



APPLICATION DEADLINE

1 November 2021 (Virtual Application Guidance Event: 16 October 2021, 10:30 SAST)

BACKGROUND

The [Commonwealth Scholarship Commission](#) in the UK (CSC) is offering **full scholarships to South African students** to undertake **full-time taught Master's studies at a UK university**. Commonwealth Master's Scholarships enable **talented and motivated individuals to gain the knowledge and skills** required for **sustainable development**, and are aimed at students who could not otherwise afford to study in the UK. Candidates are selected on the basis of **merit and their potential** to contribute to the **needs of their home countries**.

The scholarships are offered under six CSC development themes:

- Science and technology for development;
- Strengthening **health systems and capacity**;
- Promoting global prosperity;
- Strengthening global peace, security and governance;
- Strengthening resilience and response to crises;
- Access, inclusion and opportunity.

Please visit the [website](#) to read more about the development themes.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applicants must:

- Be a **citizen and resident of South Africa**;
- Be **available to start your academic studies in the UK** by the start of the UK academic year in **September 2022**;
- By **September 2022**, hold a **first degree** of at least upper second class (2:1) honours standard, or a second-class degree (2:2) and a relevant postgraduate qualification (usually a Master's degree);
- Must have attained a minimum **average mark of 70%**;
- Should have **at least a four-year degree** or an equivalent qualification, and you should meet the minimum requirements for your intended degree;
- **Must have applied to an identified full time study programme at a UK university**;
- **Not to be registered for a PhD, or an MPhil** leading to a PhD, at a UK university or in your home country before September/October 2022;
- Have **provided all supporting documentation** in the required format, and
- Be **unable to afford to study in the UK without this scholarship**.

The CSC would not normally fund a second UK Master's degree. If you are applying for a second UK Master's degree, you will need to provide justification as to why you wish to undertake this study.

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATIONS:

Please note that there will be a virtual application guidance event on 16th October 2021, 10:30, please see attached (UK CMS Info session) for more information.

The Department of Higher Education and Training (the Department) is the Nominating Agency for South African citizens who wish to apply for this scholarship. Final selection of candidates will be made by the CSC.

What the scholarship offers:

- **Airfare** from your home country to the UK and return at the end of your award (the CSC will not reimburse the cost of fares for dependents, or the cost of journeys made before your award is confirmed);
- **Tuition fees**;
- **Stipend** (living allowance) at the rate of £1,116 per month (**R22 500**), or £1,369 per month (**R27 600**) for those at universities in the London metropolitan area (rates quoted at 2021-2022 levels);
- **Warm clothing allowance** (where applicable);
- **Thesis grant** towards the cost of preparing a thesis or dissertation (where applicable);
- **Study travel grant** towards the cost of study-related travel within the UK or overseas;
- If you are widowed, divorced, or a single parent, **child allowance** of £480 per month (**R9700**) for the first child, and £118 per month (**R2400**) for the second and third **child under the age of 16**, if you are accompanied by your children and they are **living with you at the same address in the UK** (rates quoted at 2020-2021 levels), and
- If you declare a disability, a full assessment of your needs and eligibility for additional financial support will be offered by the CSC.

Note: The CSC's family allowances are intended to only be used as a contribution towards the cost of maintaining your family in the UK. The true costs are likely to be considerably higher. You must be able to supplement these allowances to support any family members who come to the UK with you.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications should be submitted online via the [CSC's online application system](#).

The CSC and the Department **will not accept any applications that are not submitted via the online application system.**

Required documents to support your application:

- A copy of your valid passport (or national ID card) showing your photograph, date of birth, and country of citizenship;
- Full transcripts detailing all your higher education qualifications including to-date transcripts for any qualifications you are currently studying (with certified translations if not in English), and
- References from at least two individuals – submitted directly by the referees to the online application system (referees will be sent an email request to submit online).

Supporting documents must be submitted online by no later than 22 November 2021.

For further information, please refer to the [website](#) and the attached documents.

Please send a complete copy with all supporting documents, that you have submitted online to the Faculty Research Office – natasha.jeftha@up.ac.za

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CONTACTS FOR CALL QUERIES

Faculty Contact person: Natasha Jeftha – R4-15 HW Snyman North, Prinshof Campus, 012 319 2378, Natasha.jeftha@up.ac.za

Institutional Contact person: Leanne van Zyl - Department of Research & Innovation, Graduate Center - West Entrance, Office No 1-54 /1-55, 012 420 6639, leanne.vanzyl@up.ac.za
Commonwealth Scholarship Commission: Email: internationalscholarships@dhet.gov.za, CSC [Website](#).