Guidelines for the awarding of the Omid Farda Scholarship for Afghan prospective students for the winter semester 2022/2023

§ 1 – Aim and purpose of the scholarship
This scholarship program was created for students from Afghanistan who are prevented from continuing their bachelor's or master's studies, starting in October 2022. The Persian Omid Farda means "hope for tomorrow" and not only gives the scholarship its name, but also expresses its goal: The goal is to enable the continuation or completion of an undergraduate program in Bremen through participation in the Bremen preparatory studies.

§ 2 – Eligible applicants
Only applicants from Afghanistan who are unable to pay for their studies abroad due to the political situation in Afghanistan and who have registered at the Academy HERE AHEAD for preparatory studies in order to take up or continue their studies at one of the state universities in the state of Bremen are eligible to apply in accordance with § 1. The following requirements must be met:
• Applicant lives in Afghanistan at the time of the application deadline,
• applicant has not completed 31 years of age,
• the target course of study is offered by one of the state universities in the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen,
• applicant assures that he/she intends to pursue a bachelor's or master's degree,
• applicant proves the need according to § 4,
• bachelor's degree is not older than five years and
• a direct or indirect university entrance qualification is proven.

§ 3 – Application
(1) The application for an "Omid Farda" scholarship must be submitted in writing, signed, accompanied by the documents to be enclosed in accordance with § 5 (3), and returned to the Academy HERE AHEAD by e-mail between 05.05. and 05.06.2022.
(2) Only the application forms provided by the Academy HERE AHEAD are to be used.

§ 4 – Need
Need is demonstrated if the applicant
• still lives in Afghanistan,
• the threat situation has been credibly demonstrated,
• it has been demonstrated that no blocked account could be opened due to the political situation in Afghanistan, and
• enrollment and/or study certificates for a bachelor's or master's degree in Afghanistan have been submitted.
§ 5 – Award conditions, selection
(1) Scholarships shall be awarded to the extent that funds are available. There is no legal entitlement to the award of scholarships.
(2) The deadline for submitting applications is June 5, 2022.
(3) The application must be accompanied by:
• Copy of identification card,
• school and university transcripts, certificates, proof of enrollment and/or proof of study as evidence of eligibility for university admission or study,
• a curriculum vitae in table form with letters of reference, if applicable,
• proof of the reason for need according to § 4,
• if applicable, proof of suspension of studies,
• if applicable, proof or description of special personal or family circumstances as well as voluntary work or social, societal or (university) political commitment.
(4) The selection will be made on the basis of the urgency of the threat presented in accordance with § 4 and on the basis of personal or family circumstances as well as voluntary work and social or (university) political commitment.

§ 6 – Scope of benefits
The scholarship includes:
• A one-time payment of € 1,210 for travel and application expenses,
• setting up of a blocked account in Bremen for the student for 10,332 € (12 months at 861 € each (BAföG maximum rate)),
• assumption of bank fees for setting up a German account (150,00 €)
• assumption of 2 semester fees

§ 7 – Repayment
If a student is exmatriculated, the scholarship must be repaid in full. Likewise, false information that led to the approval of an application will result in an immediate refund obligation.
Students in the undergraduate program are expected to perform at a level commensurate with the semester. Preparatory students are required to attend the course program. In the event of non-fulfilment, the scholarship must be repaid in full.

§ 8 – Entry into force
This policy will come into effect on 04 May 2022.

The President of the University of Bremen
Prof. Dr. Bernd Scholz-Reiter