

Finding Full Scholarships for UK University Study

Full scholarships for international students wishing to study in the UK are highly competitive. Opportunities differ between undergraduate and postgraduate study, and students should investigate a range of potential funding sources, particularly government sponsorship and established scholarship programmes. Students should also check exactly what each award covers rather than assuming that every scholarship pays all study and living costs.

Undergraduate and Postgraduate Scholarships

Undergraduate degrees normally require several years of study, while many UK taught master's programmes can be completed in one year. Because the overall funding commitment can therefore be shorter, postgraduate study can be particularly relevant to some scholarship programmes.

Sources of Scholarship Funding

Students seeking full or substantial scholarships should investigate several potential sources:

- National and in-country sponsors: Governments, ministries, employers and other recognised organisations may offer overseas study funding. Availability varies by country.
- Government and diplomatic sources: Students should check official government, education ministry, scholarship agency and diplomatic mission information in their home country for current opportunities.
- Chevening: A fully funded UK Government scholarship for eligible one-year taught master's degrees in the UK. Applicants must meet Chevening's current eligibility and selection requirements.
- Commonwealth Scholarships: A range of UK-funded programmes with different eligibility criteria, study levels and application routes. Students should identify the specific Commonwealth scheme relevant to them.
- Africa Initiative for Governance: The podcast identifies this as a source of master's scholarship opportunities for African candidates with public service ambitions. Students should check the programme's current availability and eligibility directly.

Researching Scholarship Opportunities

The scholarship landscape changes regularly. Availability, eligibility criteria, application dates and funding arrangements can vary between programmes. Students should therefore check official university and scholarship programme information regularly and make sure they understand the requirements before applying.

Students should also check whether an award covers tuition fees only or contributes to living costs, travel, visa costs and other expenses.

WorldStudentAdvisors Support

WorldStudentAdvisors can help students research suitable study options and understand scholarship opportunities that may be relevant to their plans.

WorldStudentAdvisors can support the university application, but scholarship applications such as Chevening and Commonwealth schemes have their own eligibility criteria, deadlines and application processes and must be completed in accordance with the scholarship provider's requirements.

The Key Message

Full scholarships for UK university study are highly competitive and are more widely available for some levels of study and applicant groups than others. Students should research national sponsorship programmes, Chevening, relevant Commonwealth Scholarship schemes and other established funding opportunities for which they may be eligible.

Each scholarship has its own eligibility criteria, application process, deadlines and level of financial support. Students should start their research early, use official sources and check exactly what an award covers before making financial or study commitments.

Disclaimer: This information is provided in good faith and was believed to be accurate at the time of publication. Fees, dates, entry requirements, visa regulations and other information may change. Students should check current requirements before making any financial or study commitments.