

Commonwealth Scholarships for PhD, Split PhD & Post Doctoral

Introduction:

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan (CSFP) is one of the oldest and most prestigious schemes of its kind in the world. It was established at the first Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers in 1959. Over 25,000 Commonwealth citizens have held awards - many going on to reach the very highest levels of their profession.

The scheme envisages the following programs in different fields:

- **PhD Scholarship Program**
- **Split-Site Doctoral Research Scholarship Program**

Applications are invited, through HEC, from Pakistani/AJK nationals, fulfilling eligibility criteria on or before close of the deadlines etc.

Other Related Information:

In case you need additional information, you may contact on our e-mail: smanthar@hec.gov.pk or cw-uk@hec.gov.pk

However, before sending your query, kindly make sure that you have gone through the information, uploaded here.

Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted. Phone calls to know about status or receipt of applications and personal visits are not welcomed.

Further details can be obtained from commonwealth application form and web-page: <http://bit.ly/cscuk-apply>

However while routing application through HEC you are required to follow the instructions, as appearing on HEC's website.

Objectives

The objectives of the scheme are:

- To combine academic excellence with the desire to make a real difference in some of the world's poorest countries.
- To establish the standards for selection of scholars between the developing and developed countries by involving both home and host country.
- To stimulate research and development activities in developing countries of the world.
- To provide the highly professional environment to the scholars from all over the world.

How to Apply

Instructions:

1. You are required to submit two types of application forms to HEC, as described below
2. Fill the Commonwealth application form online, through Electronic Application System (EAS), and apply for your required program, from <http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/apply/> OR [CSC Online web](#)(for PhD & Split PhD).
3. For Academic Staff Fellowship/ Post Doctoral Fellowship Click this click here for [online Application](#) Submission

How to Fill Online Application Form:

 [Click here to download the Guidelines for filling Commonwealth Online Application](#)

How to Send Application Form:

- Select Higher Education Commission as your nominating agency while filling Online Commonwealth application Form.
- Donot forget to properly submit your application after filling it online.
- [Download HEC Application Form \(1. Application form for PhD !\[\]\(4e333a6106fc298d0ae6dff272a736ef_img.jpg\) \) \(2. Application form for Split-site PhD !\[\]\(97089f8e07e24e31baa67366e358a709_img.jpg\) \) \(3. Application form for Post-Doc !\[\]\(9496824b8cff3a19f59b81b37b57d8b6_img.jpg\) \)](#)

Attach attested copies of all the documents and Annexure, as mentioned in the Application Form, available on the above referred website. All bachelors and above level degrees obtained from Pakistani Universities and foreign universities MUST be verified by Accreditation and Attestation (A&A) Division of HEC. [Click here](#) to see the Link to concerned website.

- All payments are to be made to HEC through HBL online facility. This facility is available in all branches of Habib Bank Ltd. A separate bank Account No. 17427900133401 is being maintained for the purpose.
- Attach portion of payment receipt (in Original), of HBL online payment facility of amount Rs. 300/- non-refundable, made in favor of HEC, Islamabad.
- Applicants are advised to initiate their admission process simultaneously and to start making communication with UK universities/supervisors, now.
- Applicants are advised, while filling Commonwealth Online application, an automatic email is sent to the VC/Registrar or Equivalent (which the applicant mention). That authority will reply to that email with His/Her comments and the applicant will either get a copy of it or his/her online application form will be updated. That copy of email or comments is also required to be attached with the hard copy of the Commonwealth Application Form.
- Attach one (01) print of online Commonwealth application Form, along with all the annexure, as described in the form.
- Attach one (01) copy of respective HEC application Form (for use by HEC), with all annexure.
- Attach Two (2) Copies of Research proposal.
- Incomplete forms will NOT be accepted.

How to prepare Application Package?

Kindly read each and every instruction very carefully to prepare a good application package.

- Fill online Commonwealth Application form, through Electronic Application System (EAS), and then take a print of it, after getting it signed by the Vice Chancellor / Head of the University then make a copy of it. Retain one copy with you, alongwith photocopies of supporting documents to be attached with, and send remaining (the originally signed) one (01) copy alongwith supporting documents to HEC, each set properly should be properly binded.
- Fill one (01) HEC Application Form in original using computer typing and send to HEC alongwith supporting documents.
- Properly bind each set of application form. Lose papers or untidy application package should be avoided. Applications with loose papers / not in properly binding will not be entertained.
- Avoid sending lose documents / Annexure(s), after sending application package, hence one complete in all respect set of application be sent.
- Do not forget to attach the print of email mentioned above at point number 7 i.e., Applicants are advised, while filling Commonwealth Online application, an automatic email is sent to the VC/Registrar or Equivalent (which the applicant mention). That authority will reply to that email with His/Her comments and the applicant will either get a copy of it or his/her online application form will be updated. That copy of email or comments is also required to be attached with the hard copy of the Commonwealth Application Form.. This is a MANDATORY condition, while sending application to HEC.

Order of forms and papers:

- HEC Application Form with all academic documents in ascending order, starting from 10th grade
- One Originally signed (01) online Commonwealth UK Application form with all academic documents in ascending order, starting from 10th grade. Attach HEC and IBCC attested photocopies of the academic documents with Commonwealth Online Application's Print.
- IELTS Result can be submitted after the deadline. However, registration certificate should be attached with application package.

(Please be noted that preparing an appropriate application package, neatly as per instructions, is the first step towards your journey for higher studies)

Deadline: 20th October, 2012

Eligibility Criteria of PhD Scholarship Scheme:

1. Should not have obtained below 50% marks in their entire academic career, however Should have obtained at least 60% marks in Masters (e.g. MA/ MSc i.e. 18 years of education).
2. Be available to join the scholarship program in United Kingdom by September / October, 2013.
3. Must hold a full-time university teaching post, which he/she will rejoin after completion of studies in UK. The application form must be forwarded by Vice Chancellor / Head of the University, where the applicant is employed.
4. Applicants having completed M. Phil will be preferred.
5. In the fields of medicine and dentistry, have qualified between 1st October, 2003 and 30th September, 2008.
6. Providing evidence of support from a prospective supervisor at least one of their chosen institutions.
7. For the fields of Medical and Dentistry, applicants are required to provide Academic IELTS (British Council) score card with over all score of 7.0 and 7.0 in speaking and 6.0 in listening, reading and writing and,
8. For the fields, other than Medical and Dentistry an overall score of 6.5 in Academic IELTS is required. This is a mandatory condition without which no further processing is possible

Important Note: IELTS taken after 1st October, 2012 is valid only.

Note:

- Applicants must secure/confirm their admissions for the session starting September / October 2013 in 'potential host university in the UK'. The outcome of all such communications should be reported to the HEC. The copy of confirmed UK Univeristy Admission letter should reach to HEC before 20th October, 2012.
- Those Supervisors asking for Financial Details of the Scholarship. Send them the Prospectus of Commonwealth Scholarship in which Value of Award is mentioned in Detail at 3rd Page. Click the linkk mentioned below to see the Prospectus go to <http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/prospectus-scholarships-2012.pdf>

Selection is to be made on the basis of following criteria:

- Initially the shortlisting will be made the Commonwealth Commission UK (CSCUK) through EAS. Later HEC will then nominate the applicants from the pool of the applicants shortlisted by CSCUK.
- The academic record.
- Potential of the candidate.
- The quality of the proposal
- Development impact of work proposed in Pakistan.

Details and Duration of PhD Scholarship Program:

Awards are tenable at any approved UK University or Higher Education institution for skill updating research and academic collaboration, etc, for a period of twelve (12) to thirty six (36) months, only. The list of approved UK universities is available at CSC website: <http://bit.ly/cscuk-uk-universities>

Eligibility Criteria for Post Doctoral / Academic Staff Fellowship Program:

1. Holding a valid and authentic Doctorate degree.
2. Intended to do joint / collaborative / ongoing research project and publication with the Host University in UK. Discrete / separate research will not be considered.
3. Must be employed for at-least five years, as an academic staff member, in a university, which he/she must join back after completion of studies in UK. The application form must be forwarded by Vice Chancellor / Head of the University, where the applicant is employed.
4. The Applicant should be nominated by their VCs (or equivalent) / their Executive heads of employing University, which they will join back after completion of studies, etc.
5. Be available to join the scholarship program in United Kingdom by 1st October, 2013
6. A letter of acceptance from the UK host academic institution mentioned at the first choice must be included with the application form and confirmed admission must be obtained by November 20th, 2012.

Further for Medical Doctors and Dentists:

1. In the fields of medicine and dentistry, have qualified as a Doctor or Dentist before 1st October 2002.
2. Applicants in medicine and dentistry whose programme requires them to practise clinically, or to work in a laboratory department reporting on samples from patients, must state how the skills acquired by the training programme will be put into practice post-award. Such applicants can be considered only if they are eligible for registration with the General Medical Council or the General Dental Council. Information about current conditions for registration can be obtained from the GMC and GDC websites: www.gmc-uk.org and www.gdc-uk.org. Please note that the GMC currently requires applicants for their registration to obtain an overall score of 7.0 in the academic IELTS (From AEO or British Council) test, with minimum scores of 7.0 in speaking and 6.0 in listening, reading and writing.

Note:

- Applicants must secure/confirm their admissions for the session starting September / October 2013 in 'potential host university in the UK'. The outcome of all such communications should be reported to the HEC. The copy of confirmed UK University Admission letter should reach to HEC before 20th November, 2012.
- Those Supervisors asking for Financial Details of the Scholarship. Send them the Prospectus of Commonwealth Fellowship in which Value of Award is mentioned in Detail at 3rd page. [Click Here](#) to see the prospectus:
- Medical & dentistry related applicants must register for IELTS as soon as possible as due to load of IELTS applications in British Council, the applicants would not be able to provide IELTS score before 20th November, 2012.

Selection is to be made on the basis of following criteria:

- Initially the shortlisting will be made the Commonwealth Commission UK (CSCUK) through EAS. Later HEC will then nominate the applicants from the pool of the applicants shortlisted by CSCUK.

Details and Duration of the Post Doctoral Fellowship Program:

- Awards are tenable at any approved UK University or Higher Education institution for skill updating research and academic collaboration, etc, for a fix period of three (03) months only and a very strong justification will need to be given if any more than three (03) months duration is requested. The list of approved UK universities is available at CSC website: <http://bit.ly/cscuk-uk-universities>

- Applicants must in advance of any fellowship application to the commission are advised to contact with 'potential host university in the UK'. The outcome of all such communications should be reported to the HEC.

Eligibility Criteria of Split PhD Scholarship Scheme:

1. Should be officially registered in a doctoral program, at a local Pakistani University, and intend to undertake a period of research in a UK University, for a limited duration which will serve as an integral part of their local PhD program in Pakistan. The application form must be forwarded by head of University, where the applicant is enrolled in local Ph.D Program.
2. There must be an institutional link between the applicant's Local/Pakistani University and Host University in UK.
3. Providing evidence of support from a prospective supervisor at least one of their chosen institutions.
4. Should not have obtained below 50% marks in entire academic career (SSC, HSC, BA/BSc, Masters)
5. Should have obtained at least 60% or above marks in Masters (MA/MSc or other 16 years of education) or in professional degrees e.g. BE/B.Sc Engineering, MBBS, LLB, MBA or equivalent.
6. Should have an approved PhD research topic and synopsis by the Board of Advanced Studies and Research (BASR) or Directorate of Advanced Studies and Research (DASR) or equivalent body of the university.
7. In the fields of medicine and dentistry, have qualified between 1st October, 2002 and 30th September, 2007.
8. Be available to join the scholarship program in United Kingdom by September / October, 2013.
9. For the fields of Medical and Dentistry, applicants are required to provide Academic IELTS (From AEO or British Council) score card by 2nd week of November 2012, with over all score of 7.0 and 7.0 in speaking and 6.0 in listening, reading and writing and,
10. For the fields, other than Medical and Dentistry an overall score of 6.5 in Academic IELTS is required. The IELTS test should be taken after **1st October 2012**, hence you are strongly advised to get registered for the IELTS test, now. This is a mandatory condition without which no further processing is possible.

Note:

- Applicants must secure/confirm their admissions for the session starting September / October 2013 in 'potential host university in the UK'. The outcome of all such communications should be reported to the HEC. The copy of confirmed UK Univeristy Admission letter should reach to HEC before 20th November, 2012.
- Those Supervisors asking for Financial Details of the Scholarship. Send them the Prospectus of Commonwealth Scholarship in which Value of Award is mentioned in Detail at 3rd Page. [Click Here](#) to see the Prospectus.
- Applicants must register for IELTS as soon as possible as due to load of IELTS applications in British Council, the applicants would not be able to provide IELTS score before 20th November, 2012.

Selection is to be made on the basis of following criteria:

- Initially the shortlisting will be made the Commonwealth Commission UK (CSCUK) through EAS. Later HEC will then nominate the applicants from the pool of the applicants shortlisted by CSCUK.
- The academic record.
- Potential of the candidate.
- The quality of the proposal.
- Development impact of work proposed in Pakistan

Details and Duration of Split-Site Doctoral Research Program:

- Awards are tenable at any approved UK University or Higher Education institution for skill updating research and academic collaboration, etc, for a period of twelve (12) only. The list of approved UK universities is available at CSC website: <http://bit.ly/cscuk-uk-universities>
- Applications should be made in the context of department/institutional linkage of local Pakistani University with a UK University, already in operation or under negotiation.

For further Information please click on following link:

<http://beta.hec.gov.pk/InsideHEC/Divisions/HRD/Scholarships/ForeignScholarships/CSPHDSSPhDPDFTUK09/Pages/Introduction.aspx>