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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.
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