Indonesian students in Sumatra wishing to obtain information about applying for the OCS should contact OIC at: info@orangutancentre.org.

Students in West Kalimantan should contact YP at: yayasanpalung@gmail.com.

Students in Central Kalimantan should contact BNF at: info@borneonature.org.

Individuals and organizations who would like donate to the OCS Fund to sponsor one or more scholarships should contact OURF at: info@orangutanrepublik.org or donate through the OURF website.

OUR MAIN SCHOLARSHIP SPONSORS

Syarifah, (the first Orangutan Caring Scholarship recipient in 2006), who graduated from North Sumatra University, sincerely thanks everyone who has contributed to the Fund.
ABOUT THE ORANGUTAN CARING SCHOLARSHIP

The Orangutan Caring Scholarship (OCS) is a collaborative program of the Orang Utan Republik Foundation (OURF) and three implementing organizations: Yayasan Orangutan Sumatra Lestari-Orangutan Information Center or OIC on Sumatra, Yayasan Palung (YP) in West Kalimantan and Borneo Nature Foundation (BNF) in Central Kalimantan (Indonesian Borneo).

The purpose of the program is to award tuition funding to talented and needy Indonesian students on a competitive basis enabling them to attend university in the fields of Forestry, Biology, or Veterinary Science. In addition to being able to attend university, scholarship recipients develop an understanding of the plight of the orangutan from the perspective of the nongovernmental organization. They graduate as advocates of orangutan conservation when entering the private, nonprofit or government workforce. The collaboration between OURF, OIC, YP and BNF has allowed this program to expand since its first award in 2006. OURF raises and provides the funding and OIC, YP, and BNF administers the actual competition via outreach to schools, evaluates submitted proposals, oversees the selection process, and manages funds to the recipients.

The OCS is open to Indonesian students in North Sumatra, Aceh, West and Central Kalimantan seeking tuition funds for Forestry, Biology, or Veterinary School. One of the requirements of the applicant is to make an effective presentation to a review committee about their research plans. In addition, recipients are expected to work with the local NGOs in learning about the orangutan and its plight, and in helping present the information to students in local schools.

AN INVESTMENT IN OUR FUTURE

150 students have received the OCS since 2006. 80 students have already graduated as of 2018. The fields of study have been fairly balanced (see chart on back). The number of scholarships have been largely offered based on funds pledged by organizations. Most have been given to students in N. Sumatra attending the University of North Sumatra and University of Medan where the program began. In 2009, students in Aceh at Kuala Syiah University’s veterinary school were included. In 2012, we began offering scholarships to graduating high school students in West Kalimantan planning to attend the University of Tanjung Pura. In 2018, we added Central Kalimantan to our program for students seeking enrollment at Palangka Raya University.

OURF’s website has a list of all the recipients, each of whom is grateful for this academic assistance.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

We would like to continue to expand this worthwhile program. To do this, we encourage organizations and the general public to contribute to the Orangutan Caring Scholarship Fund. OURF is appreciative of those organizations that have already supported the OCS Fund (see back page). Donations in the USA are fully tax-deductible.

The cost of administering one scholarship (2018) is approximately US$1,500. That single scholarship allows a recipient to be able to pay for school tuition for four years as well as cover the costs of their research and the final write-up.

A special five-year scholarship may be available for veterinary students needing another year of internship to graduate as practicing veterinarians. The number of scholarships we are able to award are based on the level of funding we receive.