Scholarships for Women in STEM

Eligibility criteria

The following guidelines have been approved by the British Council and all participating universities in the 2024-5 Scholarships for Women in STEM.

Scholars must:

- Be or identify as a woman.
- Be a passport holder and permanent resident of one of the eligible countries listed in the table below.
- Meet the entry requirement of the UK Higher Education Institution for the course they apply for, including academic equivalents and English language.
- The candidate must have completed all components of an undergraduate degree at the time of submitting the application for the scholarship; British Council can consider final awards pending on a case-by-case basis.
- Demonstrate case for financial support / socio-economic need.*

* To assess socio-economic need at the point of scholar’s application, the British Council will provide guidelines and a standard evaluation framework that institutions will be expected to incorporate into their application process.
- Not be in receipt of financial support or funding towards their study programme in the UK from any other source and not be able to privately fund their UK studies.
- Preference should be given to candidates who have not had any international exposure prior to this scheme.
- Have not previously studied at degree level or higher in the UK or lived recently in the UK. Distance learning at a UK university or study at a UK branch campus in another country will also be considered as studying in the UK.
- Indicate their preference for course and institution in the case of applying to multiple institutions.
- Meet the English language requirement of the UK Higher Education Institution.
- Be motivated and academically able to follow and benefit from a UK postgraduate taught course.
- Be active in the field with work experience or with a proven interest in the proposed subject area.
- Be willing to demonstrate future contribution to capacity-building and socio-economic advancement of their home country through the benefits achieved after graduating from UK higher education.
- Agree to maintain contact with the British Council and act as an ambassador for the UK and engage with activities as part of a Scholarships for Women in STEM alumnus during and after their studies in the UK.
- Demonstrate a plan and a passion to engage other women and girls in STEM from their home country.
- Agree to their personal data being shared with the British Council for purposes of assessment and promotional activity, as a condition of applying for the scholarship.
- Agree to return to their country of citizenship for a minimum of two years after their scholarship award has ended.

A candidate will not be eligible for a British Council Scholarships for Women in STEM if they:
- Hold dual British citizenship.
- Are an employee, a former employee, or relative (*) of an employee of Her Majesty’s Government (including but not limited to: British Embassies/High Commissions; Department for Business and Trade (DBT), the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) and the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT); Department for International Trade; the Ministry of Defence; and the Home Office)
- Are an employee, a former employee, or relative (*) of an employee of the British Council Scholarships for Women in STEM – eligible countries.  
  
  (*): Relatives are defined as parents or stepparents, siblings or stepsiblings, children or stepchildren, spouse, civil partner, or unmarried partner (where the couple have been in a relationship akin to marriage or civil partnership for at least two years).
- Are currently in receipt of financial support or funding towards your study programme in the UK from any other source.
- Have previously studied in the UK with funding from a UK Government-funded scholarship or a UK institutional scholarship/financial bursary, as well as those who privately funded their UK studies.

Eligible countries

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<th>Americas</th>
<th>South Asia</th>
<th>East Asia</th>
<th>Wider Europe</th>
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