

No. F. 22-17/2015-ES.4
Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education
ES.4 Section

2016 COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIP IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Last date for applying online in the Ministry: 8th October, 2015 (till 3:00 PM)

Online application is invited from Indian national for the award of scholarship for Master's and Doctoral degree under '2016 COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIP IN THE UNITED KINGDOM'. The study is tenable in United Kingdom from September/ October 2016.

A maximum of 65 nominations are to be sent to the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in which nomination for doctoral courses will be up to 26.

Note: Candidates must apply at the website of Ministry of Human Resource Development by 08.10.2015 (till 3:00 PM) as well as through CSC's Electronic Application System (EAS) by 19.11.2015. For links, visit the important links section provided at the end.

I. ELIGIBILITY

(a) AGE: candidate age must not exceed 40 years (as on 08.10.2015).

(b) Minimum qualifications: as per para (IV) below.

(c) Others:

i) Candidates who have already been abroad for studies/training/ specialization either on scholarships or on their own, for a period exceeding six months are eligible to apply if they have been in India for at least two consecutive years after returning from abroad as on 08.10.2015.

ii) Applications of candidates who are already abroad will not be considered.

II. Level of Course:-

(i) TAUGHT MASTER'S COURSE (One year)

(Note: Master Degree programs which are less than 2 years in duration of foreign universities are not equivalent to Master Degree in India.)

(ii) DOCTORAL DEGREE (up to three years duration)

III. The application is invited in the following subjects: -

(A) ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY:

1. Electronics/Electrical
2. Environmental Studies
3. Remote Sensing Technology
4. Communication Engineering
5. Biotechnology or Biochemical Engineering
6. Robotics
7. Computer Applications /Computer Science
8. Aerospace Engineering /Aeronautics
9. Civil Engineering/Architecture
10. Material Science
11. Mining Engineering and
12. Marine Engineering.

(B) SCIENCE (PURE AND APPLIED)

1. Mathematics
2. Molecular Biology
3. Physics
4. Chemistry (including Pharmaceutical/Medicinal Chemistry).

(C) AGRICULTURE

1. Agronomy & Forestry.

(D) HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

1. History
2. Sociology
3. Management Studies

4. Economics
5. Philosophy
6. Psychology
7. Law
8. English (Literature/Linguistics)
9. Political Science with International Relations

Note: Application in more than one subject and one course will lead to disqualification of the candidature.

IV. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

(A) FOR MASTER'S DEGREE:

One should hold or expect to hold the certificate of Bachelor's Degree by October, 2016 in the subject field concerned (indicated above) securing 60% or above marks in Humanities and Social Science group and 65% or above marks in Engineering and Technology, Science and Agriculture groups.

(B) FOR Ph.D. DEGREE:-

One should hold or expect to hold the certificate of Master's Degree by October 2016 in the concerned subject fields (indicated above) securing 60% or above marks in Humanities and Social Science group and 65% or above marks in the relevant subjects in Engineering and Technology, Science and Agriculture groups.

Notes:

- i) The candidates must have completed tertiary education in English medium.
- ii) The Candidates whose native language is not English will be required to provide the evidence that they have sufficient competence in English to study in the United Kingdom.
- iii) Nominated candidates will be required to take the IELTS, for which they may contact local British Council Office.
- iv) **An IELTS test will only be considered valid if taken after 1st October 2015 and before 6th March 2016.**

V. VALUE OF AWARD

Each scholarship provides: -

- Approved airfare to the United Kingdom and return at the end of the award (the CSC will not reimburse the cost of fares for dependents, nor usually the cost of journeys made before the award is finally confirmed).
- Approved tuition and examination fees.
- Stipend (living allowance) at the rate of £ 1,034 per month, or £ 1,268 per month for those at universities in the London metropolitan area (rates quoted at 2015-2016 levels)
- Thesis grant towards the cost of preparing a thesis or dissertation, where applicable.
- Warm clothing allowance.
- Study travel grant towards the cost of study-related travel within the United Kingdom or overseas.
- For PhD Scholars, fieldwork grant towards the cost of fieldwork undertaken overseas (usually the cost of one economy class return airfare to scholar fieldwork location).
- For PhD Scholars, paid mid-term visit (airfare) to their home country (unless they have claimed (or intend to claim) spouse and/or child allowances during their scholarship, or have received a return airfare to their home country for fieldwork).
- If scholarship is at least 18 months long, the following family allowances:
 - Spouse allowance of £222 per month if the scholar and his/her spouse are living together at the same address in the UK (unless his/her spouse is also in receipt of a scholarship)
 - Child allowance of £222 per month for the first child, and £109 per month for the second and third child under the age of 16, if scholar

are accompanied by his/her spouse and children and they are living with him/her at the same address in the UK.

- If scholar is widowed, divorced, or a single parent (irrespective of the length of her scholarship), child allowance of £444 per month for the first child, and £109 per month for the second and third child under the age of 16, if scholars are accompanied by their children and they are living with the him/her at the same address in the UK.
- The CSC's family allowances are intended to be only a contribution towards the cost of maintaining scholar's family in the UK. The true costs are likely to be considerably higher, and he/she must be able to supplement these allowances in order to support any family members who come to the UK with him/her.
- For more information, see the Handbook for Commonwealth Scholars and Fellows, available at <http://bit.ly/cscuk-handbook-forms>.

VI. NOMINATION AND FINAL SELECTION:

- Only shortlisted candidates would be called for interview and the Selection Committee consisting of subject experts will interview the candidates. Based on merit, the nomination would be made. The nomination will be sent to Commonwealth Scholarship Commission for the final selection.
- Nomination of a candidate by Government of India does not, in any way, guarantee final selection or placement. The Commonwealth Scholarship Commission will make its own selection out of overall nominees recommended by all the participating countries in the programme.

Note: Candidates are advised to go through the CSC's selection criteria. The specific link has been provided at the end.

VII. IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- Awards are tenable at any approved university or higher education institution with which the CSC has a part-funding agreement. A list of these institutions can be found at: <http://bit.ly/cscuk-uk-universities> .
- Candidates are expected to state at least one and preferably three institutions of study on their application form. The final decision on host institution will be made by the CSC.
- Candidates must submit independent applications directly to their preferred institutions in advance of their scholarship application. Where formal offers of admission have been obtained, these should be included with the application.
- Candidates applying for PhD Study must provide a supporting statement from a named supervisor from at least one of the UK universities to which they are applying. Applications without any statements will be considered ineligible. Candidates are strongly advised to provide a supporting statement from a supervisor at their first choice university. If they do not provide such statement, the CSC reserves the right to select the scholars for placement at another university for which they have provided a supporting statement.
- **Supporting statement/letter from supervisor is required at the time of interview which will be conducted by Ministry of Human Resource Development. No candidate, for PhD, will be allowed to appear before the interview without such supporting statement/letter.**
- Candidates are advised to submit their plan for study/research proposals (minimum in 100 words for Master's and 500 for PhD). A research proposal must contain Title, Abstract, Introduction, Methodology, Outcome etc.

VIII. Documents required for verification at the time of Interview (if shortlisted for interview):

- Original Certificates along with mark sheets of Class X, XII and Transcripts of Degree (s).
- NOC/ Cadre clearance (in case of Government Servant)
- In case applying for PhD, candidate must provide evidence of support from a prospective supervisor.

Note: In case where grades are awarded, the candidates are required to furnish exact percentage of marks and indicate the conversion formula.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Candidates who do not possess the essential qualification need not apply.
2. Applicants who have already been registered for PhD or completed/ about to complete PhD will not be considered.
3. Canvassing in any form will be a disqualification.
4. Candidate will not be allowed to appear for interview if he/she does not submit NOC from the Employer. In case of Government Servant, clearance of the Cadre Controlling Authority is mandatory.
5. It is very important that applicants who are in employment to which they wish to return after completion of their studies in UK should have an assurance from their organisation that on the final selection by the CSC, they will be granted sufficient leave to complete the study. In general, a candidate undertaking research for a Ph.D. can be expected to need 36 months study in the United Kingdom even though in the first instance, the award will only be offered for one or two years.

6. As a condition of award, the Commission or a host institution in Britain may also require a candidate to take particular English Tests/ training in English.
7. Candidates will be expected to have the knowledge of the donor country.
8. All announcements will be available on the website www.mhrd.gov.in/scholaships .
9. In case, no communication is received by an applicant by 15th November, 2015, it may be presumed that he/she has not been short listed by the Selection Committee. THE DECISION OF SELECTION COMMITTEE SHALL BE FINAL. No correspondence will be entertained in this regard.
 - o Mere fulfillment of above eligibility conditions does not qualify a candidate for interview. Only shortlisted candidates would be called for interview.

Important dates:

Closing date of online application in Ministry of Human Resource Development:	08.10.2015 (till 3 PM)
Closing date of online application through CSC's Electronic Application System (EAS)	<u>19.11.2015</u>
Announcement of name of the candidates shortlisted for interview	First week of November 2015 (tentative)
Interview of the shortlisted candidates	Between 17.11.2015 and 08.12.2015 (tentative) Specific date (subject wise will be displayed on the website in the first week of November 2015

Important links:

- For applying online to Ministry of Human Resource Development: <http://proposal.sakshat.ac.in/scholarship/>
- For applying to CSC through EAS : <http://bit.ly/cscuk-uk-universities> or <https://csc.do-it-online.org.uk/csc/ElectronicApplicationSystem.htm> (for direct application)
- 2016 Commonwealth Scholarship prospectus: <http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/prospectus-scholarships-2016.pdf>
- The list of institutions: <http://bit.ly/cscuk-uk-universities>
- Details of the CSC's selection criteria: <http://bit.ly/cscuk-scholarships-developing-cw>
- Handbook for Commonwealth Scholars and Fellows at <http://bit.ly/cscuk-handbook-forms>

FORMAT OF ONLINE APPLICATION TO MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

1. Name of the Scholarship Scheme : 2016 Commonwealth Scholarship in the United Kingdom
2. Country for which applying : United Kingdom
3. Course/Level :
4. Subject :
5. Personal Details:
 - Name of Candidate (in block letters) :
 - * Add your photograph, signature & create password
 - Present Address :
 - Permanent Address :
 - Mobile No. :
 - Phone No. (with STD code) :
 - Email ID : :
 - Father's Name: :
 - Sex: :
 - Marital Status :
 - Nationality :
 - Date of birth :
6. State to which the candidate belongs :
7. Academic record starting from High School/Higher Secondary (copy of the mark sheet/transcript should be uploaded)

Name of the University/ Board/Institution	Examination(s) Passed	Degree Obtained	Year of Passing	Secured marks/ Maximum marks	Percentage of marks	Major subject	Document to be uploaded
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

Note : Where no Division/Class is awarded and only grading is done, the conversion formula adopted must be uploaded.

Other details:

8. Have you cleared IELTS/TOEFL/GMAT ? If so, give score
(a) IELTS (b) TOEFL (c) GMAT
9. Details of
Professional/Practical Training :
Research Experience:
No. of papers published:
10. Previous Employment (Period, Designation, Employer):
11. Nature of present employment (Period, Designation, Employer)
12. Have you been abroad? If so give full particulars of
I Country/Countries visited:
II Period of stay (give details):
III Date, Month and Year of return to India:
IV Purpose of visit:
13. Name and address of three persons who are familiar with your work (Two of them who taught you in an area of study relevant to course and the third may be your employer or a person with whom you have worked professionally):
14. Proposed programme of study/research/training specifying details:
(Note: a research proposal must contains Title, Abstract, Introduction, Methodology, Outcome etc.
15. I The work at present engaged in:
II Preferred institutions in UK (Three)
III What factors led you to choose to above institutions
IV Future plans/proposals after the study/research/training and its prospectus
V What are the benefits to your home country.
16. Have you been received any offer letter for joining research/admission (if yes, you must upload supporting documents).
17. Have you received any academic awards/credential such as Gold Medal, National Awards etc. if yes, mention the name of award and upload the supporting document(s).
18. **DECLARATION**

I certify that foregoing information is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and nothing has been concealed/distorted. I understand that if at any time I am found to have concealed/distorted any material information, my selection shall be liable to summarily terminated without notice and compensation.

Place :

Date :

Signature of the Candidate

Documents (Scan copy) to be uploaded at the time of online application:

- Colour passport size photograph (it must be in .jpg or .jpeg format)
 - Signature (it must be in .jpg or .jpeg format)
 - Proof of age
 - Educational Qualification
 - University/College Transcript
 - Admission/Offer letter
 - Any Academic Awards etc.
- (The size must not exceed 530 kb for each of the document, photograph, and signature)

Instruction for applying online:

1. Before filling online application clear the cache of your browser using (CTRL +F5) (Google Chrome browser is preferred).
2. Before applying, ensure that you have scan copy of the above mentioned documents.
3. SCAN DPI =200, Size- must not exceed 530 kb for each of the document, photograph, signature.
4. You can **reduce** the size of your photo using paint with following steps: **Right click on photo--> Open it with paint-> choose Resize from Menu bar--> Select pixel ratio button in the Resize section-->uncheck 'Maintain aspect ratio'--> Enter 200 in Horizontal and 230 in Vertical textbox--> and click ok button--> Now save as with new file name in .jpg or .jpeg format.**
5. Signature: You can reduce the size of your signature using paint as directed for passport size photograph above. The pixel for signature is 160 in Horizontal and 140 in Vertical.
6. Educational/other documents: To reduce the size of a document use paint with following steps: **Right click on Document--> Open it with paint-> choose Resize from menu bar->Select Percentage ratio button in the Resize section-->Enter 50 in text box; it will automatically fill 50 in next text box-->Now save as with new file name in .jpg or .jpeg format.**
7. **In case, you combine two or more documents (example: matriculation certificate (proof of age) and matriculation mark sheet) you can either make a pdf file or compress these documents as zip file. Since, it is treated as a single file the size must not exceed 530 kb.**
8. After filling all relevant fields, click submit button and wait for server response. It starts automatically uploading and saving process. It will take a few minutes to complete the process. Please do not click submit button again. After success, you will be redirected to the filled application page and you are ready to take a print out of your application.
9. Using above instruction if you are still unable to fill the online form, please write to us at **es4.commonwealth@gmail.com** on or before 5th October 2015 till 5 O'clock. After this date any issue regarding online application will not be resolved.