



# **Commonwealth Shared Scholarships**

**2016 prospectus**

## INTRODUCTION

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan (CSFP) is one of the largest and most prestigious scholarship schemes for international study in the world. Since it was established in 1959, around 30,000 individuals have benefited – 25,000 of them have held awards funded by the UK government, managed by the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom (CSC).

This prospectus describes the Commonwealth Shared Scholarships offered by the CSC for citizens of developing Commonwealth countries in 2016. These scholarships are funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID), with the aim of contributing to the UK's international development aims and wider overseas interests, supporting excellence in UK higher education, and sustaining the principles of the Commonwealth.

For information about the other scholarships and fellowships offered by the CSC, visit [www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk](http://www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk). For information about Commonwealth Scholarships offered by other Commonwealth countries, visit [www.csfp-online.org](http://www.csfp-online.org)

The CSC's Secretariat is provided by the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU), which is responsible for all matters concerning selection, academic studies, and evaluation. The British Council is responsible for supporting award holders in their home countries before and after their awards.

## COMMONWEALTH SHARED SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships for Master's study for students from developing countries who would not otherwise be able to study in the UK, jointly supported by UK universities.

**Purpose:** To contribute to development needs of Commonwealth countries by providing training for skilled and qualified professionals and academics who would not otherwise have been able to study in the UK.

**Intended beneficiaries:** High-quality postgraduate students who have not studied extensively overseas before, who would not otherwise have the opportunity to study in the UK, and who have the potential to enhance the development of their home countries with the knowledge and leadership skills they acquire.

Commonwealth Shared Scholarships are offered for selected taught Master's courses, and are usually tenable for one year only. These scholarships do not cover undergraduate courses, PhD study, or any pre-sessional English language teaching.

## ELIGIBILITY

To apply for these scholarships, you must:

- Be a Commonwealth citizen, refugee, or British protected person
- Be permanently resident in a developing Commonwealth country. For a full list of eligible countries, visit <http://bit.ly/cscuk-developing-cw-countries>
- Be available to start your academic studies in the UK by the start of the UK academic year in September/October 2016
- By August 2016, hold a first degree of at least upper second class (2:1) honours standard
- Not have studied or worked for one (academic) year or more in a developed country
- Be unable, either yourself or through your family, to pay to study in the UK

The CSC promotes equal opportunity, gender equity, and cultural exchange. Applications are encouraged from a diverse range of candidates.

## HOW TO APPLY

You should apply to study an eligible Master's course at a UK university that is participating in the Shared Scholarship scheme. For a full list of participating universities, see pages 6-7. For a full list of eligible courses, visit <http://bit.ly/cscuk-shared-scholarship-courses>

You must make your application using the CSC's Electronic Application System (EAS) – information on how to use the EAS, including detailed guides, is available at <http://bit.ly/cscuk-shared-scholarship>

Before applying, you must check with your UK university for their specific advice and rules for applying, and for their own closing date for applications. For a full list of contact details, visit <http://bit.ly/cscuk-shared-scholarship-courses>

You can apply for more than one course and/or to more than one university, but you may only accept one offer of a Shared Scholarship.

All applications must be submitted by **1 April 2016** at the latest. Each university has its own closing date for applications, and most fall before 1 April 2016. You must submit your application by the date advised by your UK university.

The CSC will not accept any applications that are not submitted via the EAS to your UK university or applications directly from individuals; such applications will not be acknowledged.

## SELECTION PROCESS

Each participating UK university will conduct its own recruitment process to select a specified number of candidates for Shared Scholarships. Universities must put forward their selected candidates to the CSC by 29 April 2016. The CSC will then confirm that these candidates meet the eligibility criteria for this scheme. Universities will inform candidates of their results by July 2016.

Selection criteria include:

- Academic merit of the candidate
- Potential impact of the work on the development of the candidate's home country.

## VALUE

Shared Scholarships are jointly funded by the CSC and participating UK universities. Each Scholarship provides:

- Approved airfare from your home country to the UK and return at the end of your award (*arranged by the university; funded by the CSC*)
- Approved tuition and examination fees (*funded by the CSC*)
- Stipend (living allowance) at the rate of £1,034 per month, or £1,268 per month for those studying at universities in the London metropolitan area (rates quoted at 2015-2016 levels) (*paid and funded by the university*)
- Thesis grant towards the cost of preparing a dissertation, where applicable (*claimed from and paid by the university; funded by the CSC*)
- Warm clothing allowance and visa reimbursement, where applicable (*paid and funded by the university*)
- Study travel grant towards the costs of study-related travel within the UK or overseas (*claimed from and paid by the university; funded by the CSC*)
- Excess baggage allowance, up to an annual approved limit, when returning home (*claimed from and paid by the university; funded by the CSC*)

No additional allowances are available for spouses or other dependants.

## GENERAL CONDITIONS OF AWARD

- A Commonwealth Shared Scholarship covers fees, fares, and personal maintenance. Other scholarships, awards, or bursaries that cover the same costs may not be held concurrently.
- If your application is successful and the CSC has confirmed that you meet the eligibility requirements of the scheme, your university will notify you that you have been provisionally selected (selected for an award subject to the CSC agreeing your terms of admission to the university)
- The CSC reserves the right to publish the names of provisionally selected candidates on the CSC website. By applying for an award, you are giving your consent for your details to be published in this way if your application is successful.
- When terms of admission to the university have been agreed and all documentation has been completed and returned, the CSC will send you a formal Confirmation of Award.
- You will be required to submit a medical report before your Confirmation of Award can be issued.
- You will be required to sign a declaration confirming that you are a national of a Commonwealth developing country, and not at present living or studying in a developed country; have not studied or worked for more than one year in a developed country; and are unable, either yourself or through your family, to pay to study in the UK, as well as an undertaking to return to your home country as soon as possible after the end of your award. Any false declarations will cause at least the CSC's share of your award to be terminated, even if your course of study has started. In such circumstances, you will be required to refund any payments made by the CSC in connection with your award.
- You are expected to start your award on the date stated in your Confirmation of Award.
- If you require a Tier 4 visa to come to the UK to study, you may be required to take an approved English language test and/or be screened for tuberculosis for your visa application. These regulations are subject to change at any time. You should check the GOV.UK website at [www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa](http://www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa) for updated information.
- For certain subjects of study, you may be required to apply for an Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS) certificate before applying for a UK visa. Your university will advise you if you require an ATAS certificate and how to apply. For more information, visit [www.gov.uk/academic-technology-approval-scheme](http://www.gov.uk/academic-technology-approval-scheme)
- All UK immigration regulations are set by UK Visas and Immigration and are subject to change. The CSC has no control over these regulations.
- You are expected to reside in the UK throughout your award, and to seek approval from the CSC in advance for any overseas travel.
- You must not undertake paid employment during your award without approval from the CSC in advance.
- The CSC will consider a request to extend your leave to remain in the UK after your award only if you wish to move from Master's to PhD study. Strict conditions will apply.
- The CSC cannot provide a letter of support for you to remain in the UK after your award to work or undertake postdoctoral study.
- Your award may be terminated at any time for reasons of unsatisfactory conduct, progress, or attendance, or if your registration is suspended or terminated by your university for any reason.
- In line with the UK Bribery Act 2010, any applicant convicted of bribery will be banned from reapplying for a Commonwealth Scholarship or Fellowship for a period of up to five years.
- The CSC is committed to administering and managing its scholarships and fellowships in a fair and transparent manner. For more information, see the CSC anti-fraud policy and procedure at <http://bit.ly/cscuk-anti-fraud-policy>
- All terms and conditions of award are subject to UK local law and practices, and are subject to change by the CSC.

## COMMONWEALTH SHARED SCHOLARSHIPS 2016 – AT A GLANCE

University	Number of awards available	Closing date
Aberystwyth University	1	18 March 2016
Anglia Ruskin University	1	31 March 2016
Bangor University	5	1 April 2016
Bath Spa University	1	1 April 2016
Birmingham City University	1	1 April 2016
Bournemouth University	3	1 April 2016
Cardiff University	1	1 March 2016
Cranfield University	7	1 April 2016
De Montfort University	1	1 April 2016
Durham University	7	18 March 2016
Glasgow Caledonian University	2	1 April 2016
Goldsmiths, University of London	1	1 March 2016
Heriot-Watt University	3	1 April 2016
Imperial College London	1	1 April 2016
Institute of Development Studies, Sussex	1	31 March 2016
Keele University	4	3 March 2016
King's College London	4	1 March 2016
Leeds Beckett University	7	1 April 2016
Liverpool Hope University	2	25 March 2016
Liverpool John Moores University	3	1 April 2016
London Metropolitan University	1	1 April 2016
London School of Economics and Political Science	5	7 March 2016
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine	6	1 March 2016
Newcastle University	7	25 March 2016
Queen Margaret University	2	17 March 2016
Queen's University Belfast	4	26 February 2016
Royal Agricultural University	1	1 April 2016
Royal Veterinary College	1	1 March 2016
Sheffield Hallam University	4	1 April 2016
SOAS, University of London	3	29 January 2016
Swansea University	1	1 April 2016
Teesside University	1	26 February 2016
UCL (University College London)	8	21 February 2016
Ulster University	1	1 April 2016
University of Aberdeen	7	31 March 2016
University of Bath	5	31 March 2016
University of Bedfordshire	5	31 March 2016
University of Birmingham	1	29 February 2016
University of Brighton	1	31 March 2016
University of Bristol	5	15 February 2016
University of Cambridge	9	2 December 2015
University of Chester	7	18 March 2016
University of East Anglia	1	6 March 2016
University of Edinburgh	1	1 April 2016

University	Number of awards available	Closing date
University of Exeter	5	18 March 2016
University of Glasgow	6	21 March 2016
University of Greenwich	7	1 April 2016
University of Hull	5	1 April 2016
University of Kent	1	16 March 2016
University of Leeds	7	1 February 2016
University of Leicester	2	1 April 2016
University of Liverpool	5	1 April 2016
University of Nottingham	3	11 March 2016
University of Oxford	1	1 April 2016
University of Portsmouth	1	6 March 2016
University of Reading	2	1 April 2016
University of Sheffield	1	11 March 2016
University of South Wales	1	1 April 2016
University of Southampton	4	1 March 2016
University of St Andrews	1	1 April 2016
University of Stirling	5	18 March 2016
University of Strathclyde	7	4 March 2016
University of the West of England	1	1 April 2016
University of the West of Scotland	3	25 March 2016
University of Warwick	7	16 March 2016
University of Westminster	1	1 April 2016
University of Worcester	1	31 March 2016



**Commonwealth Scholarship  
Commission in the UK**

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