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Cultural, Scholarships and Sport Departments

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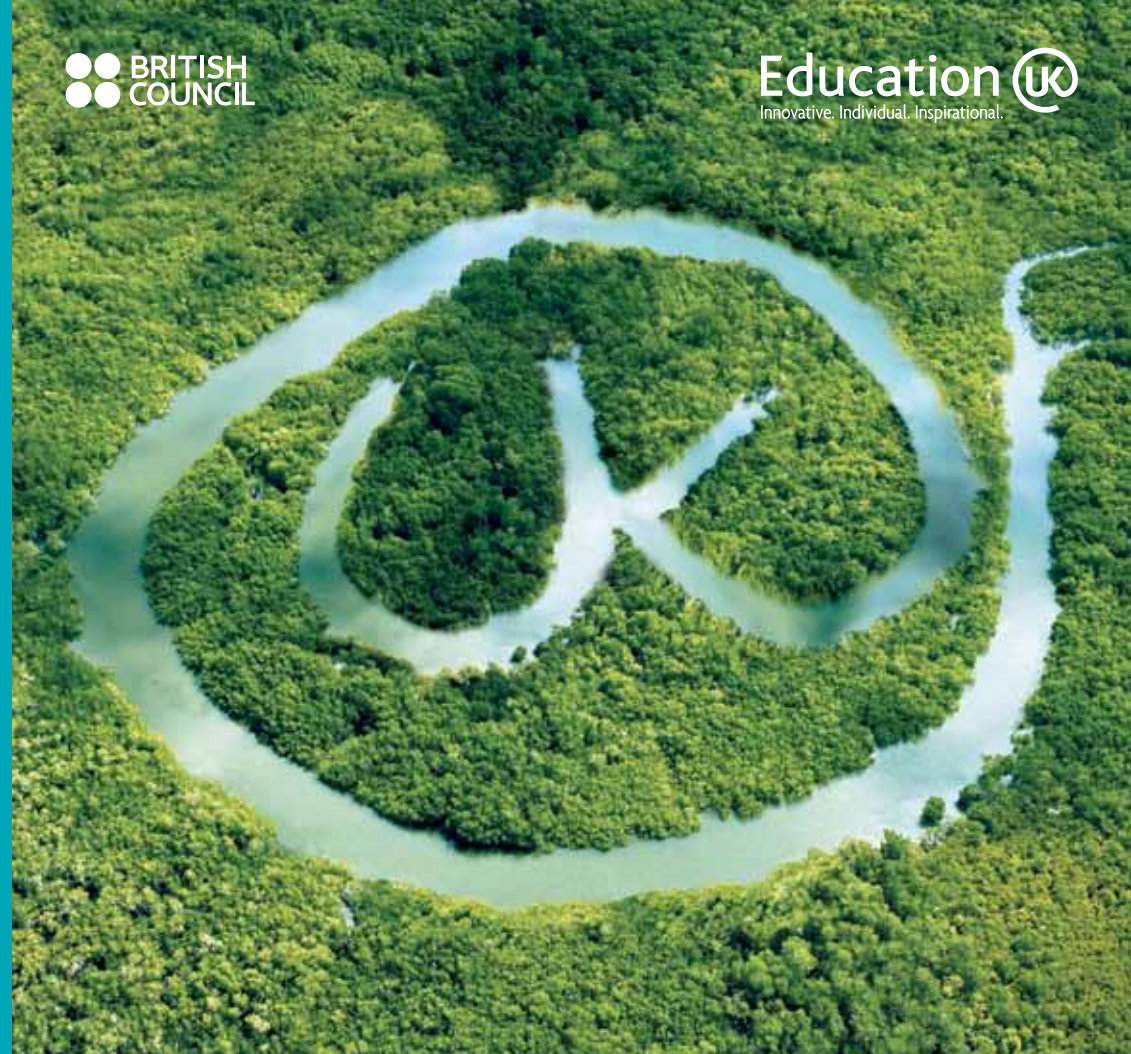
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[www.fco.gov.uk](http://www.fco.gov.uk)

Scholarships database now available at:

[www.educationuk.org/scholarships](http://www.educationuk.org/scholarships)



Sources of funding  
for international students 2011–12

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The British Council creates international opportunities for the people of the UK and other countries and builds trust between them worldwide.

A registered charity: 209131 (England and Wales) SC037733 (Scotland).

[www.educationuk.org](http://www.educationuk.org)

This booklet has been produced jointly by the British Council, UKCISA: the UK Council for International Student Affairs, and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO). It is intended as a basic guide to possible sources of funding for international students who want to study in the UK.

This guide is only available in a pdf version.

We hope the booklet answers your questions about the possibility of financial support. For further information on scholarships available for international students please go to [www.educationuk.org](http://www.educationuk.org), and scroll down to 'Find a scholarship' which is on the right hand side

## Introduction

In the United Kingdom (UK) we warmly welcome international students and are aware of the educational, commercial, political and developmental benefits they bring. In return, students will benefit from their studies in the UK, and pass on this benefit to their home countries. British university education continues to offer good value for money – the quality of teaching is high, as is the international status of British qualifications.

The majority of students who come to study in the UK pay for their courses privately, but study can be costly and many students need to apply for scholarships or grants. The British government and other UK organisations provide a number of scholarships and awards to help international students to study in the UK. The main schemes are described in this booklet.

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## 1 Where do I start?

You may first wish to contact your own ministry of education or education department, as they should have details of scholarship opportunities for students wishing to study overseas.

They will also be able to advise you on your own government's conditions for studying abroad. You may contact the British Council office in your own country, which should have details of British scholarship schemes.

The British Council will be able to give you information about educational and training courses and about living in the UK, including how much it costs to study. If there is no British Council office, then contact your nearest British Embassy or High Commission.

You should not travel to the UK or begin a course of study without making sure that you have enough money to cover all your academic fees and living expenses. It is virtually impossible to make arrangements for financial support once you have left your own country. Also, the immigration authorities will not normally allow you into the UK unless you have evidence that you can cover the costs of your proposed study.

## 2 How do I apply for a scholarship?

The competition for scholarships and grants to study in the UK is very strong. Most grant-making organisations will insist that you meet some very strict criteria. If you do not meet all the requirements for a grant, then your application will not be considered.

When you apply for a grant, remember: you must apply for your grant at least one year before your course starts; deadlines vary, so you must check that you know what the deadline is before applying.

- your application should be clear and concise; you should use the grant-making body's application form if it has one
- the majority of the grant-making bodies will give only small amounts of money, which will not cover the full cost of a course.

## 3 Are postgraduate scholarships available?

Yes. The main schemes are listed below.

### British Chevening Scholarships

*Funded by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office*

The aim of the British Chevening Scholarships scheme is to bring to the UK future leaders, decision-makers and opinion-formers for a period of postgraduate study at a formative stage of their careers. Candidates should have established a proven record of success and should have the potential to rise to positions of power and influence in their chosen careers. Awards are given annually to students from a wide variety of countries and can cover all or part of the cost of a one-year postgraduate course. Successful candidates must return to their own countries on completion of the award.

The selection of candidates is carried out overseas by certain British Embassies and High Commissions in consultation with the local British Council office. You should, therefore, be resident in your home country when you apply.

Some British Chevening awards are jointly funded with private companies, universities, trusts, foundations and other grant-making organisations. These are usually advertised locally in those countries where the awards are offered and on the British Council country web pages. Contact the British Embassy, British High Commission or British Council office in your own country about eligibility. Do not write to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London as they cannot allocate

individual scholarships. US citizens are not eligible for this scholarship – please see ‘Marshall Scholarships’ on page 9.

You can find more information at: [www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-us/what-we-do/scholarships](http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-us/what-we-do/scholarships)

### **Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan (CSFP)**

*Funded by the Department for International Development, the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and the Scottish Government, in conjunction with UK universities.*

Commonwealth Scholarships and Fellowships are offered by the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom (CSC), as part of the UK's contribution to the international Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan (CSFP).

The CSC makes available seven types of award:

#### **Commonwealth Scholarships for PhD research**

#### **Commonwealth Scholarships for Master's study**

#### **Commonwealth Split-site Scholarships (for PhD study)**

These scholarships are available for postgraduate study at any UK university which has a funding agreement with the CSC. Commonwealth Split-site Scholarships support candidates who are undertaking PhD study at a university in their home country to spend up to one year at a UK university as part of their academic work. Candidates from developed Commonwealth countries are eligible to apply for PhD (including split-site) study only. The scholarships cover return airfares, tuition fees, maintenance costs, and other allowances. Candidates should apply in the first instance to the national nominating agency of their resident country. Additional nominations are sought each year from developing country universities and other sources.

#### **Commonwealth Shared Scholarships**

These scholarships are offered to developing country students who would not otherwise be able to study in the UK, for Master's degree courses. Commonwealth Shared Scholarships are supported jointly by the CSC and host universities, and cover return airfares, tuition fees, maintenance costs, and other allowances. Individual universities are invited each year to bid for these scholarships, and candidates should apply directly to the institutions concerned.

#### **Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholarships**

These scholarships allow developing country students to study UK Master's degree courses while living in their own countries. The scholarships are available for specific courses selected by the CSC on the basis of their quality and relevance to development, and cover tuition fees and other study allowances. UK universities are invited to register an expression of interest for the CSC to support their course(s) each year.

### **Commonwealth Academic Fellowships**

These fellowships provide mid-career staff in developing country universities with the opportunity to network and update knowledge and skills related to their academic subject and responsibilities. The fellowships are tenable for three months at any approved UK university or higher education institution, and cover return airfares, maintenance costs, and other allowances. Nominations are made directly by the universities and the countries concerned.

### **Commonwealth Professional Fellowships**

These fellowships offer mid-career professionals from developing Commonwealth countries the opportunity to spend a period (typically three months) with a UK host organisation working in a relevant field. The fellowships cover return airfares, maintenance costs, and other allowances, as well as a flat rate contribution to the costs of the host organisation. Applications are invited each year from UK organisations that wish to host such fellowships – these can be from any sector, although the recipients of the fellowships must not hold a full-time academic position.

Full information on the scholarships and fellowships administered by the CSC, including application procedures and eligibility requirements, is available at [www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk](http://www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk)

Information on Commonwealth Scholarships and Fellowships offered by other Commonwealth countries is available at [www.csfp-online.org](http://www.csfp-online.org)

### **Royal Society Fellowships**

The Royal Society currently offers incoming fellowships for researchers from all over the world.

#### **Newton International Fellowship:**

This scheme is for non-UK scientists who are at an early stage of their career and wish to conduct research in the UK. The scheme provides the opportunity for the very best early stage post-doctoral researchers from all over the world to research at UK research institutions for a period of two years. The scheme covers the broad range of the natural and social sciences and the humanities. The scheme is jointly run by The British Academy and the Royal Society.

For further information:  
[royalsociety.org](http://royalsociety.org)

Contact:

The Royal Society, 6-9 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG;  
Email: [info@newtonfellowships.org](mailto:info@newtonfellowships.org); Website [www.newtonfellowships.org](http://www.newtonfellowships.org)

## Scholarships for specified nationals

### Marshall Scholarships

Founded by a 1953 Act of Parliament, Marshall Scholarships are funded mainly by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and commemorate the humane ideals of the Marshall Plan conceived by General George C. Marshall. They express the continuing gratitude of the British people to their American counterparts.

As future leaders, with a lasting understanding of British society, Marshall Scholars strengthen the enduring relationship between the British and American peoples, their governments and their institutions. Marshall Scholars are talented and independent and their time as Scholars enhances their intellectual and personal growth. Their direct engagement with the UK through its best academic programmes contributes to their ultimate personal success.

Awards are open to US citizens who have graduated from their undergraduate degree in a US university no more than two years previously, to undertake study in any subject leading to a degree at a UK university. Selection is by regional committee in the USA. Awards are made on a competitive basis and are for one or two years in the first instance, renewable for a third year in certain circumstances. The awards cover fares, tuition fees, maintenance costs, and book, thesis and travel allowances.

All information can be obtained from [www.marshallscholarship.org](http://www.marshallscholarship.org)

Contact:

Marshall Aid Commemoration Commission  
c/o The Association of Commonwealth Universities, Woburn House  
20–24 Tavistock Square  
London WC1H 9HF  
E-mail [info@marshallscholarship.org](mailto:info@marshallscholarship.org)

### Fulbright Scholarships

*Funded by the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills and the US government*

Awards are open to US graduate students for study in the UK. There are no restrictions on subject or age. Awards are made on a competitive basis, for the first academic year. The awards cover approved tuition fees and a maintenance allowance.

A variety of awards are also available for postdoctoral academics to lecture and/or conduct research, for between two weeks and 12 months according to the type of award. Some awards are made in response to specific requests from UK institutions, others on a competitive basis.

All Fulbright Scholars are invited to attend three, multi-day cultural orientation programmes during the academic year.

### Contact details:

Graduate students: The Institute of International Education (IIE), 809 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017, USA; Telephone +1 212 984 5330; Fax +1 212 984 5452; Website [www.iie.org](http://www.iie.org)

Scholars' awards and fellowships: The Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES), 3007 Tilden Street, Washington DC, 20008, 3009, USA; Telephone +1 202 686 6242; Fax +1 202 362 3442; Website [www.cies.org](http://www.cies.org)

UK enquiries: Awards Director, The Fulbright Commission, 188 Kirtling Street, London SW8 5BN; Telephone +44 (0)20 7498 4010; Fax +44 (0)20 7498 4023; E-mail [programmes@fulbright.co.uk](mailto:programmes@fulbright.co.uk); Website [www.fulbright.co.uk](http://www.fulbright.co.uk)

## 4 What about undergraduate scholarships?

Most scholarships for study in the UK are for postgraduate courses. The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan offers undergraduate scholarships for citizens of the Falkland Islands, the Maldives, St Helena and the Seychelles only. Full information, including application procedures and eligibility requirements, is available at [www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk](http://www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk)

## 5 Are there any other scholarships for which I could apply?

### European Union (EU) schemes

The European Union (EU) provides some grants to promote the exchange of students and academic staff within Europe, such as the SOCRATES and LEONARDO programmes. The European Commission (EC) also makes some awards to students from developing countries.

The Comenius Programme provides grants to students considering a career in teaching to spend from 13 to 42 weeks as a teaching assistant within Europe. International students may apply through British Council as the national agency for Comenius in the UK. <http://www.britishcouncil.org/comenius-assistant.htm>

The Erasmus Programme, funded by the European Union (EU), provides grants to promote the exchange of students and academic staff within Europe. International students studying at a UK Institution can apply to take part and spend 3 months to one year in another European University. You should apply through your UK University's European or International Office once enrolled.

### International agencies

Some international organisations such as UNESCO and WHO operate schemes, usually for developing countries. Contact your own government's ministry of education.



### Voluntary organisations

Voluntary organisations such as religious bodies and charities sometimes award scholarships, though they can be limited in size and scope. Contact the appropriate organisations in your own country.

### UK colleges and universities

Many UK higher education institutions have a limited number of scholarships for international students. However, they may be restricted to students studying particular subjects or from certain countries. Contact the institution where you are studying to see if you are eligible.

### Other awards

For information on other awards, consult the reference books listed in Section 9. You can also contact your government's education department or your nearest British Council office.

## 6 Is there anything else I should know?

Remember to ensure that any funding or sponsorship is enough to cover all of your educational and living costs, not just your tuition.

It is very important to have all of your funding arranged before you come to the UK, as it is extremely difficult to find more sponsorship once you are here. In addition, if you need to make a visa or entry clearance application to come to the UK, you will need to show that you have enough money for your tuition fees, living expenses, accommodation and other costs. For further information, see the UKCISA Information Sheets at [http://www.ukcisa.org.uk/student/information\\_sheets.php](http://www.ukcisa.org.uk/student/information_sheets.php)

Some students with a student visa are allowed to work while studying in the UK. Such work permission, and the number of hours a week, that may be allowed, depends on the type of institution you will be studying at. For full details, see the UKCISA Information Sheet 'Working during your studies' at [www.ukcisa.org.uk/student/information\\_sheets.php](http://www.ukcisa.org.uk/student/information_sheets.php)

## 7 Will I automatically pay 'home fees' when I have lived in the UK for three years?

No. Living in the UK for three years does not automatically entitle you to pay tuition fees at the lower 'home' rate.

In order to be eligible for lower 'home' fees, you must first have settled immigration status in the UK before your course begins. 'Settled' means that you are a British citizen, or have right of abode, or have indefinite leave to enter/remain in the UK. If you do not have this settled status at the beginning of your course, you will not be entitled to home fee status and will have to pay fees at the international/overseas rate – how long you have lived in the UK does not matter.

There are several categories of people who are entitled to pay home fees. For full details, see the UKCISA Information Sheets at [www.ukcisa.org.uk/student/information\\_sheets.php](http://www.ukcisa.org.uk/student/information_sheets.php)

These contacts do not award scholarships but can advise on your status.

## 8 Useful addresses

**Department for Innovation,  
Universities and Skills (DIUS)**  
Sanctuary Buildings Great Smith  
Street London SW1P 3BT, UK

Telephone +44 (0)870 0010 336  
Fax +44 (0)20 7925 6965  
[www.dius.gov.uk](http://www.dius.gov.uk)

**Student Support Helpline**  
Student Support Division (Room 2F,  
Area C) Mowden Hall Staindrop Road  
Darlington DL3 9BG, UK

Telephone +44 (0)845 300 5090

**Student Awards Agency for  
Scotland**

Gyleview House 3 Redheughs Rigg  
South Gyle Edinburgh EH12 9HH, UK

Telephone +44 (0)845 111 1711  
Fax +44 (0)131 244 5887  
[www.student-support-saas.gov.uk](http://www.student-support-saas.gov.uk)

**Universities UK**

Woburn House 20 Tavistock Square  
London WC1H 9HQ, UK

Telephone +44 (0)20 7419 4111  
Fax +44 (0)20 7388 8649  
[www.universitiesuk.ac.uk](http://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk)

## 9 Useful resources

### **Education Authorised Directory and Annual**

*The School Government Publishing Company*

Lists educational authorities and associations.

### **Education Yearbook**

*Longman*

Provides addresses of UK education organisations, schools and tertiary institutions, school associations, publishers, etc.

### **Grants Register**

*Macmillan*

Includes information on a variety of scholarships, fellowships and research grants, exchange and vacation study opportunities and professional and vocational grants.

### **Guide to the Major Grant-Making Trusts**

*Directory of Social Change*

Provides information on over 200 of the largest grant-making organisations in the UK.

### **Student Grants and Loans: A Brief Guide**

*Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS)*

Gives general information on British local education authority grants and UK student loans.

### **Study Abroad**

*UNESCO*

Country-by-country list of grants for studying in over 100 countries, including the UK.

### **Tuition fees and the cost of living**

(information sheet)

British Council

## Other useful websites

- 1 Students should refer to information on their country home page for available scholarship programmes: [www.britishcouncil.org](http://www.britishcouncil.org)
- 2 A guide for international students listing grants to study in the UK from the Directory of Social Change. Includes information for international students who wish to study in the UK or who are already studying in the UK: [www.dsc.org.uk](http://www.dsc.org.uk)
- 3 The Arts and Humanities Research Council includes information about grants in this field of study: [www.ahrb.ac.uk](http://www.ahrb.ac.uk)
- 4 There is an online guide to Europe's philanthropic community at: [www.fundersonline.org](http://www.fundersonline.org)
- 5 The Association of Charitable Foundations provides links to charitable bodies that may have funding available: [www.acf.org.uk](http://www.acf.org.uk)
- 6 Scholarship Search UK has online search facilities to enable students to locate undergraduate funding: [www.scholarship-search.org.uk](http://www.scholarship-search.org.uk)
- 7 Education UK site: [www.educationuk.org](http://www.educationuk.org)
- 8 Erasmus site - [www.britishcouncil.org/erasmus](http://www.britishcouncil.org/erasmus)