

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 **17 February 2023** and the latest is **7 April 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.

Press Release

British Council launches scholarships scheme to support women to pursue STEM careers.

British Council has partnered with 19 UK universities to offer women from over 20 countries to study a master's degree in the United Kingdom.

The British Council has launched an exciting new programme - its **British Council Scholarship for Women in STEM**. This new scheme is aimed at supporting women who wish to pursue their master's degrees in UK universities in areas related to Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM). This new scholarship will allow over 100 women from countries in the Americas, South Asia and East Asia to obtain their advanced degree from a UK university, permitting them to further develop their careers in science.

According to data from the UN Scientific Education and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), fewer than 30 percent of researchers worldwide are women and only 30 percent of female students select STEM-related fields in higher education. Globally, female students' enrolment is particularly low in Information and Communications Technology (three percent), natural science, mathematics and statistics (five percent), and engineering, manufacturing and construction (eight percent).

This ambitious scholarship scheme includes tuition fees, monthly stipend, travel costs, visa and health coverage fees. The scholarship is also open to women with dependants to apply, and contains provision for scholars that might need a short pre-session English course to achieve the language level needed to undergo their studies.

**Women from the Americas must be from one of the following eligible countries Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela. All potential candidates from the Americas must apply directly to the following universities of their interest: Imperial College London, Bangor University, Cranfield University, Durham University, Robert Gordon University, University of York, University of Bristol or University of Wolverhampton.*

**Women from South Asia must be from one of the following eligible countries Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan or Sri Lanka. All potential candidates from South Asia must apply directly to the following universities of their interest: Teesside University, City University London, University of Strathclyde, Newcastle University, Edinburgh Napier University, The University of Warwick, The University of Edinburgh or Brunel University London.*

**Women from the East Asia must be from one of the following eligible countries Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand or Vietnam. All potential candidates from East Asia must apply directly to the following universities of their interest: University of Glasgow, Liverpool John Moores University or University of Stirling.*

British Council has set up a [webpage](#) with further information regarding the scholarship, including details of the courses available and contact information of participating universities.

www.britishcouncil.org/study-work-abroad/in-uk/scholarship-women-stem

Applications for the British Council Scholarships for Women in STEM are open until mid-March 2021.

About the British Council

The British Council is the UK's international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities. We build connections, understanding and trust between people in the UK and other countries through arts and culture, education and the English language. Last year we reached over 80 million people directly and 791 million people overall including online, and through broadcasts and publications. Founded in 1934 we are a UK charity governed by Royal Charter and a UK public body. We receive a 15 per cent core funding grant from the UK government.

FAQ

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. If needed, students can apply for a pre-sessional English course to improve their language level.

When is the deadline to apply?

Most deadlines to apply to the scholarship and masters degree are in mid-March 2021, you can find more specific information regarding this in the webpage of each university participating in the scheme.

Can women with children apply to the scholarship?

Yes, special support will be given to women travelling with dependant children.

Where can I find more information regarding the scholarship?

You can visit our British Council webpage that contains general information about the scholarship, as also the links to each participating university.

Who can I contact regarding the scholarship?

Each university has a link and a person in charge of this scholarship. You can find more information in our Webpage. If you wish to contact the British Council you can send an email to UK.Scholarships@britishcouncil.org

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 have to be a citizen of one of the following countries to apply:

Americas: Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru & Venezuela.

East Asia: Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand & Vietnam.

South Asia: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan & Sri Lanka.

How many scholarships are there?

There are over 100 scholarships available. There are 45 scholarships available in the Americas, 48 in South Asia and 15 in East Asia.

If I am not successful this year, can I apply next year?

At the moment there is no guarantee British Council will be opening this scholarship next year, therefore we strongly encourage you to apply this year.

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.