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| **Grading system for assessment of applications**  **for DFE-funded Commonwealth Scholarships tenable in the United Kingdom** | | | |
| **Grade** | **Academic merit** | **Quality of**  **research** **proposal** | **Impact potential** |
| **Grading criteria** | **Primary Indicators**   * Examination results. * Academic transcripts. * Tutors’ and referees’ reports.   **Secondary Indicators**   * Academic prizes or awards. * Other relevant academic achievements. * Publications, where appropriate. | **Primary Indicators**   * Clear abstract of what the candidate wants to research. * Extent to which the work programme has been well researched (including references to key literature); and the extent of engagement with the host supervisor. * Quality of the research proposal, including innovation and relevance to current research in the chosen field and likelihood of internationally competitive work.   **Secondary Indicators**   * Clarity of expression. * Feasibility of proposed research. * Likelihood of completion within three years. | **Primary Indicators**   * Contribute to excellence of UK teaching and research, to help sustain recognition of the UK higher education system as world-class and internationally competitive. * Develop long-term research networks between the home country and the UK, i.e., will build strategic relationships. * Generate and expand a knowledge-based economy, with argued potential for translation of knowledge and ideas into successful public service outcomes, growth or social well-being.   **Secondary Indicators**   * Suggestion of how the impact of the potential benefits of the work might be assessed. * Extent to which the candidate appears motivated and able to assume leadership roles and become involved in wider society or professional affairs. |