



Academic Education Programs Sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce of People's Republic of China



浙江师范大学  
ZHEJIANG NORMAL UNIVERSITY

2026 Master Program of Comparative Education

# BROCHURE

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## **Part I - Program Description**

### **1. Basic Situation**

#### **(1) Brief Introduction to the Program**

Starting from 2008, the Academic Education Programs sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce of People's Republic of China is designed to foster top cadre business officials and managerial personnel from the recipient countries, offering one-year or two-year master programs as well as three-year doctoral programs for the purpose of offering inter-disciplinary education to top level personnel working in the fields of government, trade, foreign affairs, agriculture, technology, education, culture, and health, building intellectual capacity and facilitating the economic and social development of the recipient countries. These programs provide assistance to the government officials, research fellows, and senior managerial personnel for their master and doctoral education in China. The programs are fully conducted in English. Admission requirements include a bachelor's degree, relevant working experiences, and good health conditions, essential for the high-compact curriculum programs.

These programs are undertaking an increasingly significant role in the economic development cooperation between China and the recipient countries. As for the positive effects and good results brought by these programs in strengthening economic ties and friendship

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between China and the recipient countries, the Ministry of Commerce of People's Republic of China will continuously intensify efforts in enlarging the enrollment scale and improving the quality of education. We believe that by going through the programs and obtaining relevant qualifications, beneficiaries are put in a better stead to embrace a successful career and brighter future.



The Library of ZJNU

**(2) Targets of Enrollment**

The targets of enrollment are government officials at the department level (including department level), heads of academic institutions above the department-head level of colleges, or administrative staff at the same level, whose English proficiency is suitable for academics.

**(3) Program Objective**

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The program aims to cultivate cross-cultural education professionals with a relatively profound understanding of pedagogic principles, the ability to conduct scientific research on education policies and practices, a broad vision for education reform and development at home and abroad and the competence to promote exchanges, understanding and cooperation between Chinese and foreign education.

#### **(4) Enrollment Plan**

2026 Master Program of Comparative Education is a two-year master's degree program that recruits serving officers from majors related to comparative education in Africa, Asia and other developing countries. The number of students to be enrolled is 25 and the language of instruction is English.

#### **(5) Financial Aid**

- 1) Exemption from tuition fees, teaching materials fees, research and investigation fees, English teaching subsidies and graduation thesis guidance fees;
- 2) Free access to on-campus accommodation;
- 3) Living subsidy: 36000 RMB/Yr. for each master degree student; The school will distribute this allowance to students on a monthly basis according to the actual time the student spends in China.;
- 4) Settlement allowance: 3000RMB/person;

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- 5) Comprehensive medical insurance in China;
- 6) Free round-trip international air ticket: 1 time of free round-trip international air ticket plus 1 time of round-trip air ticket for returning home to visit relatives;
- 7) All degree students are required to participate in the annual review, and those who pass the review can continue to enjoy the full scholarship in the second year;
- 8) Other expenses are managed by the Ministry of Commerce or the school, and won't be distributed to the students. The Ministry of Commerce only provides funding for students within the academic system. The student whose graduation is postponed will not continue to receive funding.

## **2. Introduction to the University**

### **(1) Brief Introduction to the University**

Founded in 1956, Zhejiang Normal University (ZJNU) covers two campuses in Zhejiang Province. The main one is located in one of the four metropolitan areas in Zhejiang Province—Jinhua—Yiwu Metropolitan area. Jinhua enjoys very convenient transportation with 40 minutes to Hangzhou and 100 minutes to Shanghai by the high-speed rail. The branch campus is in Hangzhou, the capital of the province. Its green and beautiful campus furnishes an ideal place for living, study and work.

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As one of the top 100 universities in China and a key provincial university, ZJNU specializes in teacher education with multiple branches of learning. It offers 46 undergraduate programs, 45 master's programs, 22 doctoral programs and 1 non-degree program (including 8 undergraduate programs taught in English and 20 postgraduate programs taught in English) from 25 colleges namely: College of Economics and Management, China-Africa International Business School, College of Law, College of Education (College of Teacher Education), College of Child Development and Education, College of Physical Education and Health Science, College of Humanities, College of Foreign Languages, College of Arts, College of Design and Creativity, College of Physics and Electronic Information Engineering, College of Chemistry and Materials Science, College of Chemistry and Life Sciences, College of Geography and Environmental Sciences, College of Engineering, College of International Culture and Social Development, etc. The university has an enrollment of over 30,000 students, including more than 3,000 international students. Among the total staff of over 3,000, there are more than 400 professors and more than 700 associate professors. The university is well equipped with advanced and multi-functional facilities. The library has a collection of over 3.81 million hard-copy books and 3.11 million kinds of e-books.

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The University has been approved as the CHINA AID Training Center for Primary and Secondary Education by the Ministry of Commerce, the Educational Center for Africa and Asia by the Ministry of Education, and the Educational Training Center for China and ASEAN under the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Under the framework of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, the university has been actively holding the education assistance projects for the developing countries since 2002, and so far, our university has hosted a total of 284 foreign aid short-term and long-term programs, including 11 degree programs and 273 short-term programs, with 7,168 trainees. We have now cultivated one current president, over 40 provincial and ministerial-level leaders, and more than 400 department-level cadres.

#### **(2) Introduction to the Host College**

This project is executed by the College of Education (College of Teacher Education) of Zhejiang Normal University. The College has 171 teaching and administrative staff, including 26 professors, 49 assistant professors, 101 doctors. There are 3 departments in the College: Pedagogy, Education Technology as well as Curriculum and teaching. The College has 2 bachelor's degree majors of Elementary Education and Educational Technology; one first-level discipline doctoral program in education, one first-level discipline master's

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degree program in Education, 2 professional master's degree programs in Pedagogy and MPA (Specialization in Educational Administration). The College currently has more than 800 full-time bachelor's degree students and more than 2000 graduate students. There are Chinese-only and English-only curriculums with more than 100 international students from more than 20 countries of Asia, Africa, and America.

The College has 1 Provincial Universities Humanities and Social Sciences Focused Research Base (Education). Among them, the International and Comparative Education Research Institute is formed with the Zhejiang Normal University Education Aid Base, Africa Research Institute, Teacher Education College, and Tianjiabing College of Educational Science serving as the cross-disciplinary platforms. The research areas are focused on comparison of educational strategies and policies, African education research, and international education research. The teaching and research faculties have accumulated rich experience in the long-term international research in the areas of international education, comparative education, and African education. They have conducted many researches and authored notable publications with over 200 published research articles. In addition, the College has established a stable academic exchange and cooperation with more than 20 European, American, and African

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universities and made multiple visits to African countries to conduct the field work and academic research.



Academic Achievements in  
African Research

**(3) Introduction to the Living Environment and Conditions of Students**

Zhejiang Normal University is located in the city of Jinhua, which has been awarded the Top 10 Most Livable Cities in China. Here the climate is characterized by four distinctive seasons, and the mean annual temperature is 17.3 °C (63.2 °F). The university has a well-equipped, dedicated dormitory for the international students with facilities for comfortable living conditions. The entire dormitory is serviced by elevator for the ease of accessibility. There will be dedicated personnel for the recipients of the China Ministry of Commerce Scholarship for their accommodation needs in the dormitory. Each candidate will be accommodated with a single room apartment. Each room is equipped with independent toilet, air

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conditioner, water heater and so on. Each floor has a general kitchen and laundry room. The kitchen facilities include refrigerator and kitchen utensils. There is also a fitness room which is free for international students. In order to provide a conducive learning environment for the international students, the school opened several cafés. In addition, there is a Muslim restaurant on the third floor of the Taoyuan dining hall for students who need such services. On the other hand, with the school's all-in-one card, international students can use the library and other facilities free of charge.



The International Students Dormitory of ZJNU

### **3. Education Plan**

### (1) Course Plan

International students enrolled in this program are expected to complete the coursework, conduct research, and write a thesis within two years. No less than 31 credits are required, including 9 compulsory courses (20 credits), 2 compulsory items (5 credits), and no less than 6 credits for optional courses. 1 credit equals to 18 class hours. If there are fewer than six students enrolling, a course will not be delivered, and the students will be required to swap courses.

Type	Course Name	Credits	Class Hours	Semester	Note
General course	Elementary Comprehensive Chinese I	2	36	1	8 credits
	Elementary Comprehensive Chinese II	2	36	2	
	General Situation of China	2	36	1	
	Contemporary China	2	36	2	
Core course	Fundamental Theory in Education	2	36	1	12 credits
	Research Methods in Education	3	54	1	
	Educational History: International Comparison	2	36	2	
	Comparative Education	3	54	1	

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	Educational Administration and Management	2	36	1	
Optional course	International Comparison of Education and State Development	2	36	1	No less than 6 credits
	Educational Policy Comparison	2	36	1	
	Basic Education Reform: International Comparison	2	36	2	
	Reform in Higher Education: Multinational Experience	1	18	2	
	Workshop for Research Methods in Education	2	36	2	
	ICT in Education and Development	2	36	2	
	China's Educational Development: Achievements and Experiences	2	36	2	
Compulsory Items	Academic Exchange	4	72	3	4 credits
	Orientation Education (for international students)	1	18	1	1 credit
Total	No less than 31 credits				

**1) Compulsory Courses**

Course	Content
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<p>General Situation of China/Contemporary China</p>	<p>Course content is broad with diverse themes. The contents include marriage, family, feminism, food and drink, sports, legal system, education, language, construction, professions, environmental protection, religion and traditional culture. There are themes including essay, prose, novels, conversation, report, summary, survey, book review, and poetry and so on.</p>
<p>Elementary Comprehensive Chinese</p>	<p>This course relies on the usage and impression clue, to understand important grammatical composition patterns and dialogue, through practice and task-based learning, training students to apply Chinese in daily communication, literature reading, and writing ability to meet their study and daily living needs, as well as understanding the foundation of Chinese culture.</p>

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<p>Fundamental Theory in Education</p>	<p>This course aims at helping the students understand and grasp the basic concepts of education, basic principle, form overall understanding of the system of educational theory. Form a relatively broad view of education, scientific educational ideas and thought, preliminary ability to analyze all kinds of educational theories and existing facts to lay a solid foundation for further study.</p>
<p>Research Methods in Education</p>	<p>This course is based on the general logic of social science research, divided into four parts: introduction of the research, including the overview, method, methodology and paradigm, determine research questions, data collation and literature review, research ethics and academic norm; the research-design part, which includes an overview of the study design, questionnaire design, case study research design, and hybrid research design; data analysis, including quantitative analysis</p>

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	<p>and qualitative data analysis; the presentation of the research results.</p>
<p>Educational History: International Comparison</p>	<p>This course mainly focuses on some important problems in the process of educational thought and practice development. On the one hand, it discusses the change and continuity from the angle of history; on the other hand, it discusses the universality and particularity from the comparative point of view.</p>
<p>Comparative Education</p>	<p>This course is the application of theories and methods of Social Science in the field of international education. The characteristics of comparative education research in domestic, international, multilateral and cross-system of education are analyzed and compared. “Analysis” refers to helping us understand things from two aspects of quantity and quality, “comparative” refers to the</p>

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	understanding of the framework for the analysis of the relationship between entity and phenomenon.
Educational Administration and Management	This course is an introduction to the subject of educational administration and management, the historical development, the school management in the reform period, the different aspects of educational administration system and educational administration in different countries.

**2) Optional Courses**

<b>Course</b>	<b>Content</b>
International Comparison of Education and State Development	This course applies the Marxist state theory, the theory of ideology and hegemony of Gramsci, Paulo Freire's critical pedagogy theory, using the historical and comparative methods around the imbalance of development of national education system in western countries, the social origins of the national education system, STEM education and national development, internationalization of

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	<p>the higher education and national development, as well as discusses the promotion of national development through education, to cultivate the students' independent review of the relationship between education and national development.</p>
<p>Educational Policy Comparison</p>	<p>This course introduces the historical development of educational policy from research and research content perspective using the global education reform policy and teacher professional development policy as an example, to illustrate how to make a comparative analysis of educational policy</p>
<p>Basic Education Reform: International Comparison</p>	<p>Taking United States, United Kingdom, Japan and China as cases, this course investigates educational policy, educational administration system, school management, teacher professional development, and curriculum reform related to basic education. The course aims to help students understand the context and trend of basic education reform around the world, and learn how to do country study and comparative study in this field.</p>

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<p>Higher Education Reform: Multinational Experience</p>	<p>This course begins with the discussion and research of the objective of higher education in cultivation of talents, major changes in the field of school running system and functions of colleges and universities, the process of major reforms in universal higher education, and the influencing factors; through international and specific national higher education topics it will discuss details of the reform process, characteristics and its implications for the developing countries. These topics include: international higher education gender equity system reform; the establishment and the influence of the California Master Plan for the higher education; the process and characteristics of the higher education reform in South Africa; the transformation of the enrollment system of American colleges and universities; the development and reform of China's distance higher education.</p>
<p>Workshop for Research Methods in Education</p>	<p>This is a practice-oriented course that is based on a holistic process of educational research and characterized with its hand-on experiences. The design of the course is centered on the process of</p>

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	<p>educational research, whilst the delivery is a combination of theoretical guidance and practical activities. It aims at facilitating postgraduates to independently conduct educational research with quality and to complete their master's theses or PhD dissertations successfully.</p>
ICT in Education and Development	<p>This course introduces the development and influence of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), as well as analyzes its influence in education and development and the transformation that Information and Communication Technology has brought to the knowledge structure, teaching, and learning. Useful software in research and teaching are also taught in this course.</p>
China's Educational Development: Achievements and Experiences	<p>This course aims to give international students a deep understanding of the development experience of Chinese education. This course is mainly based on the current situation of education development in the countries where the overseas students live, and discusses China's changes, achievements and experiences in the fields of educational governance, universal compulsory education,</p>

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	professional development of principals, teacher education, education finance, education poverty reduction, vocational education, etc.
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### 3) Profiles of Instructors

There are 9 professors, 18 doctors, 9 associate-professors, 4 lecturers, and 1 guest professor at Institute of International and Comparative Education (IICE). Parts of profiles are as follows:

Name	Sex	Institution	Position	Title	Research Area	Remarks
Liang Xiaoyan	F	World Bank	Chief Educational Expert in African Areas	Professor	Exploring Education Development	Guest Professor
Wan Xiulan	F	Institute of International and Comparative Education, ZJNU	Deputy Dean	Professor	American Community College, African Higher Education and Technical and Vocational Education	Full Time
Chen Mingkun	M	College of Teacher Education, ZJNU		Professor	African Higher Education	Full Time

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Yu Rong	M	K.P.PIN Institute of Educational Science, ZJNU		Profe ssor	Foreign Education History, Higher Comparative Education	Full Time
Qian Xusheng	M	College of Teacher Education, ZJNU		Profe ssor	ICT Curriculum, Teachers' Education Curriculum	Full Time
Huang Xiao	F	Joint Education Institute of Zhejiang Normal University & University of Kansas	Dean	Profe ssor	Science Education	Full Time
Tian Xiaohong	F	K.P.PIN Institute of Educational Science, ZJNU		Asso ciate Resea rch fello w	Comparative Education/Teach er Education	Full Time
Zhu Jian	M	Joint Education Institute of Zhejiang Normal University & University of Kansas		Asso ciate Resea rch fello w	Gender Question in Higher Education and Higher Education Comparison	Full Time

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Liu Aisheng	M	K.P.PIN Institute of Educational Science, ZJNU		Associate Research fellow	American Higher Education Governance	Full Time
Zhang Yanjun	M	Institute of International and Comparative Education, ZJNU		Associate Professor	STEM Education, Educational Exchange between China and America	Full Time

**(2) Teaching Methods**

2026 Master Program of Comparative Education will last for two years and provides three specific directions: comparative research of educational strategies and policies, education and development research and African education research. The training content not only takes care of the students' learning demands for macroscopic decision-making and development, but also takes care of their practical interest in microscopic observation and research. The teaching method is mainly based on the teachers' classroom instructing and supplemented by case analysis, on-site visits and expert lectures according to the teaching needs. Students are required to participate in class interactions, group discussions, and complete group reports if necessary. In addition, students are required to complete the orientation education (for

International students), academic exchange and the writing of course papers.

### **(3) Semester Arrangements**

The first year of teaching plan involves course work. The second year involves training students to complete academic exchange and thesis writing. The training will give students more in-depth understanding of the principles of education, possess a scientific research capacity towards educational policy and practice, have a broader perspective of the domestic and foreign education reform and development, be able to promote the Sino-foreign cross-cultural and educational exchanges, understanding and cooperation for/in professional personnel.

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>Semester</b>	<b>Time</b>
Year One (2026-2027)	1 <sup>st</sup> Semester	2026/9-12
	Winter Vacation	2027/1-2
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester	2027/3-6
Year Two (2027-2028)	Summer Vacation	2027/7-8
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Semester	2027/9-12
	Winter Vacation	2028/1-2
	4 <sup>th</sup> Semester	2028/3-7



#### **(4) Graduation Thesis**

1) Specific Requirements for Graduation Thesis: Students should select a topic for the thesis under the direction of his/her supervisor, usually in the 2nd semester. The thesis should be written in English with at least 30 thousand words (Page Amount: 80-100; Font: Times New Roman; Line Spacing: 1.5 times)

2) Specific Requirements for Oral Defense: Students should attend the proposal defense at the end of the second semester, undergo a mid-term thesis review at the third semester and a pre-defense at the semester's conclusion. Students shall submit the thesis at the start of the fourth semester for a blind review, the successful completion of which leads to the final defense.

#### **(5) Degree Award**

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Students completing the prescribed credits and dissertation, passing oral defense will be awarded a master's degree by the academic degree evaluation committee in the university.



The African Museum of ZJNU

**Part II - Application**

**1. Requirements**

All applicants must meet the following admission requirements:

- 1) The Applicants must be healthy non-Chinese citizens under the age of 45 (born after Sept. 1, 1981) from the developing countries;
- 2) Good physical and mental health, with a health certificate or physical examination form issued by a local public hospital. No diseases prohibited from entering China or staying in China for a long time by Chinese laws and regulations. No severe hypertension,

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cardiovascular and cerebrovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer or other serious chronic diseases, mental disorders or infectious diseases that may cause major public health hazards, major surgery recovery period and acute disease attack period, severe physical disability, and not pregnant. If a female student becomes pregnant during her study in China, she will be treated as a withdrawal;

- 3) Bachelor degree or above with three or more years of work experience;
- 4) Applicants with professional learning or working background related to the program and still in service will be preferable;
- 5) Serving as public officials at the department level or above (or corresponding levels) of the government of the home country, senior management personnel of various institutions and enterprises, or academic backbones of universities and scientific research institutions;
- 6) The Applicants must be proficient in English and utilizing English for specialty course study. (Reference Standard: IELTS 6.5 or above in overall band score, new TOEFL 90 or above, or Duolinguo 120 or above);
- 7) Applicants should be equipped with the potential for career development in this field and intends to promote friendly exchanges and cooperation between the home country and China;

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- 8) Students having studied in China or having been admitted to other Chinese government scholarship programs are not allowed to apply;
- 9) Applicants must be recommended by the Economic and Commercial Office of the Chinese Embassy in their home country;
- 10) Priority will be given to female applicants for this program.

## 2. Procedures

### 1) Application Process

Please visit Zhejiang Normal University online application system at <https://admission.zjnu.edu.cn/StuApplication/Login.aspx>, register for an account and submit application documents online.

When applying, choose "Comparative Education" as your major and "MOFCOM Scholarship" as your scholarship category.

### 2) Materials

Applicants should prepare the following materials before submitting the application:

Documents		Requirements
1	Institutional Recommendation Letter	Issued by the applicant's institution to introduce your basic information and indicate that they are willing to recommend you to study in China

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2	2 Academic Recommendation Letter	Issued by associate professors or professors to introduce the applicant's academic background, professional direction, previous performance and research capability
3	Highest Degree Diploma	An original copy and a photocopy shall be prepared for your graduation certificate and degree certificate of the highest academic qualifications
4	Official Transcript	Transcripts must cover all major courses taken by the student in the previous degree
5	Study Plan	The study plan must be written in English and be at least 1,000 words in length. The content should cover the applicant's academic background, work experience, research proposal, future career plans and other basic elements
6	Photocopy of a Valid Passport	Scanned copy of the passport photo page, including name, passport number and other information. The

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		<p>passport must be a personal regular passport. A diplomatic passport or an official passport is not acceptable for application</p>
7	<p>English/Chinese Language Proficiency Test Results</p>	<p>Applicants who are not native English speakers or whose undergraduate education was not conducted in English shall provide the TOEFL or IELTS test score. The GRE test is recommended but not required</p>
8	<p>Physical Examination Form</p>	<p>Please visit our website at <a href="http://iso.zjnu.edu.cn/wownloads/list.htm">http://iso.zjnu.edu.cn/wownloads/list.htm</a> for the Physical Examination Form template. The result should be within 6 months. It should indicate that the applicant carries no infectious diseases which may have a serious impact on public health or fall into any of the health situations prohibited by China's Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Laws and Regulations</p>

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9	No Criminal Record	The document should be valid within the last 6 months, usually issued by the local police station
10	Language Proficiency Certificate	Applicants whose mother language is not English should provide IELTS, TOEFL or other certificates; if you have Chinese learning experience, you can upload relevant certificates together
11	Bank Statement	Provided by bank
12	No Drug Addiction Statement	You could down the template from: <a href="http://iso.zjnu.edu.cn/wpplicationwwocuments/list.htm">http://iso.zjnu.edu.cn/wpplicationwwocuments/list.htm</a> , and sign on it.
13	Certificate of Your Parents' Nationality	Proof of parents' nationality: Parents' ID cards or passports
14	International Student Mental Health Questionnaire	Please finish the test on: <a href="https://forms.gle/TNodp45yUs6gh9yv6">https://forms.gle/TNodp45yUs6gh9yv6</a> , and submit the screenshot of the test result

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15	CV	Including your personal background and study or work experience after high school
16	Photos	2 2-inch photos with white background, taken in the past 3 months

**3) Submission**

- A. The Applicants can apply for this scholarship program only after having obtained the approval and recommendation of the relevant responsible department of the home government and submit the materials according to the specific requirements of the relevant department in your home country.**
- B. If the home government allows the applicant to submit the materials directly to the Chinese embassy, the applicant must obtain a relevant certificate or recommendation letter for allowing study in China from the host country.** Then submit all the application materials listed above in step 1) and 2) in both hard copy and scanned copy to the Economic and Commercial Counselor's Office of Chinese Embassy in your home country. The Hard copy must include both the original copy and the photocopy, as indicated in the table. For emails and addresses of the Economic

and Commercial Counselor's Offices, please visit <http://www.china-aibo.cn>.

- C. The relevant responsible department of the government in your home countries will submit a written request to the Economic and Commercial Counselor's Office of Chinese Embassy for an official recommendation letter and clearly state: whether the applicant is willing to be considered for the same or a similar program at other universities if there is no vacancy in the programs at ZJNU. Other special requests if any.**

#### **4) Reminders**

- A.** All the documents to be submitted should be in Chinese or English. Otherwise, a notarized copy in Chinese or English is required.
- B.** In addition to submitting a copy of important documents like degrees, official transcripts and English language proficiency certificate, the originals must be submitted at the same time for verification by the Economic and Commercial Office of the Chinese Embassy. **After the verification of the personnel of the business office, the students should send a scanned copy of the application materials to the enrollment contacts of the university projects.**

C. Applicants should get back all the original hard-copy materials from the Economic and Commercial Counselor's Office by themselves and safe keep the materials. If admitted, they must take the documents to China and submit them to the Admission Office of Zhejiang Normal University for verification and filing.

### **3. Deadline of Application**

**June 6th, 2026**

## **Part III –Other Important Notes**

### **1. Contacts**

Office for International Students, Zhejiang Normal University

Address: 688 Yingbin Avenue, Jinhua City, Zhejiang Province,  
321004, P.R. China

Tel: +86-579-82283155

Fax: +86-579-82280337

E-mail: admission@zjnu.edu.cn; zjnu@vip.126.com

Website: <http://iso.zjnu.edu.cn>

### **2. Other Notes**

1) None of the materials will be returned regardless of the result of application.

2) The Chinese government will not explain the reason for the result of application.

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3) **It is not allowed to bring a spouse or children to China to accompany the students.** The scholarship doesn't provide the students' spouses and children with fees for coming to China to visit them.

4) The procedures for coming to China and related requirements will be explained in the admission documents.

