

British Council Scholarships for Women in STEM

Frequently Asked Questions

**Please note – these FAQ's relate to the
upcoming 2023-24 Women in STEM participants**

Last updated: 1 February 2023

What does the Scholarship scheme cover?

The British Council Scholarships for Women in STEM includes tuition fees, stipend, travel costs, visa, and health coverage fees. The scholarship also has a special support for mothers.

When is the deadline to apply?

Deadline for application differs according to university. The earliest deadline is **late February 2023 to the latest on 22 May 2023**. Please ensure you check carefully on the website of your chosen university for full details of key dates and their application process.

Which masters are included in the scheme?

Each university has published a list of masters that scholars can apply to. Please refer to the web page of the university for the full list of programmes available.

Is there an age limit to apply?

No, there is no age limit for this scholarship.

Which are the eligible countries?

You must be a citizen of one of the following countries to apply:

For both master's Scholarships and Early Academic Fellowships:

India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal or Sri Lanka
Indonesia, Vietnam or Malaysia

For Masters Scholarships only:

Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia or Uzbekistan.

Turkey.

Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru or Venezuela.

Egypt

Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Philippines or Thailand

How many scholarships are there?

There are over 97 scholarships available for courses starting in Autumn 2023.

Can women with children apply to the scholarship?

Yes, special support will be given to women traveling with dependent children.

What special support is available for mothers?

There is additional funding for dependent children who are accompanying you to the UK, specific details of the amounts will be made clear to successful scholars by the university upon acceptance

If I can get the scholarship, can my children and husband get the visa for living as well?

UKVI is responsible for issuing visas for the UK. For information, please visit the UKVI website <https://www.gov.uk/student-visa/family-members>

Do I need to complete IELTS to apply for this scholarship?

You do not need to complete IELTS to apply, but to be awarded a place on a course you will need to demonstrate the required level of English for your university.

What IELTS level is required?

The level of English required is determined by the university you are applying to. Please email the university you are interested in to ask them.

Is funding provided to pay for the IELTS proficiency test? If so, how do I access this funding?

Yes, you would need to cover the costs upfront, and then, if awarded the scholarship and registered at the UK host university, the IELTS/English Language test costs will be reimbursed to you. Please check the exact process with your host university.

I am a recent PhD graduate and mother of two young children. Am I eligible for applying for early academic fellowship under “British Council scholarships for women in STEM?”

If your studies are within STEM, and you meet the eligibility criteria on the website, then you should apply

If I did my undergrad degree in the UK, can I apply for the scholarship to do my master’s degree?

No, this scholarship is only available for women that have not previously studied in the UK.

I completed an undergraduate degree 5 years ago and have been doing a job since then. Can apply for “British council scholarships for women in STEM”?

There is no time limit, we are looking for scholars who are active in the STEM field with relevant work experience.

Is any female, who already holds a master’s degree from a university, eligible to apply for a master program in UK under STEM scholarship?

If you already hold a post graduate qualification from your home country, you are still eligible to apply. You would be expected to demonstrate the added value that an additional post graduate qualification would give you.

I have a degree in law and a master’s in law too but am pursuing my PHD in data protection laws and the technology aspect of it. Can I apply for the STEM fellowship?

The fellowships are for candidates who have already completed a PhD, and an undergraduate degree in a STEM subject.

How long will the University take to reply on application since the process says we need to apply for admission first and then for the Scholarship?

This depends on each university. Please contact the university to ask them about their specific process and timelines.

Am I eligible to apply for any post graduate degrees (at the enlisted universities) with 14 years of education and around 13 years of professional experience in various industries?

There is no time limit on this. You must be able to demonstrate a career interest in STEM, financial need, and academic ability.

Can I apply to more than one University listed on your website?

Yes, you can apply to more than one university. If you are recommended for a scholarship at more than one university, the review panel will make the final decision on your allocation.

After graduation, do I need to go back to my home country for minimum 2 years?

The spirit of the scholarship programme is based around returning home and giving back.

The eligibility criteria states that Scholars are also required to show in their application form that:

- They are active in the field with work experience or with a proven interest in the programme area they are applying for.
- They are willing to demonstrate future contribution to capacity-building and socio-economic advancement through the benefits achieved after graduating from UK higher education and returning to their home country.
- They can demonstrate a plan and passion to engage other women and girls in STEM from their home country.

As with Chevening and Commonwealth Scholarships, the British Council will not grant permission for you to remain in the UK. You must return home for a period of at least two years following the completion of your Scholarship. You cannot apply for a Graduate route visa. When you accept a Women in STEM scholarship, you agree to return home for two years at the end of your scholarship.

Can I apply for a post study work visa after my graduation?

No, you must return to your home country upon completion of your course in the UK.

Do you have any scholarship programmes available for other master's e.g., in business?

Information about other scholarships is available on the Study UK website <https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/scholarships>

Will I get the opportunity to work while studying?

Usually, students can engage in paid part time work whilst studying in the UK. For more information, please visit the UKVI Website <https://www.gov.uk/student-visa>

Who can I contact regarding the scholarship?

For questions relating to your course of interest, please refer to the university in question - each university has a link and a named contact on the [scholarship web page](#).

If you have questions about the scholarships, please contact the British Council by emailing UK.Scholarships@britishcouncil.org.