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Date: Mon, Jun 6, 2016 at 11:34 AM

Subject: Educational cooperation. Scholarship program in Brazilian Universities.

To: "chaket@kku.ac.th" <chaket@kku.ac.th>

Dear Professor Chavis,

On behalf of the Embassy of Brazil in Thailand, I am honoured to convey information on the Brazilian scholarship program for foreign undergraduate students, 'PEC-G 2017'. As you may be aware, the Higher Education Commission of Thailand identified your Faculty as responsible for one or more priority areas under our current bilateral educational cooperation, and you as focal point for further promoting this initiative among your students.

Attached to this message, you will find: (i) a letter addressed to the President of your University, informing on 'PEC-G 2017'; (ii) the regulations of the program; and (iii) an informal guidebook to approved students.

Applications for 'PEC-G 2017' are open until July 15, 2016, through the Embassy of Brazil in Bangkok. Prospective students must have knowledge of Portuguese equivalent to the requirements of the CELPE-Bras standardized certification (<http://portal.inep.gov.br/celpebras>). Moreover, 'PEC-G 2017' covers tuition costs, but not stipends.

A list of participating Brazilian higher education institutions can be found at [http://portal.mec.gov.br/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=12281&Itemid=534](http://portal.mec.gov.br/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=12281&Itemid=534).

Please do not hesitate to contact us if your University has any student interested in applying for the Program. We are ready to help them throughout the next steps of the required process.

We are looking forward to partnering with you.

Yours faithfully,

Luisa Tatsch  
Second Secretary  
Embassy of Brazil in Bangkok



*(This is an unofficial translation for which the Brazilian Government is discharged of liability.)*

**DECREE 7,948, of MARCH 12th, 2013**

Legislates on the Exchange Program for  
Undergraduate Students - PEC-G.

The President of the Republic, using the powers conferred in article 84, caput, subsection VI (a), of the Constitution,

**DECREES:**

**CHAPTER I**

**GENERAL REGULATIONS**

**Article 1**

The Exchange Program for Undergraduate Students - PEC-G aims at the academic training and qualification of foreign students through the offer of free placement in undergraduate courses of Brazilian Higher Education Institutions (IES).

**Paragraph**

PEC-G is made up of a set of international educational co-operation activities and procedures, preferably with developing countries, based on active bilateral agreements and characterized by the undertaking of a complete period of studies by foreign students in Brazilian undergraduate courses, with return to his/her home country at the end of the course

**Article 2**

PEC-G will be jointly implemented by the Ministry of External Relations and the Ministry of Education.

§ 1<sup>st</sup> The diplomatic representations of the Ministry of External Relations will be in charge of the coordination of procedures related to the implementation of PEC-G in foreign countries.

§ 2<sup>nd</sup> The Ministry of Education will be in charge of the coordination of the procedures related to the joining of IES to PEC-G, offering of places, selection and enrollment of candidates, and monitoring of the Program.

§ 3<sup>rd</sup> The Ministry of External Relations and the Ministry of Education will not interfere in academic issues, as they are of exclusive responsibility of the IES members of the Program.

**CHAPTER II**

**VACANCIES**

**Article 3**

The IES willing to participate in PEC-G may do so through a Statement of Acceptance to be signed with the Ministry of Education.

#### Article 4

The Ministry of Education will annually establish the total number of vacancies offered for each course in the Program after availability is presented by the participating IES.

§ 1st The Ministry of Education may ask the participating IES for additional offer of vacancies to see that PEC-G candidates are attended to, as well as the terms agreed in international cooperation agreements.

§ 2<sup>nd</sup> PEC-G vacancies will only be offered for daily courses.

### CHAPTER III

#### APPLICATIONS

#### Article 5

The PEC-G schedule and selection process will be annually regulated by an announcement issued by the Ministry of Education in conjunction with the Ministry of External Relations.

#### Article 6

Foreign students who can apply for the PEC-G:

I - residents abroad who do not have a permanent visa or any other type of temporary visa to Brazil;

II - those aged between 18 and preferably up to 23 years old;

III - those who will sign a Financial Responsibility Statement ensuring they have sufficient means to pay for their transportation and living expenses for their entire undergraduate course in Brazil.

IV - those who will sign a Term of Commitment agreeing to follow the rules of PEC-G; and

V - those who will present a certificate stating that they have concluded the equivalent of the Brazilian secondary school and a Certificate of Proficiency in Portuguese as a Foreign Language - Celpe-Bras.

§ 1st Exceptionally, those candidates who have not concluded the secondary school on the date of application may present the graduation certificate at the moment of enrollment in the assigned IES.

§ 2<sup>nd</sup> The candidate from a country where there is no Celpe-Bras will take the examination in Brazil only once after the conclusion of the Portuguese as a Foreign Language course preparatory to the Celpe-Bras, in any accredited IES.

§ 3<sup>rd</sup> The candidate who fails the Celpe-Bras taken in Brazil, according to § 2nd, will not be able to participate of the PEC-G, his/her registration will be considered invalid and the stay in Brazil will be terminated, according to Law 6.815, of August 19<sup>th</sup>, 1980 and Decree 86.715, of December 10<sup>th</sup>, 1981.

§ 4<sup>th</sup> A new application to PEC-G will not be allowed for the selected candidate who fails to enroll at the assigned IES without fair justification.

#### Article 7

After the publication of the selection results, the Brazilian diplomatic representations will provide the selected candidates with a temporary visa, according to the applicable legislation.

§ 1st The fulfillment of migration requirements in Brazil, which comprise visa documents and the updating of foreign registration, will be entirely the responsibility of the PEC-G applicant, and it is a necessary condition for enrollment and selection of subjects in each academic term.

§ 2nd The IES will be responsible for the fulfillment of the necessary conditions mentioned in § 1st, providing the necessary documentation for the academic registration of the foreign student. The enrolment in academic activities of PEC-G students who have not complied with the migration requirements is not permitted.

### CHAPTER IV

#### ENROLLMENT, SCHEDULE AND FULFILLMENT OF THE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

#### Article 8

The presentation of a PEC-G student for enrollment must follow the academic schedule of the IES to which he/she has been selected.

#### Paragraph

It is the responsibility of the IES to verify the documentation and migration status of the PEC-G student in order to fulfill the completion of his/her enrollment requirements.

#### Article 9

The PEC-G student may request the changing of his/her course or IES provided the criteria and internal regulations of the IES are met.

§ 1st A course change may occur only once and only at the end of the first year of studies, in accordance with the criteria and internal norms of the IES.

§ 2nd PEC-G student must obey the statutory deadlines related to all the subjects required in the academic curriculum of his/her course.

§ 3rd Enrollment in a new course linked to the main one previously attended will be allowed only within the statutory deadlines related to the conclusion of the prior main course.

§ 4th In a case where the PEC-G student is the recipient of a scholarship or financial support, the course change shall be subject to the agreement of the grantor institution, either public or private.

§ 5th The IES shall immediately inform the course change to the Ministry of Education and to the Ministry of External Relations.

#### Article 10

The transfer of PEC-G student must comply with the requirements of the recipient IES and the criteria established in art. 49 of Law 9.394, of December 20<sup>th</sup>, 1996, being subject to certain exceptions set forth in items VI and VII of the caput of article 12.

§ 1st The transfer to pursue studies in the same course shall occur among the participating IES of PEC-G only once, and only at the end of the first year of studies.

§ 2nd After accepting the transfer, the recipient IES shall send the documentation to the Federal Police immediately in order to update registration, according to Law 6.815, of 1980.

§ 3rd The recipient IES shall communicate the transfer to the Ministry of Education and to the Ministry of External Relations.

#### Article 11

PEC-G students are not allowed to participate in programs of academic mobility that require the student to move to a different location, which necessitates an alteration of enrollment conditions, temporary change of IES or change of country.

#### Article 12

The PEC-G student will be cut off the Program if:

- I – he/she does not enroll during the period established by the IES;
- II – he/she cancels enrollment without justification, or abandons the course;
- III – his/her attendance of course subjects is less than the minimum required by the IES;
- IV – he/she fails the same subject three times;
- V – he/she fails in more than two subjects or equivalent number of credits in the same term, from the second year on or from the third term of the course;
- VI – he/she obtains transfer to a non-PEC-G member IES, or one that is not in conformity with the provisions of article 10;
- VII – he/she obtains a new entry to a IES in a selection process other than PEC-G;
- VIII – he/she obtains, during the course, a visa other than that indicated in Article 7 or a different migration status; or
- IX – has inappropriate conduct, found in accordance with disciplinary proceedings, within the sphere of the IES.

§ 1st Inappropriate conduct means non-compliance with the IES rules and regulations and with Brazilian legislation and obvious behavior which violates social norms.

§ 2nd The total cancelation of enrollment will not be allowed except in the case where immediate action is necessary for reasons of serious risk to the student's or to immediate relative's health, with the provision of documentary evidence to the IES.

§ 3rd The norms applicable to the regular undergraduate students of each IES are extended to the PEC-G students defined in this Decree, including those related to student's termination and other hypotheses for course termination.

§ 4th It is the IES' duty to communicate the student's termination of the Program to the Federal Police, Ministry of Education and Ministry of External Relations.

## CHAPTER V

### FINAL PROVISIONS

#### Article 13

PEC-G students are not allowed to take part in any paid activity that represents employee status or is characterized as the payment of a salary or professional fees for services rendered.

#### Paragraph

The PEC-G student is allowed to participate in academic training activities, research activities, extra-curricular activities and tutoring as far as laws relating to temporary foreign residents.

#### Article 14

The PEC-G student is entitled to medical, dental and pharmaceutical assistance provided by the Public Health System - SUS, under the provision of the agreed contract between the Ministry of External Relations and the Ministry of Health without prejudice to the student's being a member of a private health plan.

#### Paragraph

In the case of death, serious or incurable illness that prevents the continuation of studies, the Ministry of External Relations may cover the extra costs of travel of the PEC-G student to his/her country in case he/she is unable to afford the costs of travel and according to the availability of resources in the Ministry budget.

#### Article 15

PEC-G member institutions may provide, in accordance with the law, financial support to the PEC-G student for a limited period of time, for the purpose of food, housing or transportation, dependent on good academic achievement.

#### Article 16

The link between the PEC-G student and the Program shall end with the completion of the course and the graduation ceremony.

§ 1st The IES has the responsibility to inform the Federal Police, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of External Relations the list of graduated PEC-G students immediately after graduation ceremony.

§ 2nd The PEC-student is not permitted to stay in Brazil beyond the legal period assigned in the Foreigners Statute.

#### Article 17

The PEC-G student shall receive his/her certificate, academic record and course description personally, free of charge and legalized in the Brazilian diplomatic representation where he/she has applied for the Program.

#### Article 18

All IES that offer PEC-G students vacancies in the Portuguese as a Foreign Language course, a preparation course for Celpe-Bras Examination, shall sign a specific term with the Ministry of Education, ensuring the conditions and obligations of the Program.

#### Article 19

The PEC-G student defined by the present Decree shall be exempt from taking the national examination to evaluate students' academic performance (Exame Nacional de Desempenho de Estudantes – ENADE), part of the national evaluation system of higher education (Sistema Nacional de Avaliação da Educação Superior – SINAES) created by Law 10.861, of April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

#### Article 20

The Ministry of Education and the Ministry of External Relations will keep their respective PEC-G websites updated, where additional information and other related subjects about PEC-G may be found.

#### Paragraph

It is the PEC-G student's responsibility to keep himself/herself informed about commitments and obligations stemming from the participation in PEC-G through regular consultation of the websites of the Ministry of External Relations, Ministry of Education and participating IES.

#### Article 21

A joint act of the Ministers of Education and of the External Relations will determine the rules on the operationalization of PEC-G.

#### Article 22

This Decree enters into force on the date of its publication.

#### Article. 23

The Decree 55.613, of January 20th, 1965 is revoked.

Brasília, March 12th, 2013; 192nd year of the Independence and 125th year of the Republic.

DILMA ROUSSEFF  
*Antonio de Aguiar Patriota*  
*Aloizio Mercadante*

This text does not replace that one published in the DOU of 13.3.2013.