific research.

Postgraduate Programs of Excellence

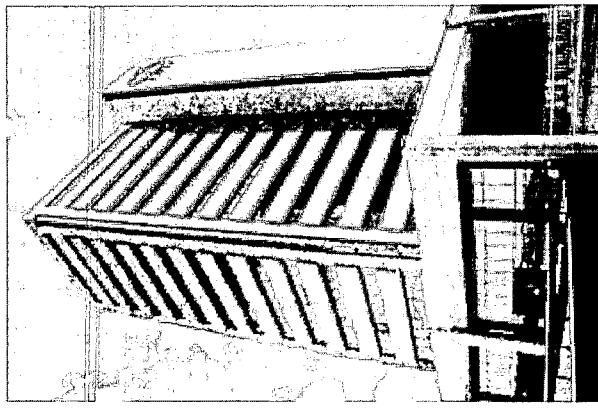
All postgraduate programs in Brazil are evaluated every four years by the Brazilian Federal Agency for Post-graduate Education (CAPES), in partnership with the academic and scientific community. Those that receive a score of 6 or 7 are considered of excellent quality at both national and international level. In practice, this means scientific production with strong insertion in the upper strata of scientific journals (status granted to publications acknowledged for their excellence by the scientific community), national and international awards, exchange of researchers and professors between leading institutions in their areas of knowledge, internationalization of their research projects, faculty with a high level of education and experience, a structure designed to meet research demands, including international-standard infrastructure and a high degree of social insertion. There are 3678 postgraduate programs (Masters and Doctorate) in Brazil of which 416 received maximum scores.

Ensuring cultural richness and diversity, the excellence programs graded 6 and 7 are present in all regions of the country (Figure 01) and all areas of knowledge, from art to biotechnology, from astronomy to administration, from economy to medicine, from environmental sciences to engineering. This diversity means that the student looking for a *stricto sensu* postgraduate program in Brazil can easily identify the area in which he/she wishes to deepen their knowledge and contribute to the construction of Science.



Source: geocapes.capes.gov.br

FIGURE 01: Geographical distribution of Excellence (Grades 6 and 7 as classified by CAPES evaluation system) Grade Brazilian Post-graduate programs in 2015



Capes building in Brasília - DF

1. Fonte: ISI - Institute for Scientific Information. National Science Indicators, USA. Base deluxe - SCI (2009).

2. Disponível em <http://www.oecd.org/edu/education-at-a-glance-19991487.htm>

Opportunities for foreign students

There are a number of incentives for the foreign student who intends to expand his/her knowledge through the Brazilian postgraduate system:

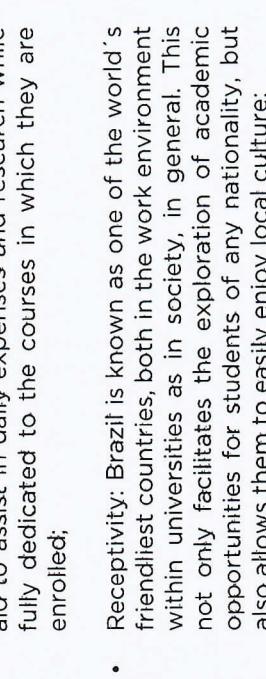
- Tuition waiver: 91% of postgraduate courses with scores 6 and 7 are offered by public universities, funded by Federal and state governments, guaranteeing the gratuity of courses to masters and doctorate students;
- Availability of scholarships: besides tuition waivers, foreign students in Brazil can also apply for financial aid to assist in daily expenses and research while fully dedicated to the courses in which they are enrolled;
- Receptivity: Brazil is known as one of the world's friendliest countries, both in the work environment within universities as in society, in general. This not only facilitates the exploration of academic opportunities for students of any nationality, but also allows them to easily enjoy local culture;
- Availability of subjects in English: CAPES, as well as educational institutions, have been working together to provide a higher number of courses with subjects taught in English to ensure content accessibility for those who do not speak Portuguese.

- These options, combined with all actions steered by CAPES, result in ample opportunities for the foreign student. Programs of excellence together with government and social support make Brazil a great choice for students worldwide who wish to expand their borders and be scientifically and culturally enriched.

year on their websites. Each program releases its own selection notice, where the requirements for the application are listed.

What is CAPES?

The Brazilian Federal Agency for Support and Assessment of Post-graduate Education (CAPES) was founded in 1951 to ensure the availability of qualified personnel in sufficient quantity and quality to meet the country's needs. Since then, CAPES has played a key role in the expansion and consolidation of the national postgraduate system in all states of the Brazilian Federation.



CAPES' activities can be grouped into the following lines of action, each developed by a structured set of programs: assessment of the national *stricto sensu* postgraduate system; access and dissemination of scientific production; investments in high-level training of human resources both nationally and abroad; promotion of international scientific cooperation; induction and development of initial and continued training for basic education teachers in both classroom and distance formats.

The student selection process for masters and PhD studies in Brazil is carried out by the individual Post-Graduate Program (See websites at the end of this document). These publish the opportunity framework for the different lines of research once or twice a

year on their websites. Each program releases its own selection notice, where the requirements for the application are listed.

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As a Funding Institution for Brazilian Science, CAPES depends on all professors, researchers and advisors in post-graduate programs to guarantee the procedures for evaluating the quality of research and training of the necessary human resources for Brazilian development.



Photo: Portal de Periódicos

CAPES' Scientific Information Gateway

(www.periodicos.capes.gov.br)

This is a virtual library which makes international information available at no cost to Brazilian scientists from their desk-top computer, including more than 38 thousand full text journals, 126 reference and patent bases, as well as books, encyclopedias, reference works, technical norms, statistics and audiovisual content. The gateway *CAPES periódicos* has had a significant impact on Brazilian science by making important journals available to university lecturers and students at no cost as soon as they are published, leading to over 50 million accesses per year. This means immediate access to up-to-date information and ground breaking research abroad is readily available to the Brazilian scientific community.





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