



Malawi Government



INVITATION FOR APPLICATIONS FOR COMMONWEALTH MASTER'S AND PHD SCHOLARSHIPS TENABLE IN THE UK

The 2025 Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan is targeting Public Servants who are Malawian nationals to pursue their studies in the UK universities at both Master's and PhD levels. The scholarships are competitive in nature and the Malawi Government has been invited to submit applications for 29 candidates **(12 PhD and 17 Masters)** to be considered for scholarship awards for studies commencing September 2025.

1. Commonwealth Scholarship Council Development Themes

The priority areas of study by the Commonwealth Scholarship Council are as follows:

a) Science and Technology for Development

Commonwealth Scholarships are offered in any area of science or technology (including, for example, agriculture, veterinary science or forestry), to develop knowledge and/or skills that are directly related to the specific needs of a low or middle-income country. Where possible, applications should cite expressed national or local priorities.

b) Strengthening Health Systems and Capacity

In order to improve health provision or outcomes for disadvantaged groups in low or middle income countries, Commonwealth Scholarships support the development of knowledge and/or skills across a range of approaches. These approaches include training staff to fill critical shortage areas; establishing better systems, processes, or management; health promotion and improving understanding of non-take up; and developing new treatments.

c) Promoting Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Commonwealth Scholarships help to support economic prosperity in low and middle-income countries. The knowledge and/or skills gained could lead to, for example, enhanced trade capacity; improved economic understanding or decision making by business or government; new products and services; or long-term capacity building, for example through the development of entrepreneurial skills.

d) Strengthening Global Peace, Security and Governance

Commonwealth Scholarships develop knowledge and/or skills that will strengthen peace and security at national, regional or international levels. Multiple approaches are studied and implemented by scholars, such as strengthening open and transparent governance; improving mutual understanding within and between societies; or building systems that reduce potential for conflict or encourage its resolution.

e) Strengthening Resilience and Response to Crises

Commonwealth Scholarships are awarded in subjects that address a broad range of threats, including natural and physical disasters; long-term threats such as climate change; interruptions to the supply of key resources; and sudden economic or technological disruption; and

f) Access, Inclusion and Opportunity

Commonwealth Scholarships help to promote opportunity amongst historically disadvantaged groups in low and middle-income countries. Commonwealth scholars expand educational opportunities; conduct community outreach; enhance access to decision-making; and increase understanding of the barriers faced. A range of disadvantage is addressed through Commonwealth Scholars work – including social, economic, gender, ethnic, regional and political.

2. Eligibility Criteria

In order for an officer to qualify for nomination, he/she must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- a) Be a Public Servant with not less than 4 years' work experience;

- b) Must have obtained the current Bachelors/Masters certificate with a credit or distinction;
- c) Be on the organization's prioritised training plan;
- d) Agree to sign a Training Bond prior to proceeding on training after being offered a scholarship;
- e) Not a project staff or a Public Servant hired on contract/non-permanent terms;
- f) Not serving a Training Bond period for the previous long-term training programme funded by Government or any other Development Partner;
- g) PhD Candidates must provide a supporting statement from a proposed PhD supervisor in the UK from at least one of the universities named in their application form; and
- h) Nomination of candidates by the Government Ministry/Department/Agency must take into consideration gender balance.

3. Mode of Application

On top of the requirements of the Malawi Government, the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission has its own procedures that you need to follow and satisfy. The scholarship terms and conditions can be found on Commonwealth Scholarship Council website:

➤ <http://csuk.fcdo.gov.uk/about-us/scholarships>

The first thing to do is to apply online using the Electronic Application Systems (EAS) upon which you will automatically be given an Agency number. Once the online application is complete, the applicant will be required to print it **before** submitting online. Please note that the link for the 2025 intake applications will open on Tuesday 10th September 2024 and close on 15th October 2024 **(16:00 GMT)**.

The printed copy of the online application together with a covering letter from the Controlling Officer will have to be submitted to the undersigned for screening and consideration by 5th November, 2024. Any application that is submitted with a covering letter that is not signed by the Controlling Officer shall not be accepted.

You are also advised to be following the link given above for more information. In case you are not a Public Servant, you may wish to apply for the Chevening Scholarships which are open to all Malawians in the Public Service, Private Sector and Civil Society Organizations. Non Malawians are not eligible for both scholarship programmes unless they apply from their countries of origin.

You should take note that there is no alternative to the requirements which have been mentioned above.

Wish you all the best.

Ismail Mogra

Nominating Agency for Commonwealth Scholarship Fellowship Plan for Malawi
Senior Deputy Director of Human Resource Management (Planning and
Development)
Department of Human Resource Management and Development
Capital Hill
P.O. Box 30227
Lilongwe 3