



# **Commonwealth Medical Fellowships**

**2018 terms and conditions**

## INTRODUCTION

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan (CSFP) is one of the largest and most prestigious international scholarship schemes in the world. Since it was established in 1959, 35,000 individuals have held a Commonwealth Scholarship or Fellowship – 27,000 of them were funded by the UK government, through the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom (CSC).

The CSC awards over 800 scholarships and fellowships for postgraduate study and professional development to Commonwealth citizens each year. The CSC's Secretariat is provided by the Association of Commonwealth Universities, based in London; overseas services are provided by the British Council.

For information about the other scholarships and fellowships offered by the CSC, visit [www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk](http://www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk). For information about Commonwealth Scholarships offered by other Commonwealth countries, visit [www.acu.ac.uk/commonwealth-scholarships](http://www.acu.ac.uk/commonwealth-scholarships)

## COMMONWEALTH MEDICAL FELLOWSHIPS

Commonwealth Medical Fellowships are for mid-career medical staff from low and middle income countries, to enhance their clinical skills.

Funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID), Commonwealth Medical Fellowships enable talented and motivated individuals to gain the knowledge and skills required for sustainable development.

**Purpose:** To provide mid-career medics with the opportunity to enhance their clinical skills, and to have catalytic effects on their workplaces.

**Intended beneficiaries:** Mid-career medics working in universities or affiliated teaching hospitals in developing Commonwealth countries.

Commonwealth Medical Fellowships are offered under one of the CSC's six themes:

1. Science and technology for development
- 2. Strengthening health systems and capacity**

The fellowship will develop knowledge and/or skills that will improve health provision or outcomes for disadvantaged groups in low and middle income countries. A range of approaches could be adopted, such as training staff to fill critical shortage areas; establishing better systems, processes, or management; health promotion and improving understanding of non-take up; or developing new treatments.

3. Promoting global prosperity
4. Strengthening global peace, security and governance
5. Strengthening resilience and response to crises
6. Access, inclusion and opportunity

## ELIGIBILITY

To apply for these fellowships, you must:

- Be a citizen of or have been granted refugee status by an eligible Commonwealth country, or be a British Protected Person
- Be permanently resident in an eligible Commonwealth country
- Be employed by a hospital affiliated to a university
- Be available to start your fellowship in the UK in January 2019
- Have qualified as a doctor between 1 October 2008 and 30 September 2011, or before 1 October 2003

- Have qualified at a medical school recognised by the World Directory of Medical Schools. For more information, visit <https://search.wdoms.org>
- Have met the English language requirements of the General Medical Council (GMC) by 31 August 2018. For more information on GMC requirements, visit [www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/registration\\_applications/language\\_proficiency.asp](http://www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/registration_applications/language_proficiency.asp)

You will be expected to participate in clinical practice during your fellowship, and to register with the General Medical Council (GMC). If your proposed programme does not require this registration, your application will be considered ineligible.

The CSC aims to identify talented individuals who have the potential to make change. We are committed to a policy of equal opportunity and non-discrimination, and encourage applications from a diverse range of candidates. For further information on the support available to candidates with a disability, see the CSC disability support statement at <http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/apply/csc-disability-support-statement>

## ELIGIBLE COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES

Bangladesh	Mozambique	South Africa
Cameroon	Nigeria	Sri Lanka
The Gambia	Pakistan	Tanzania
Ghana	Papua New Guinea	Uganda
India	Rwanda	Vanuatu
Kenya	Samoa	Zambia
Malawi	Sierra Leone	

## HOW TO APPLY

You must apply to one of the following nominating bodies in the first instance – **the CSC does not accept direct applications for these fellowships:**

- Selected universities/medical colleges that are invited to nominate members of staff at affiliated hospitals. For a full list of eligible nominating bodies, visit <http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/apply/medical-fellowships/nominating-bodies>
- In Bangladesh, India, and Sri Lanka, the national University Grants Commission
- In Pakistan, the Higher Education Commission

All applications **must** be made through a nominating body in your home country. Each nominating body is responsible for its own selection process. **You must check with your nominating body for their specific advice and rules for applying, and for their own closing date for applications.**

You must make your application using the CSC's application system. Your application must be submitted to and endorsed by one of the eligible nominating bodies listed above.

The CSC will not accept any applications that are not submitted via the CSC's application system to a nominating body in your home country.

All applications must be submitted by **23.59 (BST) on 21 May 2018** at the latest.

You must provide the following supporting documentation, which must be received by the CSC by **23.59 (BST) on 28 May 2018** in order for your application to be eligible for consideration:

- Academic references from at least two individuals

Awards made by the CSC are subject to the ongoing endorsement of the nominating body. The CSC will not accept nominations for these fellowships from other organisations or any applications directly from individuals; such applications will not be acknowledged.

Universities that wish to be invited to nominate candidates for these fellowships should write to the Executive Secretary, Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the UK, Woburn House, 20-24 Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9HF, UK.

## SELECTION PROCESS

Each year, the CSC invites each nominating body to submit a specific number of nominations. The deadline for nominating bodies to submit nominations to the CSC is **4 June 2018**.

The CSC invites around three times more nominations than fellowships available – therefore, nominated candidates are not guaranteed to be awarded a fellowship.

Each nominated candidate's application will be considered firstly by an academic adviser with expertise in the subject area concerned, and then by the CSC selection committee in competition with other candidates.

Applications will be considered according to the following selection criteria:

- Academic merit of the candidate
- Quality of the proposal
- Potential impact of the work on the development of the candidate's home country

For further details, see the Commonwealth Medical Fellowships 2018 selection criteria at <http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/apply/medical-fellowships>

## PLACEMENT

In your application, you are expected to identify **one** university hospital that you think is the most appropriate to host your fellowship, and to explain your reasons. You should also provide evidence of agreement to host your fellowship from your chosen university hospital. The CSC will make the final decision on institution of study, and reserves the right to overrule any preferences indicated by the candidate.

## VALUE

Each fellowship provides:

- Approved airfare from your home country to the UK and return at the end of your award (the CSC will not reimburse the cost of fares for dependants, nor usually the cost of journeys made before your award is finally confirmed)
- Research support grant, payable to your host university hospital
- Stipend (living allowance) at the rate of £1,627 per month, or £2,019 per month for those at university hospitals in the London metropolitan area (rates quoted at 2017-2018 levels)
- Reimbursement of the fee for a single English language test and the fee for General Medical Council (GMC) registration
- Warm clothing allowance
- Study travel grant towards the costs of approved travel within the UK
- If you are widowed, divorced, or a single parent, child allowance of £457 per month for the first child, and £112 per month for the second and third child under the age of 16, if you are accompanied by your children and they are living with you at the same address in the UK

For more information, see the Handbook for Commonwealth Scholars and Fellows, available at <http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/award-holders/handbook-forms>

## GENERAL CONDITIONS

- A Commonwealth Medical Fellowship may not be held concurrently with any other award.
- In order for the CSC to administer your application effectively and efficiently after you have submitted, it will be necessary to create a record in your name. If you are nominated for an award to the CSC, your details will be kept on file. Basic anonymised demographic data for all applicants will be kept for analytical research. Should you wish to change your details, you can do so by following the My Details link from the portal. All personal data held on you will be processed according to the principles of the United Kingdom Data Protection Act 1998.
- If your application is successful, the CSC will notify you that you have been provisionally selected (selected for an award subject to the CSC agreeing your terms of admission to the university hospital)
- When terms of admission to the university hospital have been agreed, the CSC will send you a Notification of Award (formal offer of a fellowship).
- When all conditions of the Notification of Award have been met, the CSC will send you a formal Confirmation of Award.
- You will be required to submit a medical report before your Confirmation of Award can be issued.
- You will be required to sign an undertaking to return to your home country, with the intention of resuming/taking up the university appointment referenced in your application, as soon as possible after the end of your award.
- You are expected to start your award on the date stated in your Notification of Award.
- If you require a Tier 5 (Temporary Worker – Government Authorised Exchange) visa to come to the UK for your fellowship, you must meet all relevant immigration regulations set by UK Visas and Immigration. You should check the GOV.UK website at [www.gov.uk/visas-immigration](http://www.gov.uk/visas-immigration) for updated information.
- All UK immigration regulations are set by UK Visas and Immigration and are subject to change. The CSC has no control over these regulations.
- You are expected to reside in the UK throughout your award, and to seek approval from the CSC in advance for any overseas travel.
- You may participate in on-call rotas and receive payment for doing so during your award. Any such arrangement must be agreed between you and your host university hospital, without the involvement of the CSC.
- Your award may be terminated at any time for reasons of unsatisfactory conduct or attendance.
- In line with the UK Bribery Act 2010, any applicant convicted of bribery will be banned from reapplying for a Commonwealth Scholarship or Fellowship for a period of up to five years.
- The CSC is committed to administering and managing its scholarships and fellowships in a fair and transparent manner. For more information, see the CSC anti-fraud policy and procedure at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/csc-in-the-uk-anti-fraud-policy-and-procedure> and the DFID guidance on reporting fraud at <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-international-development/about#reporting-fraud>
- All terms and conditions of award are subject to UK local law and practices, and are subject to change by the CSC.

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**Commonwealth Scholarship  
Commission in the UK**

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Woburn House  
20-24 Tavistock Square  
London WC1H 9HF  
United Kingdom  
[www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk](http://www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk)