



Scholarship Program

Diploma in Tropical Medicine, Baylor College of Medicine

The Simon Bolivar Foundation (Foundation), a private 501(c)(3) non-profit foundation, in partnership with Baylor College of Medicine, will fund up to seven scholarships to qualified medical professionals working in Venezuela for a world-class Diploma in Tropical Medicine from Baylor's National School of Tropical Medicine [See more information here](#)

The Fundación Academia Nacional de Medicina Francisco Antonio Rísquez (FANM) in Venezuela will play a key role in assisting the Foundation with dissemination of information to potential scholarship candidates in the country and the development of an objective process to identify qualified candidates to be recommended to apply for a scholarship to Baylor College of Medicine for a Diploma in the Tropical Medicine program.

Objective of the Programme

Upon completion of the Diploma of Tropical Medicine, the student will be able to:

- Perform basic diagnostic procedures and identify organisms that cause tropical diseases;
- Describe critical basic concepts of epidemiology, biostatistics, ethics, health economics and policy, and other public health topics related to global health, and apply the appropriate type of statistics to analyze data;
- Recognize and describe the epidemiology, diagnosis, management, and prevention of tropical diseases (e.g., HTLV-1, yellow fever, Lyme disease, diphtheria, etc.);
- Describe the biology of vectors involved in the transmission of certain pathogens and public health methods to control or prevent these diseases;
- Describe the principles and management of childhood diseases, reproductive health, and current approaches to addressing the health needs of women and children;
- Apply various clinical subspecialties focused on the tropics related to tropical medicine; and
- Discuss pre-trip assessment and post-trip work and differential diagnosis for returning travelers.

Study Curriculum

Module 1: Bacteriology and Tropical Virology

Asynchronous online conferencing

January 3-27, 2023

Module 2: Mycology and Tropical Parasitology

Face-to-face, synchronous conferences; for the participants of the Simon Bolivar Foundation Scholarship Program, alternative asynchronous recorded lectures will be made.

January 30 - February 10, 2023

Module 3: Tropical Medicine in Practice

Prerequisite: Module 2

Face-to-face, synchronous conferences; for the participants of the Simon Bolivar Foundation Scholarship Program, alternative asynchronous recorded lectures will be made.

13 - 17 February 2023



Laboratory Practices* (in-person laboratory practice sessions covering bacteriology, virology, parasitology, and mycology; an alternative institution at home, in person, hands-on classes on bacteriology, virology, parasitology, and mycology may be allowed upon written request).

Prerequisite: Module 1 and 2

Module 4: Epidemiology, Public Health (online asynchronous lectures)**

February 27 - March 24, 2023

The order in which you take the modules is flexible to allow you to align your study with your other obligations. All modules are offered once a year and you have 36 months to complete all modules. The Foundation would prefer that all modules be completed in the program in 2023. If this is not possible, we would ask for explanations of why it was not completed during that period.

*International students who are unable to attend the modules in person may apply to complete the modules on campus remotely, including a one-week internship at a local microbiology laboratory under the supervision of a laboratory director and in accordance with the basic laboratory content provided by the BCM Diploma of Tropical Medicine Course. A formal request must be made to the Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Jill Weatherhead, to document the mitigating circumstances at the time of the request. The Foundation may assist in making a joint petition for each of the seven students.

**A student may be exempt from taking Module 4 if they can present a valid MPH diploma from an accredited U.S. or foreign university. If a diploma is not available, a letter from the registrar of the accredited university must be sent to the School directly confirming the degree.

Course Modality

For students awarded scholarships through the Simon Bolivar Foundation Scholarship Program, the program will be through recorded online lectures. Laboratory practice may be in an alternative home institution, in person, practical laboratory upon written request.

Type of diploma or degree awarded

The Diploma in Tropical Medicine is an intensive non-degree program consisting of four modules and a laboratory practice. Completion of this program will prepare healthcare professionals to obtain the CTropMed®: "Certificate of Knowledge in Tropical Clinical Medicine and Traveler's Health" which is a separate exam. [See more information here](#)

Requirements defined by Baylor

The courses of the Diploma in Tropical Medicine program are designed for physicians who have an M.D. or D.O. degree including physicians, residents, fellows and postdoctoral fellows.

Requirements requested by Baylor to apply to the program:

- Training that includes academic qualifications, research and work experience, honors, awards, scholarships and publications.
- Transcripts: Applicants must submit official transcripts or a copy of the medical diploma.
- Letters of Recommendation: Non-Baylor applicants must provide three letters of recommendation.
- A personal statement explaining why they want to obtain a Diploma in Tropical Medicine.



- A brief describing the relevant previous experience within developing countries or the anticipated relevance of this program.
- English Proficiency Requirement (for Foreign Applicants): Applicants whose native language is not English must earn a minimum TOEFL score of 90 on the Internet-based test (ibt) or 610 on the TOEFL ITP Plus or 6.5 on IELTS tests taken within the last two years. The TOEFL/IELTS requirement does not apply to individuals who have received a degree from a U.S. university for foreign medical graduates.

Selection criteria for the Simon Bolivar Foundation

The Foundation defined the following selection criteria as recommendation to FANM to apply to the program. FANM may add other criteria that help to better define the selected candidates.

- Surgeons graduated from a university, even with specialties, with a good academic performance
- Good command of English (see TOEFL requirements)
- Outstanding professional career
- Professionals, with a desire to stay in the country, and transfer knowledge
- That they come from different regions of Venezuela. We appreciate geographic diversity

Selection process

Candidates must submit their application, including the requirements that will be required for the final application to Baylor, to the FANM via email to contacto@fundarisquez.org no later than April 30, 2022.

The Foundation expects the FANM to submit a recommendation of seven candidates to apply to Baylor College of Medicine who must meet the requirements, including the result of the TOEFL test.

The proposed candidates will be evaluated by the Foundation, including due diligence reviews, and will be notified. The candidates will need to apply online to the program by September 1, 2022. Baylor College of Medicine will decide acceptance of candidates in October 2022.

Candidates must be able to display the TOEFL result during the enrollment process.

Dr. Denise Maman will be the Simon Bolivar Foundation's contact person, who will coordinate communications with Baylor College of Medicine.

The Foundation reserves the right to adjust criteria, procedures or requirements in the interest of the scholarship awarding process and to modify or cancel the program at any time and for any reason.

Exclusions

Each of the candidates must notify the National Academy of Medicine and the Foundation of any conflicts of interest in connection with the program or if the candidate is an employee of the Foundation, CITGO Petroleum Corporation ("CITGO"), Petróleos de Venezuela SA ("PDVSA") or any affiliate or subsidiary of the Foundation, or related to any person employed by the Foundation, CITGO or PDVSA; and/or the oil ministry of the Venezuelan government. The term government of Venezuela will be interpreted in its broadest sense. Likewise, each candidate must not be a member of any political parties, an activist in political groups, a political candidate or active member of any political organizations or campaigns.



Online Application at Baylor

Applications can be made on Baylor College of Medicine's website beginning June 1, 2022 and closing on September 1, 2022 for international applicants. The online application and all supporting documentation (e.g., transcripts, letters of recommendation) must be submitted by the due date.

Schedule of activities

The program below is indicative. To be accepted, candidates must show TOEFL results. The TOEFL can be presented at specific centers or online, but they require bandwidth and cameras that are very expensive. Therefore, it is important that each candidate register early and take the exams no later than July 31, 2022.

	2Q2022			3Q2022			4Q2022			1Q2023			3Q2022		
	Abril	Mayo	Junio	Julio	Agosto	Septiembre	Octubre	Noviembre	Diciembre	Enero	Febrero	Marzo	Abril	Mayo	Junio
Proceso seleccion candidatos															
Anuncio convocatoria estudiantes	◆														
Entrevistas		◆													
Pre- Seleccion de Candidatos ANM		◆													
Selección final de candidatos SBF			◆												
TOEFL															
Exámenes TOEFL en Caracas			Junio 4 y 15	Julio 6 y 9	Agosto 3 y 6										
Proceso Aplicación Baylor															
Proceso de aplicación en la página web de Baylor															
Notificación a los estudiantes aceptados															
Diplomado															
Modulo 1															
Modulo 2															
Modulo 3															
Laboratorio															
Modulo 4 (si es aplicable)															



Simón Bolívar
Foundation™

Frequently asked questions

Is the diploma delivered registered and apostilled in the case of foreign students?

We understand that Baylor College of Medicine only delivers the diploma. If you wish to obtain an apostille, the process is the responsibility of the student.

Possibility and facilities for graduates of the diploma to visit Baylor and face-to-face practice

It is not included in this program. For this program only the cost of 10 scholarships in total for remote participation is covered. The modality for this program is online and practices through a laboratory in the country.