F.No. 28-25/2026-ES.4
Government of India
Ministry of Education
Department of Higher Education
External Scholarship Division

2027 COMMONWEALTH MASTER'S SCHOLARSHIP IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Online applications are invited for the '**2027 COMMONWEALTH MASTER'S SCHOLARSHIP TENABLE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM**' for pursuing full time Master's Degree Courses commencing from September 2027. The Scholarships are offered by the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission (CSC), UK.

2. The Scholarship is broadly offered under six developmental themes:

- Science and technology for development
- Improving Population Health, Health Systems and Capacity
- Promoting Innovation and Entreprenuership
- Strengthening global peace, security and governance
- Strengthening resilience and response to crises
- Access, inclusion and opportunity

3. The entire application process is **ONLINE**. Interested Candidates must submit their applications on the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission's Online Application System (CSC Central Portal) as well as on the Ministry of Education's SAKSHAT Portal.

- **Commonwealth Scholarship Commission's Online Application System (CSC Central Portal - https://portal.csccentralonline.org.uk/application):**

The CSC Central Portal was opened from 8th September, 2026 – 20th October, 2026.

- **Ministry of Education portal (SAKSHAT Portal):**

Link for online application: https://proposal-sakshat.samarth.edu.in/. The portal would be active from **30 October 2026** to **30 November 2026**.

4. **ELIGIBILTY:**

(i) The applicant must be a Citizen of India.

(ii) The applicant must be a permanent resident of India.

(iii) The applicant must be available to start his/her academic studies in the UK by the start of the UK academic year in September 2027.

(iv) By September 2027, hold a first degree of at least upper second class (2:1) honours standard (**in the Indian context, this means a minimum of 60% marks in graduation**), or a second-class degree (2:2) (**in the Indian context, this means 50-59% marks in graduation**) and a relevant postgraduate qualification (a Master's degree). The CSC 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.

(v) The CSC funds one-year taught Master's programmes only and does not fund MBA degrees.

(v) The applicant must not be able to afford to study in the UK without this scholarship. (*Candidates are compulsorily required to sign a declaration that they do not have access to sufficient funds to study in the UK).*

(vi) There is no age limit for CSC applications.

(vi) Candidates who were abroad for studies/training/specialization either on scholarships or on their own, for a period exceeding six months are eligible to apply only if they have been in India for at least two consecutive years as on 05 October, 2026 after returning from abroad.

vii) Candidates to provide–

- full transcripts detailing **all** the higher education qualifications including to-date transcripts for any qualifications that he/she is currently studying (with certified translations if not in English) – uploaded to the online application system
- references from at least two individuals.

5. **39 Nominations** will be made to the CSC for the 2027 Commonwealth Master's Scholarship. Candidates are informed that nomination does not mean selection for the scholarship. The decision to select students for this scholarship rests with the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission. **The Ministry of Education does not have any role in selection of candidates by CSC.**

6. **NOMINATION CRITERIA:**

A. Applicants who can provide proof of receiving confirmed offer of admission till 16.00 hrs of 30.11.2026 in any UK University listed at the CSC Website https://cscuk.fcdo.gov.uk/uk-universities/ shall be considered for nomination.

Among the candidates satisfying criteria A above, points based on the following parameters will be awarded to each candidate, which will be used for further shortlisting for nomination from India.

(i) Candidates choosing the option to return to India after completion of the course and work in India for at least 2 years: 4 points
(ii) Undecided/No: 0 points

Candidate is from a disadvantaged background or to promote diversity:

I. ST/ SC/ NC-OBC/ PwD/ EWS: 4 points
II. Female/ Transgender: 2 points
III. Others: 0 points

EWS: Annual family income Rs. 4.5 lakh or below (family includes self, spouse and parental income)(Income certificate issued only State Competent Authority will be acceptable)

Academic merit of University from where offer of admission is secured:

i. UK University QS Ranking 10 or below: 4 points
ii. QS Ranking 11-20: 2 points
iii. QS Ranking 21-50: 1 point
iv. QS ranking above 50: 0 points

Note: overall ranking / subject ranking as per latest ranking year will be considered

Nominations will be made in a theme-wise proportional basis.

7. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

- **'How to apply'** - Candidates must apply using the CSC's online application system(CSC Central) which can be found on the CSC website. Each scholarship has a 'How to apply' section which will have information and guidance on the application process and the link to the online application system. **The CSC is unable to accept any applications that are not submitted via the online application system or after the closing date listed above.**
- Candidates are advised to apply first on the CSC Central Portal and save a copy of their submitted application in pdf as they would be required to upload this when applying on the SAKSHAT Portal.
- Candidates who do not possess the eligibility criteria need not apply.
- Canvassing in any form will be a disqualification.
- It is very important that applicants who are in employment to which they wish to return after completion of their studies in UK should have an assurance from their organization that on the final selection by the CSC, they will be granted sufficient leave to complete the study.
- Candidates are requested to frequently visit the Ministry Website https://www.dohe-education.gov.in/department/our-bureaus/details/scholarships-education-loan-

MDO2AjMtQWa as all further announcements will be uploaded there. Queries via e-mail may be directed to es3.edu@nic.in

- Anti Fraud Policy is enclosed at annexure for information.

8. **IMPORTANT LINKS:**

- For more details please visit: https://cscuk.fcdo.gov.uk/scholarships/commonwealth-masters-scholarships/
- Link for SAKSHAT Portal: https://proposal-sakshat.samarth.edu.in/
- CSC Anti-Fraud Policy: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/csc-in-the-uk-anti-fraud-policy-and-procedure
- For any further information on this scholarship please visit https://www.dohe-education.gov.in/department/our-bureaus/details/scholarships-education-loan-MDO2AjMtQWa

22/10/2026

(M.Korangshing Maring)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Dated the 22nd October 2026

ANNEXURE-1

Anti-fraud Policy

Definition of fraud (in respect to the scholarship)

Use of deception to deprive, cause loss to another person or party; or secure unwarranted personal gain.

Falsely claiming academic and other achievements, false documentation, concealing/distorting information/ material whether it is in electronic form, signature, photograph will be treated as fraud and action would be taken accordingly.

The Ministry of Education will investigate all the issues relating to fraud and will take appropriate action which may include legal action.

In case of actual, attempted or suspected fraud one should report his/her concerns at the first instance to the Under Secretary (Scholarships). There is also an online 'Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS)' where complaint can be made. The link of the grievance portal is https://pgportal.gov.in.