



## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

### COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS TENABLE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM 2014/15

These may be in either of the following categories:

- One year taught masters courses or equivalent degrees (excluding MBA)
- Six months of clinical training in medicine or dentistry
- Doctoral degrees, up to three years of duration (UK institution)
- One year research on a split-site basis, towards a PhD registered at a South African University

**Closing date:**

**5 November 2013**

Please note that applications received after the closing date **WILL NOT** be considered.

**Eligibility:**

Eligibility requirements are outlined in the scholarship prospectus which is on the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission website at <http://bit.ly/cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/apply>

I would particularly draw your attention to the following:

- South African citizens only
- The Commission will look for evidence of the **high academic quality** expected of Commonwealth scholars; intellectual and academic excellence will be paramount in all selections. **Candidates studying a first degree are expected to hold at least upper second class honours level or a degree of second class (i.e. 70%+) by October 2013.**
- Candidates should be able to take up the award in October 2014 as deferments are granted in the most exceptional circumstances, and in any event will not be considered for start dates beyond January 2015.
- Please note that if candidates for Master's awards have undertaken any of their university education outside their home country, they will be asked to state how it was funded and how the education differed from that in their home country.
- All candidates applying for doctoral study must provide the Commission with evidence of support from a prospective supervisor at least one of their chosen institutions at the time of application.

**NOTE:**

Applications for split-site study must be made in context of an institutional link between the institution where the candidate is registered in their home country and the one at which they are applying to study in the UK. Candidates must provide the Commission

with evidence of support from their prospective supervisor at the UK institution as well as from their home supervisor at the time of application.

- Awards are tenable at any UK institution of higher education with whom the Commission has a part-funding agreement. A list of these institutions can be found at <http://bit.ly/cscuk-ukuniversities>

**Candidates are expected to state at least one and up to three preferred institution(s) on the application form, but the final decision on a host institution will be made by the Commission. In recent years, placement of successful candidates has sometimes been delayed by the process of gaining admission to their host university. For this reason, we expect candidates to submit independent applications for admission directly to their chosen institutions in the UK, prior to, or at the time of applying for the Scholarship.**

- Where offers of admission have been obtained, these should be included with the nominations, and any subsequent correspondence copied to us.

The Commission will not offer awards to scholars already close to completing a doctorate in their own country, though awards may be tenable to complete doctoral studies already underway in the UK.

#### **Selection Criteria:**

The main selection criteria are the **academic merit** of the candidate, the **quality of the proposal** and the likely impact of the scholarship on **national development**.

#### **Application process:**

All applicants for a Commonwealth Scholarship should use the Electronic Application System (EAS) – [www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk](http://www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk) and **click on apply**.

**NOTE: Click on the submit button after completing the online application otherwise the application will be invalid.**

#### **Submitting applications:**

The following information should be noted by ALL applicants:

- (i) Upload a scanned passport-size photograph.
- (ii) Upload scanned transcripts
- (iii) Upload scanned National ID copy
- (iv) Upload letters received from UK institutions

#### **References:**

The EAS will send an e-mail to each referee with a link to the applicants application form to write a reference. The e-mail is only sent when the application is **submitted** and therefore candidates are encouraged to this well in advance in order for the referees to have time to submit their references before the closing date of **5 November 2013**.

**Irrespective of the above (email alert to referees), the onus is on the applicant to ensure that references are available and submitted on time.**

**Applications received without the requested references will not be considered.**

**CLOSING DATE 5 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Note:** UP applications will be assessed by a UP Executive committee who will nominate 8 applications through to the South African Agency for submission to the UK Commission.