Commonwealth Scholarships 2019, by Distance Learning

MSc International Development (Conflict, Security and Development)

The University of Birmingham has been awarded five Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholarships by the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom (CSCUK) for students joining the online [MSc International Development (Conflict, Security and Development),](https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/distance/govsoc/international-development-conflict-security.aspx) commencing their studies in September 2019.

The Commonwealth Scholarships are administered by CSCUK, working as the UK arm of the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan (CSFP). The awards themselves are funded by the Department for International Development (DFID).  The CSFP are working towards partnerships between developed and developing countries aimed at combining academic excellence with the desire to make a real difference in some of the world’s poorest countries.

**Please note:** due to the high demand for these scholarships candidates will only be considered if they have a **strong academic record** at undergraduate level *and* **clear evidence of a commitment to the theme of the scholarship: strengthening global peace, security and governance,**demonstrated through their Future Career Plans and Home Country Benefit statements on the scholarship application form.

Eligibility

Scholarships are available to applicants who meet **all** of the following criteria:

* is a citizen of or have been granted refugee status by an [eligible Commonwealth country](http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/apply/distance-learning/#countries), or be a British Protected Person
* permanently resident in an eligible Commonwealth country. See eligible countries [here](http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/apply/distance-learning/#countries)
* hold a first degree or equivalent to at least upper second class (2:1) standard. A lower qualification and sufficient relevant experience may be considered in certain cases
* can dedicate at least 15 hours each week to their studies
* meet the University [Entry Requirements](https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/distance/govsoc/international-development-conflict-security.aspx?OpenSection=EntryRequirements) for the programme

The degree programme

The programme is two years in length, flexible, highly interactive, and well-supported. Students will find that they are part of a lively international learning community.

How to apply

Scholarship applicants must apply **both** to the University of Birmingham and to the Commonwealth.

**Applying to the University of Birmingham**

Details of how to apply to the university are [here](https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/courses/distance/govsoc/international-development-conflict-security.aspx?OpenSection=HowToApply). The deadline for submission to the University of Birmingham is **11 March 2019**.

In addition to the university’s requirements:

* Applicants’ Personal Statement should explain how they might contribute to the theme of strengthening global peace, security and governance, and how the scholarship will benefit them and their country of residence.

Offer letters will **only** be made to applications that have supplied full supporting documentation by the deadline of 11 March 2019.

Applicants **may be** invited to attend a Skype interview.

**Applying to the Commonwealth**

Full instructions for the Commonwealth’s Electronic Application System (EAS) are contained on the Scholarship Commission's website: [Apply for the Commonwealth Scholarship](http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/apply/distance-learning/)

Applications to the EAS Commonwealth must be submitted by **22 March 2019.** [**Supporting documentation**](http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/apply/distance-learning/#how)to the Commonwealth must be submitted by **12.00 (BST) 5 April 2019.** This includes an offer letter from the University of Birmingham.

Short-listed applicants

The decision as to which students are offered a scholarship will be made by CSCUK, based on the University recommendations, and successful applicants will be notified during **July 2019**.