

COMMUNIQUÉ

AWARD OF POSTGRADUATE COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM FOR YEAR 2026

Applications are invited from qualified Mauritian candidates for the nomination of up to **two Commonwealth Scholarships**, for one year (Full Time) Master's Course tenable in the United Kingdom as from September/October 2026.

2. Course of Study

- (i) The Commonwealth Scholarships will be offered under six themes:

(a) Science and technology for development

Commonwealth Scholarships are offered across several science and technology subject areas to strengthen awardees' capacity to apply relevant scientific discoveries, knowledge and skills to the needs, challenges, and opportunities of their respective low- or middle-income countries. Applicants should refer to the national or local development priorities of their home country, as appropriate.

(b) Improving population health, health systems and capacity

Commonwealth Scholarships support the development of knowledge and skills intended to enhance health provision and health outcomes in low- and middle-income countries. These include applied health policy topics and public health research intended to improve disease prevention and health awareness programmes, as well as the development of better management systems and infrastructure. The scholarships also aim to develop equitable research partnerships between researchers and institutions in the UK and Commonwealth countries.

(c) Promoting innovation and entrepreneurship

Commonwealth Scholarships help to support enterprise development and new value creation in low and middle-income countries. The knowledge and skills gained during the award period are intended to inspire a more entrepreneurial mindset and decision-making ability amongst individuals, including youth and women, businesses and governments, leading to innovative products and services, startups and scale-ups, more jobs, enhanced trade capacity and economic development.

(d) Strengthening global peace, security and governance

Commonwealth Scholarships help scholars to develop knowledge and skills that are crucial for strengthening peace and security at national, regional, or international levels. Awardees in particular subject areas gain expert understanding of approaches and strategies for promoting open and transparent governance; improving mutual understanding within and between societies; and building systems for defusing, mitigating and resolving conflicts.

(e) Strengthening resilience and response to crises

Commonwealth Scholarships help to bolster national capacity for dealing with cataclysmic events, emergencies as well as longer term threats in low and middle-income countries. This is achieved through training scholars in subjects that address a broad range of threats, including natural and physical disasters, pandemics, climate change and sudden economic or technological disruption (e.g. to the supply of key resources).

(f) Access, inclusion and opportunity

Commonwealth Scholarships help to promote inclusive access to opportunity amongst historically disadvantaged groups in low and middle-income countries. Scholars working in this area focus on addressing the causes of disadvantage due to social, economic, gender, ethnic, regional or political grounds, and expanding educational opportunities, undertaking community outreach and enhancing access to decision-making roles amongst such groups.

- (ii) **Consideration will be given to applications that demonstrably link to the development priorities of Mauritius in line with the List of Indicative Priority Fields of Study (2025-2027). Such links should be made explicit in the candidate's write up accompanying the application.**

- (iii) The List of Indicative Priority Fields of Study (2025-2027) which has been affixed on the Notice Board of the Ministry, Ground Floor, MITD House, Pont Fer, Phoenix can also be consulted on the following website:

<https://education.govmu.org/>

3. Eligibility Requirements

3.1 Qualifications

- (i) SC/GCE 'O' level with credits in at least five subjects including English Language at one and same sitting;

- (ii) HSC/GCE 'A' Level with three subjects at Principal level and a pass in General Paper or equivalent qualification obtained at one and same sitting; and
- (iii) A first degree of at least Upper Second Class Honours level.

The onus for the provision of equivalence of qualifications rests upon the applicants.

3.2 Other Requirements

- (i) Candidates should clearly indicate their course of study. They are expected to state at least **one**, but are strongly advised to propose **three** institutions of study in the UK on their application form in order of preference and to state the reasons for their choice. The final decision on host institutions will be made by the Commonwealth Scholarships Commission (CSC). Candidates are strongly advised to submit independent applications directly to their preferred institutions in advance of, or at the same time as, their scholarship application. Where formal offers of admission have been obtained, these should be included with the application and any subsequent correspondence with UK universities listed within the application should be submitted with the application form.
- (ii) Candidates **should submit their detailed study plan** of at least 750 words along with their application;
- (iii) **Candidates must submit a write up indicating the direct and applied relevance of their study to development in Mauritius. Candidates should make any such links explicit in their applications.**
- (iv) Candidates must indicate in their applications: -
 - (a) **which of the CSC's six development themes they are applying under; and**
 - (b) **up to three Sustainable Development Goals relevant to their development impact.**
- (v) Candidates should submit a 'personal statement' within their application which will provide the selection panel with more information about their background and give an additional context to their application.
- (vi) As per rules of the CSC, the Ministry will give a priority to ensuring gender balance in the nomination process.

NOTE:

- (i) ***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. The CSC will not select candidates who have the independent means to study in the UK.***
- (ii) *Candidates are informed that the Selection Committee in the UK will request for at least 2 references to be provided as part of the final submission after nomination;*
- (iii) *Awards are tenable at any approved UK university or higher education institution with which the CSC has a part-funding agreement. A list of these institutions can be found at:*

<http://cscuk.fcdo.gov.uk/uk-universities>
- (iv) **Awards are not made to candidates who are already holder of a Master's degree from the UK.**

4. Conditions of Scholarship

- 4.1** The Scholarship covers, *inter alia*, airfare, tuition and examination fees and living allowance.
- 4.2** The CSC does not require candidates to take an IELTS test as part of application process. However, as a condition of offering a place on a course, the host institution in the UK may require a candidate to take a particular English Language test and reach a particular level. The Commission will not confirm an award until such conditions have been met and will withdraw the offer of award if conditions are not met in sufficient time for the scholar to arrive in the UK by the commencement of the academic year.
- 4.3** **Candidates are reminded that being nominated by the Ministry does not automatically guarantee final selection or placement in the United Kingdom and that the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom will make the final selection according to criteria which include:**
 - **Academic merit;**
 - **Quality of study plan; and**
 - **Potential impact of the work on the development of the candidate's home country.**

Candidates are therefore strongly advised to take the above criteria into consideration when submitting their applications.

- 4.4** Beneficiaries of scholarships will be required to sign an undertaking, thereby committing themselves to return to Mauritius immediately after completion of their studies and work for at least two years in the public or private sector.
- 4.5** Only the best qualified candidates will be nominated. Candidates who have not been informed of their nomination within eight weeks as from the closing date for application should consider that they have not been selected.
- 4.6** A Communiqué will be placed on the website of the Ministry to inform applicants that the selection exercise has already been carried out.
- 4.7** Applicants are advised to start the process of identifying up to three institutions and programmes of their choice and submit applications for a seat. A list of institutions for which the scholarships are tenable can be consulted on the following website:

<https://cscuk.fcdo.gov.uk/about-us/scholarships>

- 4.8** Candidates must be able to take up their awards in September 2026; deferments are granted in only the most exceptional circumstances, and will not be considered for start dates beyond January 2027.
- 4.9** It is the requirement of the CSC, UK that candidates be made aware of the CSC antifraud policy at:-

<http://bit.ly/CSCanti-fraud>

and of the local anti corruption policies at:-

<http://www.fcc.mu>

5. Mode of Application

5.1 Applications must be made on the prescribed Form:

- (i) available at the Scholarships Section, Ministry of Education and Human Resource, 1st Floor, MITD House, Pont Fer, Phoenix, or
- (ii) downloaded from the Ministry's website:

<https://education.govmu.org/>

- 5.2** The completed forms along with all supporting documents should be submitted to the Scholarships Section of the Ministry by ***Friday, 05 September 2025 at 1400 hours at latest.***
- 5.3** Responsible parties of applicants not in Mauritius may apply on behalf of their wards.

- 5.4** Applicants already in employment, whether public or private, must fill in the application form in duplicate. One copy thereof along with the relevant supporting documents, should be submitted to the Scholarships Section, and one copy to the applicant's employer to enable the latter to decide on the release of the applicant for the course, and if so, on what terms and conditions. ***Such information should be available at the time of submission of application.***
- 5.5** All candidates should ensure that certified copies of certificates, transcripts of final university result/marksheets and all other relevant documents relating to their qualifications are submitted to the Scholarships Section, along with their applications. **Non-submission of same by the closing date will result in their elimination from the selection exercise.** Certification of documents may be done at the Scholarships Section of the Ministry.

6. Additional Information

Full details of the scholarships are contained in the 2026 Commonwealth Scholarships prospectus, a copy of which is available on the following websites:

<https://cscuk.fcdo.gov.uk/about-us/scholarships>
&
<https://cscuk.fcdo.gov.uk/apply/csc-disability-support-statement/>

01 August 2025

**Scholarships Section
Ministry of Education and
Human Resource
Phoenix 73544**