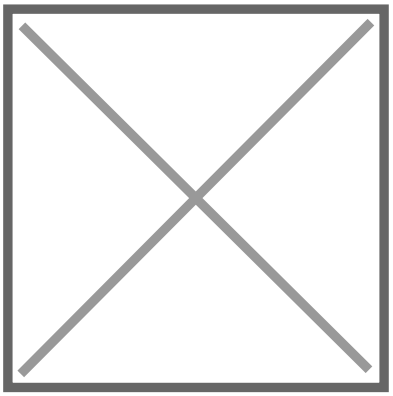

Professional Fellowship Host Organisations â?? Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the UK

Description

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The **Commonwealth Scholarship Commission (CSC)** offers Professional Fellowships for mid-career professionals from eligible Commonwealth countries. The 2026/27 programme is hosted by selected organisations across the UK, with fellowships lasting six weeks to three months. It is designed for professionals with relevant experience who want to strengthen their skills, gain practical knowledge, build international networks, and create positive impact in their home countries. The current 2027 application cycle is **closed**, while the fellowship programmes are scheduled to take place in early 2027.

Scholarship Overview

- **Host Country:** United Kingdom
- **Study Level / Opportunity Type:** Professional Fellowship
- **Funding Classification:** Funded Fellowship
- **Application Deadline:** 25 August 2026, 16:00 BST
- **Current Status:** Closed

Benefits

- **Tuition Fees:** Not provided
- **Monthly Stipend:** Â£2,218; Â£2,753 in London
- **Travel/Airfare:** Return airfare provided
- **Health Insurance:** Not provided
- **Accommodation:** Covered through living allowance
- **Visa:** Standard visa fee reimbursed
- **Settling-in Allowance:** Available
- **Books/Research:** Limited support for approved activities

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Eligibility Criteria

- **Nationality:** Citizens or refugees of eligible Commonwealth countries, or British Protected Persons.
- **Residency:** Must be permanently resident in an eligible Commonwealth country.
- **Academic Qualifications:** No specific academic qualification is required for Professional Fellowships.
- **Age Limit:** No specific age limit stated.
- **Work Experience:** At least **5 years of relevant full-time or equivalent part-time experience**.
- **Employment:** Must be employed and return to the same organisation after the fellowship.
- **English Language:** No separate English-language test requirement is stated by the CSC; applicants must meet relevant UK visa requirements.

- **Admission:** No university admission is required. Applicants apply for a specific host organisationâ??s fellowship programme.

- **Nomination Route:** Applicants apply through the CSCâ??s online application system. Some host organisations recruit candidates from established networks, so applicants should check the individual host programme requirements.

Available Fields or Programmes

The current **2026/27 Commonwealth Fellowship Programme** offers Professional Fellowships under these six confirmed development themes:

- Science and Technology for Development
- Improving Population Health, Health Systems and Capacity
- Promoting Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- Strengthening Peace, Security and Governance
- Strengthening Resilience and Response to Crises
- Access, Inclusion and Opportunity

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These are **development themes rather than fixed degree programmes**. Individual Professional Fellowship programmes are offered through selected UK host organisations.

How to Apply

1. **Choose a Professional Fellowship programme** from the CSCâ??s list of participating UK host organisations.

2. **Check the programme-specific eligibility requirements** before applying.

3. **Apply directly through the CSCâ??s online application system.**

4. **Complete and submit the application form** with the required information and supporting documents before the deadline.

5. **The relevant host organisation reviews applicants** and nominates candidates to the CSC.

6. **The CSC makes the final selection** of successful Fellows.

Application route: Direct application through the **Commonwealth Scholarship Commission (CSC)** online system. Applicants do **not** apply through an embassy or a national nominating agency.

Required Documents

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- **Academic qualifications:** Details of undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications, where applicable.
- **Employment history:** Details of relevant employment and work experience.
- **References:** At least **two references**, including one from the current employer unless self-employed.
- **Development Impact Statement:** Required as part of the application.
- **Personal Statement:** Required.
- **Voluntary Activities & Leadership:** Summary of relevant experience.
- **Passport or National ID:** Scanned copy required.

Important Dates

- **Application Opens:** 28 July 2026, 9:00 BST
- **Application Deadline:** 25 August 2026, 16:00 BST

- **Host Organisation Nomination Deadline:** Early October 2026
- **Interview Period:** Not specified by the CSC
- **Results:** Expected in November/December 2026
- **Fellowship Start:** Februaryâ??March 2027

Is this scholarship fully funded or tuition-only?

The **Commonwealth Professional Fellowship is a funded fellowship, not a tuition-only scholarship**. It provides a monthly living allowance, approved return airfare, visa fee reimbursement, and an arrival allowance. Tuition fees are not applicable because this is a professional fellowship rather than a degree programme.

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Which nationalities and study levels are eligible?

The **2026/27 Commonwealth Professional Fellowships** are open to citizens or refugees of eligible Commonwealth countries, including **Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Ghana, Kenya, Malaysia, Nigeria, South Africa**, and others listed by the CSC. The opportunity is for **mid-career professionals**, rather than a specific degree or study level, with at least **five years of relevant work experience**.

Is university admission required before the scholarship application?

No. University admission is not required because the **Commonwealth Professional Fellowship** is a professional development programme hosted by UK organisations, rather than a university degree programme. Applicants apply for a specific host organisationâ??s fellowship programme.

What is the exact deadline and timezone?

25 August 2026 at 16:00 BST (British Summer Time). Applications for the 2027 Commonwealth Professional Fellowships are now closed.

Is there an application fee?

No. The Commonwealth Professional Fellowship does not require applicants to pay an application fee.

Category

1. Scholarships

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