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OAS – Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia 2017 SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES at the University for Information Science and Technology “St. Paul the Apostle”

OAS Partnerships Program for Education and Training (PAEC)

The Organization of American States (OAS), through the Department of Human Development, Education and Employment (DHDEE) and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, through the OAS Partnerships Program for Education and Training (PAEC), are offering scholarships to qualified candidates of the Americas to pursue undergraduate degree programs at the University for Information Science and Technology “St. Paul the Apostle” (UIST).

PROGRAMS:	Undergraduate degree programs Detailed information about the programs are available here .
MODALITY:	Onsite, Ohrid, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
LANGUAGE:	English
DURATION:	3-4 years
DEADLINES:	For scholarship application: April 30th, 2017
START DATE	September 2017
END DATE	September 2020-2021
BENEFITS:	• Full tuition fees; • Visa and resident permit fees (<i>proof of good health and immunization chart is required</i>); • Primary Health Insurance • Round trip economy class airline tickets from the country of origin to residence to Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia; • Accommodation in shared rooms and food (full board) at the University dorm “Nikola Karev” in Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia; • Monthly allowance of 5000 MKD (approximately \$82 Euros or \$105 USD) • Local transportation from the airport to the dormitories.

1. ABOUT THE OAS AND UIST

The General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (GS/OAS)

GS/OAS is the central and permanent organ of the Organization of American States (OAS). Through its Department of Human Development, Education and Employment (DHDEE), GS/OAS supports OAS member states in creating policies and executing programs that promote human capacity development at all educational levels. By enabling formative opportunities to citizens, DHDEE strengthens democratic values and security under the framework of regional integration. DHDEE does this: (i) by supporting the efforts of OAS member states to improve the quality of and equity in education; and (ii) by assisting the citizens of the Americas in realizing their full potential by giving them access to knowledge and skills through training that improves the standard of living for individuals, families and communities in the region.

The University for Information Science and Technology “St. Paul the Apostle” (UIST)

The University for Information Science and Technology “St. Paul the Apostle” (UIST) in Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia, is a higher education institution dedicated to the education of the next generation of leaders for the digital 21st century. UIST implements a student centered, problem-based teaching approach with continuous updates to their curriculum based on the rapid evolution in information technology research, practice and applications.

The UIST is a modern institution that follows the latest trends in the fields of information science and technology. In order to achieve this goal, UIST offers three-year and four-year programs in information science and technology, which lead toward a “Bachelor of Science in Information Science and Technology” degree in the respective study fields. The academic staff has extensive experience in the preparation and realization of scientific-research activities, participation in renowned international conferences with research papers, and publication of research papers in international peer reviewed journals. In addition, a successful collaboration in international projects is being realized both in the country and abroad.

UIST is ranked among the top five universities in the Republic of Macedonia, according to the Shanghai Jiao Tong University ranking list. To further promote International competitiveness among its prized students, UIST has adopted the English language as the medium of instruction. The objective of the establishment of the University for Information Science and Technologies “St. Paul the Apostle” Ohrid is to train highly educated cadres that will meet the demand of the labor market for creative and inventive engineers and scientists in the field of information science and technology.

2. SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS

Student/Applicant’s profile:

The scholarships are available to students in OAS member states, not older than 22 years old, who have good knowledge of the English language, mathematics and information technology and motivation to study in Macedonia.

Application Processes:

STEP 1

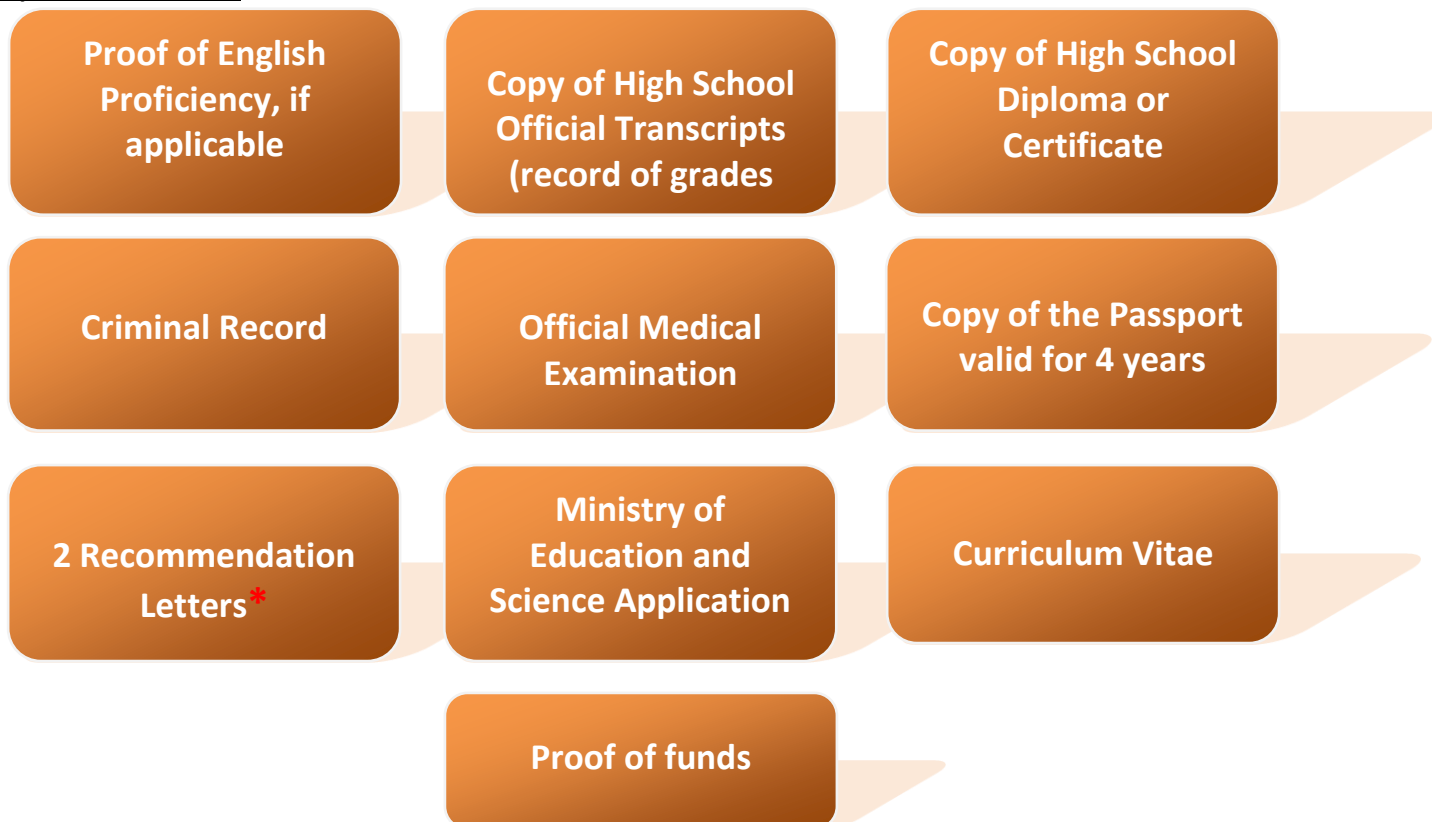
Candidates are required to complete a [Ministry of Education and Science Online Application Form](#), which is also available on the official scholarship website of the Ministry of Education and Science, www.stipendii.mon.gov.mk and www.mon.gov.mk. After completion, the application **must be submitted electronically** to the OAS Department of Human Development, Education and Employment (DHDEE) along with the OAS Scholarship Application, as described in Step #2.

STEP 2

Candidates are required to submit the [OAS Scholarship Application Form](#) through the OAS Fellowship Management System, along with all the required documents listed below. The OAS DHDEE will pre-select the candidates and submit the list of eligible candidates and the supporting documents to the Ministry of Education and Science of Macedonia.

You are required to upload the following documents where indicated in the online application form. Please note that all supporting documents must first be combined into ONE PDF document before it can be uploaded in the application form. The application system does not allow for more than one document to be uploaded, hence the aforementioned request. Please be guided accordingly

Required documents:



All submitted documents must be in English or certified translations in English.

Please note the following:

Proof of English Proficiency

All students whose first language is not English are required to provide evidence that their spoken and written command of the English language is appropriate for the programme they are applying.

The required evidence may take the form of either:

1. Substantial education (minimum 15 months) conducted in English and undertaken no more than two years prior to the date of enrolment
2. Acceptable English language qualification or test result. The qualification or test results must have been awarded no more than two years prior to the proposed date of enrolment.

Accepted results are:

- Grade C or better in English Language at GCSE / GCEO
- Grade C or better in English First Language at IGCSE
- Grade B or better in English Second Language at IGCSE
- An overall band of 6.5 or better in IELTS
- A score of 550 or better in the paper-based TOEFL (213 for computer-based, 80 for internet-based)
- Sub-scores of 550 or better in Critical Reading and 550 or better in Writing in SAT
- Grade 4 or better in the Higher Level English Language (B Syllabus); or grade 5 or better in the Standard Level English Language (B Syllabus); or grade 4 or better in the Higher or Standard Level English Language (A1 or A2 Syllabus); or grade 4 or better in the Standard Level English - Text and Performance; or grade 4 or better in the Standard Level English - Literature and Performance (A1 syllabus) at International Baccalaureate.

Criminal Record

Official document certifying the candidate has no criminal convictions and is not under criminal investigation at the moment of application certified with **Apostille Stamp***. Candidates should note that with the exception to some countries, these are two separate documents.

**The Apostille is a validation stamp ensuring that a particular document is recognized in certain foreign.*

Medical Examination

The medical examination must include medical tests for HIV and Hepatitis C.

***Recommendation letters**

The candidates are required to provide the **contact details** of two academic professors/teachers, who will provide letters of recommendation for the candidate, as specified in the Ministry of Education and Science Online Application Form. Applicants are advised to notify the professors ahead of time, in order for the references to be submitted within the scholarship application deadline.

- Both letters are confidential. The professors themselves must send the letters electronically to the OAS DHDEE scholarship officer.
- The letters should include the letterhead of the University/Institution, the Professor's position within the University/Institution, date and signature.

Proof of funds

Proof that you have sufficient funds to cover the costs not covered by the OAS and UIST, by submitting one, or a combination of the following documents:

- -a copy of a rental agreement on property showing you as the property owner;
- -a copy of a bank statement or bank letter;
- -a letter from employer showing monthly or yearly salary;
- -a letter showing student loan or scholarship(s), grants, financial aid.

2 Essays in the OAS Online Scholarship Application form

The essays should be written in English. Each essay should have a minimum of 800 characters (not words) and a maximum of 2900 characters, including spaces.

Essay 1

Describe how acquiring this academic degree will directly impact and enhance your professional skills in your current job position or future career.

Essay 2

Explain how you intend to apply the acquired knowledge and experience in the specific field of study that you will pursue to the development of your country or region.

STEP 3

The Ministry of Education and Science of Macedonia will submit the selected candidates to the University for Information Science and Technology “St. Paul the Apostle” (UIST) for admission consideration.

Additional Information:

- a. We encourage applicants to read the program description, and ensure that the study area fulfills their expectations and interests.
- b. Detailed information about the programs are available [here](#).
- c. Applicants must have completed their High School Education or Passed the High School State Examination or Passed the International High School Examination to be considered for admission to the UIST. Applicants who have not completed their high school education by May 31, 2017 may receive a conditional offer for admission pending their high school diploma. Successful applicants must finalise their high school studies and submit their transcript and diploma no later than July 31, 2017.
- d. Selected students are required to take the official diplomas for secondary / High school education with them to the Republic of Macedonia. The diplomas will be recognized upon arrival at UIST.
- e. Successful applicants will sign a contract with the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Macedonia. The contract will stipulate that the scholarship provides funds for the first academic year and subsequently for the rest of duration of the undergraduate studies, provided that the student ends the first year of studies with satisfactory success rate;
- f. General information about the City of Ohrid, the UNESCO protected city that hosts the University can be found at: <http://www.exploringmacedonia.com>, www.ohrid.com.mk, www.ohrid.gov.mk.

For further information on these processes:

- **UIST contact:** For questions about the undergraduate programs at the UIST, please contact: UISTinternationalstudents@gmail.com
- **Ministry of Education and Science Contact:** For all additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Anastasija Trajkovska, phone: +389 (0)75 32 77 87 and e-mail: anastasija.trajkovska@mon.gov.mk
- **OAS Contact Information:** For questions about this scholarship opportunity, please contact Ms. Jennifer Hoogdorp at JHoogdorp@oas.org

3. SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS AND FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

PROGRAMS:	Undergraduate degree programs Detailed information about the programs are available here .
SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS	• Full tuition fees; • Visa and resident permit fees (<i>proof of good health and immunization chart is required</i>); • Primary Health Insurance • Round trip economy class airline tickets from the sponsoring country or residence to Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia; • Accommodation in shared rooms and food (full board) at the University dorm “Nikola Karev” in Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia; • Monthly allowance of 5000 MKD (approximately \$82 Euros or \$105 USD) • Local transportation from the airport to the dormitories.
FINANCIAL	The scholarship recipients will be responsible for all costs not

RESPONSIBILITY OF RECIPIENTS	mentioned above, including settlement costs for the first month in the Republic of Macedonia and any additional personal expenses beyond the 5000 MKD monthly stipend.
COMMENTS	Scholarship benefits are subject to the academic performance of the scholarship recipient. In order to receive these benefits, the awardee should not be reported with a low academic performance due to absences or failing courses.

Supplementary Notes:

1. Monthly Allowance:

- a. The monthly stipend of 5000 MKD is sufficient to cover the expenses for one student who is living in Ohrid.
- b. Accommodation in a shared room; each room has 2 or 3 beds, custom furniture and restroom. The dormitory also includes kitchen facilities for students to prepare meals.

2. Local Transportation and Travel Costs:

- a. The Ministry will buy and email the roundtrip ticket. Upon arrival at the airport, an employee of the Ministry of Education and Science (MES) will meet the students.
- b. The Ministry of Education and Science (MES) will provide roundtrip transportation between the airport and the dormitory.
- c. Local transportation costs are not covered by this scholarship because of the short distance from the dormitory to the University (approximately 200 feet).
- d. Should students require additional transportation (at their own expense), the following is provided as an example of local transportation costs: one bus ticket from Ohrid to Skopje generally costs maximum 800 MKD (approximately 17 USD), and 100 MKD (approximately 2 USD) from Skopje to the Alexander the Great Airport.

3. Health Insurance:

- a. One of the main conditions for obtaining a Macedonian visa is providing a proof of health insurance from the student's country of residence.
- b. The student shall be insured upon arrival in the Republic of Macedonia.
- c. The health insurance should cover the following: Identifying, monitoring and checking health conditions, handling of emergencies, preventive care, therapeutic and rehabilitative care, examinations and diagnosis, handling injuries, etc.
- d. Students are required to purchase complementary health insurance / international health insurance to cover benefits such as emergency evacuation, repatriation of mortal remains etc. during the scholarship period.

4. Settlement and Additional Expenses:

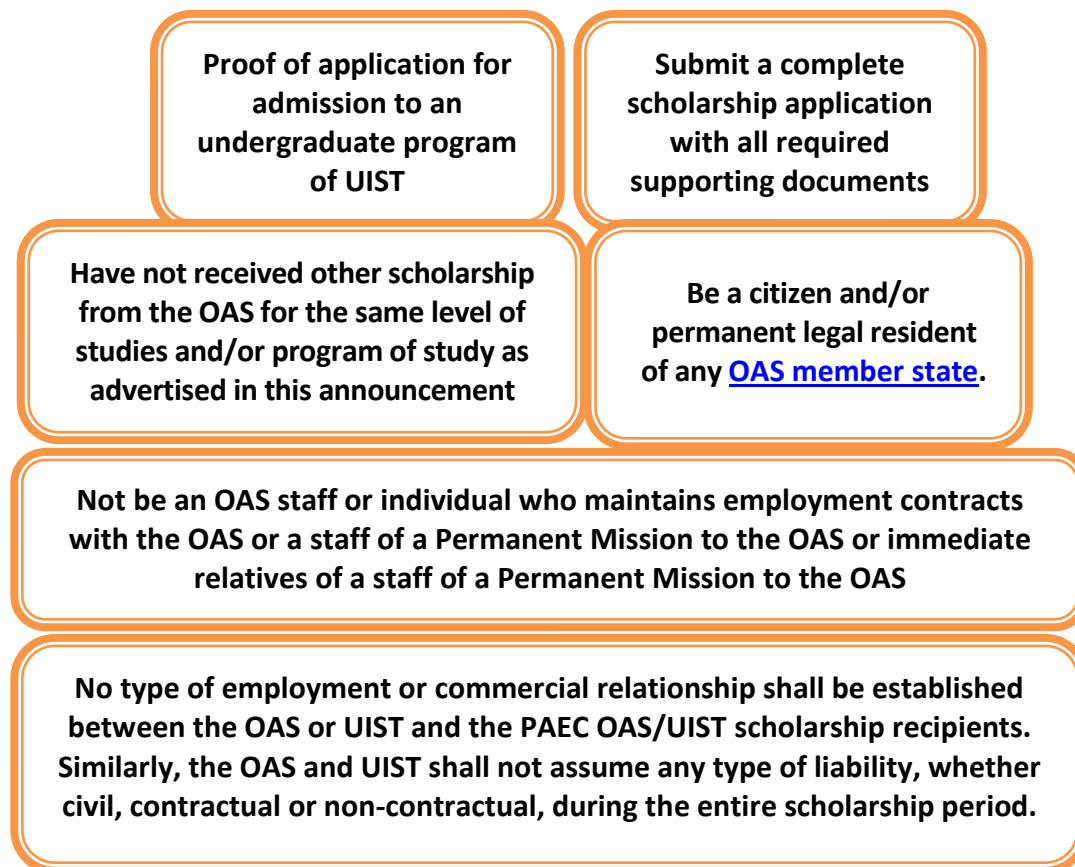
- a. One month after opening an account in the Republic of Macedonia the student will receive the first monthly allowance of 5000 MKD (approximately \$82 Euros or \$105 USD).
- b. For international students, the tuition fees are covered by the Ministry of Education and Science (MES) of the Republic of Macedonia.
- c. All other costs (e.g. library, internet, books etc.) should be covered from the monthly allowance.
- d. Students are encouraged to bring sufficient personal funds to cover settlement costs for the first month in the Republic of Macedonia.

5. VISA INFORMATION

- a) The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for the visa and residence permit.

- b) For all foreign students, Macedonian visas are free of charge.
- c) The Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will help students with the forms for visas and residence permits.
- d) After 30 days students will get Macedonian ID for foreign students.
- e) Please visit www.mfa.gov.mk for a list of all countries where the Republic of Macedonia has official representation.
- f) The students will be responsible for all costs of obtaining the visa [costs associated with acquiring documentation required for visa issuance, submitting the necessary documents (diplomas, passports, certificates etc.) postage, etc.].
- g) Students from some OAS member states do not need a visa to enter Macedonia. **Please see annex below.**
- h) Students from some OAS member states need a visa to enter Macedonia. **Please see annex below.** Students who are required to apply for a visa should send their passports and other required documents to the Embassy of Macedonia (2129 Wyoming Ave. N.W, Washington D.C. 20008, United States) in Washington D.C as soon as the admission letter is provided by the University. The visa application package to the Embassy **must include a pre-paid envelope** so that the passport could be returned by the Embassy. Please send the package via courier (DHL, UPS, etc.) so that the package to the Embassy and the returned package from the Embassy could be tracked accordingly. For more information please see this link [here](#).
- i) Students who are required to obtain a visa must have Macedonian visa before their arrival in Macedonia.
- j) Students will be required to provide evidence of health insurance in home country and travelers' insurance, valid 3 months upon arrival in Macedonia until the Ministry can provide local health insurance in Macedonia, to process the visa application.

6. SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS



7. SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION CRITERIA

- a. The merits and overall credentials of the candidate, including his/her academic and professional background; high school GPA and result of English proficiency test, where applicable;
- b. Geographic distribution of the applicants, taking into account the greater needs of the smaller and relatively less developed economies;
- c. Applicants whose proposals portray the highest potential for impact upon return to their countries of origin; and
- d. Gender diversity.

8. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STUDENT

- a. This scholarship will be formally awarded only after the selected awardees have signed an OAS/UIST Acceptance Form, in which the awardees formally accept the scholarship and agree to its terms and conditions.
- b. Refrain from activities that are inconsistent with the status of an OAS Scholarship recipient, abiding by the regulations referred to in this Acceptance Form.
- c. Comply with all the academic guidelines and admission requirements requested by UIST and submit to the updates of these guidelines and requirements made by the academic authorities at UIST.
- d. Comply with the provisions indicated in the "Financial responsibilities of awardees."
- e. To retain the scholarship, scholarship recipients should not have low academic performance (GPA must be at least equivalent to 3.0/4.0), due to absence from the program and/or course failure.
- f. The scholarship can be declined by the scholarship recipient before the start date of the program without financial penalties. However, if s/he declines the scholarship after that date without proof of force majeure, the OAS and UIST may require the scholarship recipient to reimburse all funding granted to her/him with the scholarship at the time in which the declination is processed.
- g. Commitment to return to work in their sponsoring country or permanent legal residence in one of the OAS member states, or at an international organization, for at least the length of the duration of the scholarship. Failure to comply with this commitment, the GS/OAS and/or the UIST could seek reimbursement for the total value of the scholarship awarded.

[APPLY NOW!](#)

For more information: www.oas.org/scholarships

Annex to Announcement

OAS Member States Requiring Visa to Enter the Republic of Macedonia

No	State	Visa for entry into Republic of Macedonia
1	Antigua and Barbuda	NO
2	Argentina 8*	NO
3	Bahamas	NO
4	Barbados	NO
5	Belize 17*	YES
6	Bolivia 17*	YES
7	Brazil	NO
8	Canada	NO
9	Chile 11*	NO
10	Colombia 17*	YES
11	Costa Rica	NO
12	Dominica 17*	YES
13	Dominican Republic 17*	YES
14	Ecuador 17*	YES
15	El Salvador	NO
16	Grenada 17*	YES
17	Guatemala	NO
18	Guyana 17*	YES
19	Haiti	YES
20	Honduras	NO
21	Jamaica 17*	YES
22	Mexico 14*	NO
23	Nicaragua	NO
24	Panama	NO
25	Paraguay	NO
26	Peru	NO
27	Saint Kitts and Nevis	NO
28	Saint Lucia 17*	YES
29	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 17*	YES
30	Surinam 17*	YES
31	Trinidad and Tobago 17*	YES
32	United State of America 16*	NO
33	Uruguay	NO
34	Venezuela	NO

NB:

- I) In pursuance with the Decision of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No. 123, dated 2 October 2008) nationals of EU member-states and signatories to the Schengen Agreement may enter into the Republic of Macedonia presenting a valid ID issued by the relevant authorities of the member-state concerned;
- II) Any foreign national possessing a valid multi entry Schengen visa type C (valid for the entire territory of the Schengen area) may enter and stay in the Republic of Macedonia up to 15 days without having to possess a Macedonian visa. The Schengen visa needs to be valid at least 5 days longer than the stay in the Republic of Macedonia permitted on the grounds of holding a Schengen visa;
- III) Any foreign national, holder of valid travel document of a third country, who is required to have visa for entry in the Republic of Macedonia, may enter the territory of the Republic of Macedonia without having to acquire Macedonian visa, if the foreigner has a permanent residence in EU or Schengen member state;
- IV) A foreigner is obliged to leave the Republic of Macedonia: When his/her visa expires, if his/her visa is annulled, when his/her temporary residence permit expires, if s/he is deprived of his/her right to residence, if s/he is expelled from the Republic of Macedonia, or when the time limit of maximum 3 (three) months in any half-year period expires as from the date of first entry, provided there is no visa requirement for entry into the Republic of Macedonia;
- V) Holders of UN travel documents are not required visas;
- VI) Macedonian visas are issued only at diplomatic consular missions of the Republic of Macedonia abroad.

1* As of 1 July 2012, nationals of the Republic of Macedonia travelling to Australia do not require a visa label in their passports.

Explanation: The Australian Government does not require a person holding a valid Australian visa to have a label in their passport to travel to, enter or remain in Australia.

The Australian Government issues electronic visas. All visa records are stored on a central database in Australia. When you check-in to fly to Australia, airline staff electronically confirm that you have a valid visa to travel to Australia before you board the plane. When you receive your Australian visa you are issued with a visa grant notice that explains the conditions of the visa including period of validity and entry requirements. You are advised to carry this visa grant notice for your own reference.

2* Visa is not required for holders of diplomatic and service passports on reciprocal basis;

2a* Visa is not required for holders of diplomatic passports on reciprocal basis;

3* The Agreement between the Governments of the former SFRY and USSR on Mutual Travel of Citizens (of 3 October 1989) is applied to nationals of the Republic of Macedonia and to nationals of Belarus. According to this Agreement the following categories are exempt from the visa requirement;

- holders of diplomatic and service passports and holders of regular passports covered by the “business” clause;
 - for tourist and group travels organized by tourism agencies and individually with “vouchers”;
 - Persons presenting certified invitation to visit relatives and friends or those presenting “certified telegram” in emergencies (ceremonies, illness, etc.);
 - persons visiting the grave of a relative, which is be proven by a Red Cross certificate;
 - Persons travelling for medical examinations or consultations, who submit the referral or invitation from the health organization;
- On unilateral basis this Agreement is applied also for nationals of Georgia.

4* Visa is not required for holders of diplomatic and service passports and holders of regular passports covered by the “business” clause on reciprocal basis, as well as for holders of regular Chinese used for official purposes passports for public affairs;

5*

6* **To enter Maldives no pre-arrival visa is required.** A thirty day free visa is issued on arrival for all Nationalities, provided the following conditions are met: Should possess a valid passport and Have a valid ticket to continue the journey out of Maldives and Have enough funds to cover the expenses for duration of the stay in Maldives. (US\$100 + \$50 dollars per day) or a confirmation of reservation in a Tourist Resort or a Hotel;

7* Ireland issue short stay visas without any fees for Macedonian passports

8* Macedonian nationals are not required visas for stays for tourism purposes (Kenya and Argentina up to 90 days, Singapore up to 14 days)

9* Citizens of the Republic of Macedonia may travel and stay in Brunei Darussalam without a visa for a period not

exceeding 30 days.
10* Nationals of the Republic of Macedonia may be issued visa at the border crossing;
11* Visa is required for holders of Macedonian diplomatic and service passports;
12* Fees are not charged for issuance of a temporary and permanent residence permit for nationals of both countries;
13* The Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Macedonia and the Government of the Russian Federation on Conditions of Mutual Travel of Citizens (Official Gazette of Republic of Macedonia No. 119, 19 September 2008) is applied to nationals of Republic of Macedonia and to nationals of the Russian Federation. According to this Agreement): Visa is not required: • reciprocally for holders of diplomatic and service passports • reciprocally for holders of regular passports who are in possession of <u>a temporary or permanent residence permit for stay on the territory of the other party</u> • reciprocally holders of regular passports travelling to the territory of the other country for business purposes, participation in exchange programs in the field of science, education and culture, sports events, journalism, short student stay, medical reasons, visit to relatives (up to 90 days stay on the basis of <u>invitation from the host inviting the person or inviting the legal entity specified under the national legislation of each country</u> ○ for travels for tourism purposes (up to 30 days stay on the basis of original contract or voucher and a certificate from a travel agency or a tour operator confirming the booking of an organized trip of the foreign national.
14* Macedonian citizens with valid U.S. visas may enter Mexico with the U.S. visa, and do not have to obtain a Mexican visa.
15* The Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Macedonia and the The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on Conditions of Mutual Travel of Citizens, signed on 6 February 2010 (Official Gazette of Republic of Macedonia No. 77, 8 June 2010) is applied to nationals of Republic of Macedonia and to nationals of the Ukraine. According to this Agreement): Visa is not required • reciprocally for holders of diplomatic and service passports • reciprocally for holders of regular passports who are in possession of <u>a temporary or permanent residence permit for stay on the territory of the other party</u> • reciprocally holders of regular passports travelling to the territory of the other country for business purposes, participation in exchange programs in the field of science, education and culture, sports events, journalism, short student stay, medical reasons, visit to relatives (up to 90 days stay on the basis of <u>invitation from the host inviting the person or inviting the legal entity specified under the national legislation of each country</u> ○ for travels for tourism purposes (up to 30 days stay on the basis of original contract or voucher and a certificate from a travel agency or a tour operator confirming the booking of an organized trip of the foreign national.
16* Macedonian citizen can apply for visa for temporary working permit in the USA for the period of one year with possibility for extending of the visa until three years period. The conditions for granting visa for temporary work in USA, Macedonian citizen can find on the following internet page: http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis .
17* Any foreign national possessing a valid multi entry Schengen visa type C (valid for the entire territory of the Schengen area) may enter and stay in the Republic of Macedonia up to 15 days without having to possess a Macedonian visa. The Schengen visa needs to be valid at least 5 days longer than the stay in the Republic of Macedonia permitted on the grounds of holding a Schengen visa.
18* On reciprocal basis, citizens of both countries can enter with valid biometric ID card.
19* In pursuance with the Decision of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, citizens of the Russian Federation, Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan do not need visa to enter Macedonia for the period from 16 March 2013 until 15 March 2014. The duration of the stay in the Republic of Macedonia may not exceed (is limited to) 90 days within a six months period.
20* In pursuance with the Decision of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, citizens of Ukraine do not need visa to enter Macedonia for the period from 16 March 2013 until 15 March 2018. The duration of the stay in the Republic of Macedonia may not exceed (is limited to) 90 days within a six months period.
21* In pursuance with the Decision of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, citizens of Taiwan do not need visa to enter Macedonia for the period 1 April 2013 until 31 March 2018. The duration of the stay in the Republic of Macedonia may not exceed (is limited to) 90 days within a six months period.
22* In pursuance with the Decision of the President of Ukraine, citizens of the Republic of Macedonia does not need a visa for entry, transit and short stay in Ukraine for the period from 16 March 2013 to 15 March 2015. The duration of the stay in Ukraine may not exceed (is limited to) 90 days.