



UK-China Scholarships for Excellence

**Application Form
2009**

CLOSING DATE 20 March 2009



Sino-UK Partners in Education

About the Scheme

The *Scholarships for Excellence* scheme is a jointly funded UK and China to enable young and outstanding PhD students and post doctoral researchers in science and technology to study and conduct cutting edge research in each other's country. The scheme forms a central part of the newly launched **Sino-UK Partners in Education** programme.

Since its launch in 2005, over 100 UK and Chinese scholars have benefited from *Scholarships for Excellence* and its sister programme, *Fellowships for Excellence*.

The 2009 tranche of awards will provide funding for up to 50 new PhD and post doctoral Students. In addition, a further 5 awards will be made available in 2009 for PhD students in Sports Science in recognition of each country's hosting of the Olympic Games in 2008 and 2012.

Information for applicants

Eligibility

The scheme is open to top quality science and technology students from China to study for either a PhD (over a period of 3-4 years) or post doctoral research (up to one year). To qualify for a scholarship award a Chinese researcher/student must:

- Be a Chinese national (mainland China) studying at a recognised top Chinese university (Chinese students attending a UK university are not eligible);
- Satisfy the admission requirements of the host UK university, including relevant English Language requirements;
- Choose a research institution within a UK university with a reputation for academic Excellence, in particular the UK's 5 and 5* research departments;
- Be approved by the China Scholarship Council.

English language

You must meet the UK university English language entry requirements. These requirements will vary between UK institutions and according to your chosen subject area. These are generally one of the following or equivalent:

- An IELTS Academic test with an overall score of at least 6.5 with no band less than 6;
- A TOEFL test score of at least 575 including a score of 4.5 in the Written English test;
- A score of 233 in the computer based TOEFL, including an essay Writing score of 4.5; or
- A Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (CRA); Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency In English (CPE).

The test score must have been achieved no longer than two years prior to the time of your Application. Please attach the test results to your application and provide an English translation if required.

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Funding

A Scholarship for Excellence will provide funding for both tuition fees and living expenses for the period of study or research. We estimate that the total value of the scholarship at £ 20,000 per student per annum. China will be responsible for funding the living expenses element (accommodation, travel, subsistence etc). The China Scholarship Council and Ministry of Education have confirmed that the monthly value of the living expenses award as follows:

	PhD	Post Doctoral
London	£ 700	£ 750
Outside London	£ 650	£ 700

Tuition fees vary between universities and academic discipline. The cost of tuition fees or Bench Fees will be shared between the host UK university and the Department of Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS). Applications for study at universities in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland will require the pre-approval of the respective Devolved Administrations.

Important: A university's scholarship funds are limited and candidates applying to a particular UK university MUST alert the university admissions office that they are applying for admission under the *Scholarships for Excellence* scheme. The University should apply to the DIUS for funding on the form set out on Page 9.

Timetable 2009

20 March

Deadline for students to submit their application for a Scholarship for Excellence to the China Scholarship Council (CSC).

20 March – 20 April

CSC evaluates scholar's applications

30 April

Deadline for CSC to send the final list of approved candidates to the UK Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS).

30 April – 15 May

DIUS confirms successful candidates' places with UK universities and sends CSC the final list of approved scholars

18 May

CSC and DIUS jointly notify successful candidates of the award of a Scholarship for

Next Steps

Send your completed application to the China Scholarship Council by 20 March 2009 at the latest for their approval. You will be notified of the decision by end May 2009. Make sure that you have signed part 9 Declaration and enclosed:

- a passport size photograph of yourself certified by someone who has known you for more than 12 months;
- certified copies of evidence of your Chinese citizenship (birth certificate, Certificate of Citizenship or the relevant pages of your passport);
- Relevant English language test results and English translation if required;
- Two completed Referee reports (see Part 10);
- Host UK university report (see Part 11) plus copies of relevant communication with the host UK university.

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Information for Referees

The **Scholarships for Excellence** scheme an important component in the **Sino-UK Partners in Education** programme developed in recognition of the valuable contribution made by international post graduate research students to the quality of research at UK and China universities. You are required to complete Part 10 of this application form.

The overriding criterion of the scheme is excellence and successful applicants should be easily recognisable as the “best of the best”. We expect that those selected for a **Scholarship for Excellence** award will have already established a record of academic excellence and have demonstrated the potential to succeed in their own research objectives, while contributing to the broader research goals of the UK and China educational community. Your report will assist in the selection process.

Information for UK Universities

Unlike other scholarship schemes, there is no prescribed list of UK universities that these students can apply to. Since the scheme was launched in 2005, an increasing number of universities have offered scholarship places under the **Scholarships for Excellence** scheme. Participating universities already include: Bath, Bristol, Cambridge, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Imperial, Lancaster, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham, Oxford, Sheffield, Southampton, Warwick and UCL.

In 2009, up to 50 PhD scholarship places in Science and Technology will be on offer and will be allocated on a “first come first served” basis. In addition, a further 5 scholarships will be offered in Sports Science. Although tuition fee levels vary between universities and institutions, DIUS will contribute 50% of the total cost of tuition. In postdoctoral awards, where bench fees are in place, the same division of costs will apply. Living expenses will be provided by the China Scholarship Council.

By attracting first rate international students to the UK, our research base will gain access to highly skilled people that are essential for us to compete in a global economy. Participating Universities tell us that the benefits outweigh the costs of the scheme by:

- Providing access to a pool of first rate students with a variety of outlooks;
- Improving their international profile as an outward-looking, technologically advanced institution;
- Helping to develop international partnerships and enhance the reputation and profile of the UK’s higher education sector;
- equipping China with a pool of highly skilled people who go on to make a significant difference to its pace of development;
- establishing a long lasting personal relationship between the individual student and the university and the UK.

You are requested to complete **Part 10** of this application form. A **Scholarship for Excellence** award is dependent on admission by a UK university, albeit conditional. Once a University has indicated their acceptance, or non-acceptance, DIUS and the China Scholarship Council can approve the award.

Further Information

Further information on the **Scholarship for Excellence** scheme and other international Programmes can be found on the DIUS Website at www.dius.gov.uk
Or you can email: UK-China@jiu.gsi.gov.uk.

1 Personal Details

Full Name	
Date of Birth (day/month/year)	
Place of Birth (city & province)	
Nationality	
Marital Status	
Full current residential address	
Address for correspondence (If different from above)	
E Mail address	
Contact phone no	
Dependants (List details of accompanying family members)	
Next of kin	

2 Employment History (If any)

<i>Name & address of employer</i>	<i>Position held</i>	<i>Dates of employment</i>

3 Educational Qualifications

(please attach an academic transcript of results to date, starting with most recent)

Degrees/diplomas obtained/underway	Subject area	Institution & location	Completion date

4 Other academic achievements

Prizes, scholarships, other professional honours

Relevant publications, papers & titles of theses submitted for any degree

Membership of cultural, scientific, professional and educational societies or organisations

5 English Language proficiency

Applicants applying to undertake research in the United Kingdom who are from a Non-English speaking country must meet UK university English language entry requirements. These requirements will vary between institutions and according to the chosen subject area. The test score must have been achieved no longer than 2 years prior to the time of application.

<u>Accreditation body</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Date achieved</u>	<u>UK univ. entry requirement</u>

Please attach proof of your test results with this application.

6 Planned Area of Study

Set out here the details of the course or research project you propose to undertake

7 Admission to UK university

Please indicate here details of the university who have offered you a place to undertake your study/research

Name of University	
Status of admission	<i>Conditional</i> <i>Unconditional</i>
Department/Faculty	
Name of course (State PhD or post doctoral)	
Name of Supervisor Contact details: Email	
Have the University agreed to accept you under the Scholarships for Excellence scheme?	

8 Personal Statement *(continue on a separate sheet of paper if need be)*

9 Agreement and Declaration

If successful in gaining a Scholarship for Excellence, I agree to accept the following terms and conditions:

- *Allow the Department of Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS) to obtain any relevant academic records/reports from educational institutions that I have attended;*
- *Allow the DIUS to use the information provided by me in my application in accordance with its purposes and pursuant to the Data Protection Act 1993;*
- *Act in a manner befitting a recipient of a Scholarship for Excellence award;*
- *Use the funds for the purpose granted;*
- *Acknowledge the assistance given by the UK and China Governments in any written reports, publications or publicly associated with the Scholarships for Excellence programme;*

I have read and understood the terms and conditions of the Scholarships for Excellence scheme and confirm that the contents of my application are true and correct.

Signature

Date



10 Referees Report

Name of applicant

Please comment on the applicant's potential to successfully complete a postgraduate research degree by evaluating the applicant against the criteria below

Criteria	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Average
Intellectual ability & academic standard				
Ability to problem solve & analyse				
Ability to transfer knowledge				
Personal integrity				
Communication skills				
Innovation & creativity				
Independence & Initiative				
Adaptability to new situations				
Potential for future contribution in field				

Signature

Date

Referee Details

Name

Position

University

Address

Email address

Business Tele-
phone



**Scholarships
for Excellence**

11 University Report

Name of applicant

Admission to UK university

Please indicate here details of the place you have offered to the above named student

Name of University	
Status of admission <i>(Conditional/Unconditional. If conditional, please explain conditions)</i>	
University reference number	
Department/Faculty	
Name of course	
Name of Supervisor: Contact details: Email:	
Annual Cost of tuition fees Other fees (please specify)	
Has the University agreed to accept the student under the Scholarships for Excellence scheme?	

Signature

Date

**Position in
University**