



# **CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM**

## **NO. 55 OF 2018**

**REF:** TRA/1/14/03/18 (29) Vol. IV

**FROM:** Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of the Public Service, Energy and Public Utilities

**TO:** Governor General, Chief Justice, Auditor General, Solicitor General, Financial Secretary, Cabinet Secretary, Chief Executive Officers and Heads of Department.

**SUBJECT: COMMONWEALTH PhD AND MASTER DEGREE  
SCHOLARSHIPS TENABLE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM – 2019**

**DATE:** 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2018

This serves to inform that nominations are invited from suitably qualified candidates wishing to pursue a **post-graduate programme** in the **United Kingdom** commencing in **October 2019**.

Belize is invited to nominate **three (3) candidates** for consideration by the **Commonwealth Scholarship Commission (CSC)** in the following categories:

- **Master courses (one year)**
- **PhD - only one (1) scholarship is available for PhD programme**

### **Programme Themes:**

- These scholarships are offered under **six (6) development themes** and all candidates must apply under one of these themes:
  1. **Science and technology for development;**
  2. **Strengthening health systems and capacity;**
  3. **Promoting global prosperity;**
  4. **Strengthening global peace, security and governance;**
  5. **Strengthening resilience and response to crises;**
  6. **Access, inclusion and opportunity.**

### **Candidate Eligibility:**

- **Be a citizen of Belize** or have been **granted refugee status in Belize;**
- **Be a permanent resident of Belize;**
- **Be available to start your academic studies in the UK** by the start of the **UK academic year in September/October 2019;**



- By October 2019, hold a first degree of at least upper second class (2:1) honours standard, or a second class degree and a relevant postgraduate qualification (usually a Master Degree);
- Not be registered for a PhD, or an MPhil leading to a PhD, at a UK university before September/October 2019;
- Not have commenced and be currently registered for a PhD, or an MPhil leading to a PhD, in your home country or elsewhere;
- Be unable to afford to study in the UK without this scholarship.

#### How to Apply:

Candidates should apply to study at a UK university which has a part funding agreement with the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission (CSC). For a list of universities that have agreed to part-fund Commonwealth Scholarships, visit <http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/apply/uk-universities/part-funding/>

All applications must be made through your nominating agency, in the first instance, which is available at <http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/apply/national-nominating-agencies>

All nominated candidates must apply using the CSC's Electronic Application System. Information on how to use the online application system, including detailed guides, is available at <http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/apply/masters-scholarships>

All completed applications must be submitted no later than 10:00a.m. on 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2018. However, the deadline to upload all supporting documentation is 10:00a.m. on 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2019. This includes the following:

- Proof of citizenship or refugee status;
- Full transcripts detailing all your higher educational qualifications (with certified translations if not in English);
- **Two (2) references** submitted directly by the referees to the online application system (referees will be sent an email request).

The CSC will not accept supporting documentation submitted by nominating agencies or outside the online application system.

Applications will be considered according to the following selection criteria:

- Academic merit of the candidate;
- Quality of the plan of study;
- Potential impact of the work on the development of the candidate's home country.

For further details regarding the selection criteria, please visit: <http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/apply/masters-scholarships>

#### Value of Scholarship for Master Degree programme

Each Scholarship provides:-

1. 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);
2. Approved tuition fees;



3. Stipend (living allowance) at the rate of £1,084 per month, or £1,330 per month for those at universities in the London metropolitan area (rates quoted at 2018-2019 levels);
4. Warm Clothing allowance, where applicable;
5. Thesis grant towards the cost of preparing a thesis or dissertation, where applicable;
6. Study travel grant towards the cost of study-related travel within the UK or overseas;
7. Candidates who are widowed, divorced, or a single parent are provided with a child allowance of £465 per month for the first child, and £114 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 (rates quoted at 2018-2019 levels).

#### Value of Scholarship for PhD programme

Each Scholarship provides:-

1. Approved airfare from 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 the cost of journeys made before your award is confirmed);
2. Approved tuition fees;
  - Stipend (living allowance) at the rate of £1,084 per month, or £1,330 per month for those at universities in the London metropolitan area (rates quoted at 2018-2019 levels);
  - Warm Clothing allowance, where applicable;
3. Study travel grant towards the cost of study-related travel within the UK or overseas;
4. Provision towards the cost of fieldwork undertaken overseas (usually the cost of one (1) economy class return airfare to your fieldwork location), where approved;
5. Paid mid-term visit (airfare) to your home country (unless you have claimed (or intend to claim) spouse and/or child allowances during your scholarship, or have received a return airfare to your home country for fieldwork);
6. Family allowances, as follows (rates quoted at 2018-2019 levels):-
  - Spouse Allowance - If your accompanied by your spouse but no children, you are entitled to a Spouse Allowance of £233 per month for a maximum of nine (9) months, if you and your spouse are living together at the same address in the United Kingdom without children (unless your spouse is also in receipt of a scholarship; other conditions also apply);
  - Child Allowance - If you are accompanied by your spouse and children, you are entitled to a Child Allowance of £233 per month for the first child, and £114 per month for the second and third child under the age of 16, if your spouse and children are living with you at the same address in the United Kingdom. (unless your spouse is also in receipt of a scholarship; other conditions also apply);

- **Child Allowance** - If you are accompanied by your children but no spouse, you are entitled to a Child Allowance of £465 per month for the first child, and £114 per month for the second and third child under the age of 16, if your children are living with you at the same address in the United Kingdom without a spouse.

For more information, please see the current Handbook for Commonwealth Scholars and Fellows, which is available at <http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/award-holders/handbook-forms> or contact the Ministry of the Public Service, Energy and Public Utilities at telephone 822-2204/3765, Fax No. 822-2206 or website [www.publicservice.gov.bz](http://www.publicservice.gov.bz)

**Duly completed applications** should be submitted to **Ministry of the Public Service, Energy and Public Utilities, Ground Floor, Sir Edney Cain Building, Belmopan** no later than **4:00 p.m. on the Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2018.**

**Applications must include:**

- A completed application form, which can be obtained using the CSC's Electronic Application System;
- Proof of citizenship or refugee status;
- Full transcripts detailing all your higher educational qualifications (with certified translations if not in English);
- A certified copy of all higher educational degrees;
- **Two (2) references**

**Incomplete and late applications will not be considered.**

Grateful if the contents of this Circular Memorandum are brought to the attention of all officers.

  
**NYSHA L. MATUTE (MS)**  
**For CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

*c: Director, Central Information Technology Office (CITO)*