MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

COMMONWEALTH POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS TENABLE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM – 2024

Applications are invited from eligible Sri Lankans for awarding of Postgraduate Scholarships offered under the Commonwealth Scholarship Programme. These awards are tenable at Institutions of Higher Learning in the United Kingdom for the academic year 2024. Terms and Conditions which are available in the Commonwealth.

Scholarship Commission website : http://cscuk.fcdo.gov.uk/about-us/scholarships

01. Number of Nominations requested by commonwealth scholarships commission (CSC) :

Masters (one year) - 09

02. Fields of Study:

These scholarships are offered under 6 development themes. All candidates must apply under one of these themes.

- Science and Technology for development
- Strengthening health system and capacity
- Promoting global prosperity
- Strengthening global peace, security and governance
- Strengthening resilience and response to crisis
- Access, inclusion and opportunity

03. Tenure:

One-year taught masters courses or equivalent degrees.

04. Termination:

Any scholarship may, at the discretion of the appropriate authority, be terminated at any time owing to misconduct, irregularity of attendance, absence from classes or hostel without prior approval of the authority concerned, and the unsatisfactory progress in studies or failure at examinations. If any scholarship is terminated, the scholar may be required to return to Sri Lanka at his/her own expenses.

05. General Eligibility Requirements:

Each candidate should;

a) Be a citizen of Sri Lanka.

b) Should possess a 04-year Bachelor's Degree with a First or Second Class Upper Division in the relevant field of study from a recognized university.

c) Possess a high proficiency in English. The CSC does not require any candidates to take an IELTS (English language) test. You should note, however, that, as a further condition of your scholarship, you may be required by your university to provide evidence of a particular level of English language proficiency.

d) Each candidate must provide a supporting statement from a named supervisor from at least one of the UK universities to which He/ She is applying, when submitting online application to Commonwealth Scholarship Commission (CSC) after nominated by this Ministry. Because of the above reason, candidates are strongly advised to submit placements applications directly to their preferred institutions in advance.

06. Applications:

- Online application is available at: https://foreignscholarships.mohe.gov.lk/
- The deadline of the submission of the application is **18th September 2023.**
- Each applicant should submit only one online application and **not required to send application by post.**
- No application from permanent employee of government sector, University or a state Corporation will be entertained unless channeled through the Head of the Institution concerned.

Note:

However, an application of a University/ Institute employee who has studied abroad on his/her own expense or on a scholarship received from a source other than through his/her University/ Institute, can be considered if he/she has completed the minimum of his /her mandatory service period as per the agreement provided that the Vice Chancellor/ Head of the Institute recommends the application as per the provisions of the University/ Institute Establishment Code.

07. General facts

a. Commonwealth Scholarships are aimed at individuals who could not otherwise afford to study in the UK. Every candidate will be required to sign a declaration that they do not have access to sufficient funds to study in the UK.

b. Candidates who have undertaken any of their university education outside their home country, will be asked to state how it was funded and how the education differed from that in their home country.

c. The Commonwealth Scholarships Commission would not normally fund a second UK Master's degree. If you are applying for a second UK Master's degree, you will need to provide justification as to why you wish to undertake this study.

d. Any statement in the application, which is found to be incorrect, will render the applicant liable to disqualification, if the inaccuracy is discovered before selection and to the withdrawal of award, if discovered after selection.

e. Any application, which is not sent through proper channels or is incomplete in any respect or received late, will be rejected.

08. Interview & Selection

a) **All eligible applicants will be shortlisted by the Ministry of Education by their Academic merit order.**

b) The shortlisted applicants are required to submit their **study plan and a report elaborating the candidate's contribution to the development of Sri Lanka.** (Further details, will be informed to the candidates who are eligible to the structured interview, via email in due course)

c) According to the merit order of the above (b), candidates will select for the structured interview and the candidates will be required to present himself/herself at an interview to be held at the Ministry of Education, No.18, Ward Place, Colombo 07.

d) Generally, the interviews will be held within a short period after the closing date He/she should produce original certificates of qualifications, University placement letter (if already available), Certificate of Birth, National Identity card/ Passport and any other documentary evidence in support of his/her candidature at the interview. Traveling or other expenses incurred in connection with this interview will not be paid.

e) The candidates selected for nominations will be informed by the Ministry to submit their completed CSC Online applications before the date prescribed by the Commonwealth Scholarships Commission in the UK.

f) Any form of canvassing either in written or verbal form will be considered as a disqualification for a scholarship.

g) Any statement in the application, which is found to be incorrect, will render the applicant liable to disqualification, if the inaccuracy is discovered before selection and to the withdrawal/cancel of award, if discovered after selection.

Note: Due to the limited time period for submitting online application after completion of the interview all the applicants should be prepared with their documents earlier.

09. Nomination for the Scholarship

No candidate should treat his/her nomination for the Scholarship by the authorities of Sri Lanka as an acceptance for an award. Awarding of the scholarship is a matter entirely within the discretion of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission/ UK to whom the nomination is made. Selected candidates who decline to accept the award will not be considered for any other award during the year.

Secretary
Ministry of Education
Higher Education Division
18, Ward Place
Colombo 07.

15.08.2023