



## APPLICATION DEADLINE

**Gender grants (first grant) will open the week of 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2021.**

## BACKGROUND

[The Association of Commonwealth Universities \(ACU\)](#) and [Queen Elizabeth Commonwealth Scholarships \(QECS\)](#) committed to delivering educational opportunities that make a positive and lasting difference. They provide a range of funding opportunities to enable university staff and students to pursue **world-class research and innovation**. Some opportunities are open to all, while others are available only for ACU members. Below are the current funding opportunities for the **year 2021-2022**.

Week of opening	Funding	Description
23 August 2021	Gender Grants	Awarded to ACU members in any country to support initiatives that will boost gender equity and equality.
27 September 2021	Early Career Researcher Training Grants	Grants for ACU members to provide training to early career research students in essential skills to enable them to succeed in their careers, whether they remain in academia or utilise their skills in other professional fields.
18 October 2021	Early Career Conference Grants	Grants for early career researchers at member universities to participate in conferences. They can be used to support virtual conference participation.
8 November 2021	Commonwealth Climate Resilience Network Grants	Grants for professional and academic staff at ACU member universities to support collaborative work focused on the ACU Commonwealth Climate Resilience Network's priority themes.
15 November 2021	Queen Elizabeth Commonwealth Scholarship - cycle 1 2022-23	Open to applicants from any Commonwealth country, the scholarships provide a unique opportunity to study for a two-year Master's degree at an ACU member university in a low or middle income country.

31 January 2022	Virtual Mobility Project Grants	These grants provide funding for ACU members to deliver a virtual mobility project – such as an online summer school – in partnership with another ACU member university.
21 February 2022	Peace and Reconciliation Network Grants	Grants for professional and academic staff at ACU member universities to support collaborative work focused on the ACU Commonwealth Peace and Reconciliation Network's priority themes.
21 March 2022	Higher Education and the SDGs Challenge Grants	Grants for professional and academic staff at ACU member universities to support collaborative work focused on the Higher Education and the SDGs Network's priority themes.
28 March 2022	Queen Elizabeth Commonwealth Scholarship - cycle 2 2022-23	Open to applicants from any Commonwealth country, the scholarships provide a unique opportunity to study for a two-year Master's degree at an ACU member university in a low or middle income country.
4 April 2022	ACU Fellowships	Fellowships for academic and professional staff at ACU member universities to promote the exchange of knowledge, skills, and ideas between members.
2 May 2022	Routledge Commonwealth Studentships	The PhD studentships provide funding for research projects on Commonwealth-related themes.
30 May 2022	Martha Farrell Memorial Fellowships	Fellowships for staff training and support for effective anti-sexual harassment initiatives at their home university.
20 June 2022	HR in HE Community Challenge Grants	Open to staff working in the area of human resources, the HR in HE Community Challenge Grants support the essential work of HR within universities and the aims of the HR in HE Community.

#### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

A candidate must read the respective award of interest's guideline from the [website](#) for the different calls.

#### IMPORTANT NOTIFICATIONS:

The first call (**Gender Grants**) will on the week of the 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2021.

[ACU Gender Grants](#) are awarded annually to member universities to support initiatives that will boost gender equity and equality on campus. The grants can be used for a [diverse range of projects](#), workshops, and events in areas such as:

- Supporting **women in leadership**.
- Raising **awareness of sexual harassment** and developing **anti-sexual harassment initiatives**.
- Supporting **women in science and research**.
- Creating effective institutional policies.
- Mainstreaming **gender equity** into the curriculum.

Grants of up to GBP 1000 are available for staff at ACU member universities to help meet the costs of organising projects that promote gender equity and equality.

Grantees will be required to submit a short interim report halfway through their project and a comprehensive final report within one month after completing their project.

**Further information will be circulated for the different calls when they open.**

#### HOW TO APPLY

A candidate will need to supply an outline of the project and an action plan, including details of what it involves and how it will address gender equity and equality at your university. The project action plan is requested for a minimum of 6 months and a maximum of 12 months. Further application details will be available when the calls open. Further details can be found on the attached document and the [website](#) for more information.

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#### CONTACTS FOR CALL QUERIES

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