



CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM

NO. 50 OF 2019

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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 MASTER DEGREE SCHOLARSHIPS
TENABLE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM – 2020**

DATE: 27th August, 2019

This serves to inform that nominations are invited from suitably qualified candidates wishing to pursue a **Master Degree** in the **United Kingdom** commencing in **October 2020**.

Belize is invited to nominate **two (2) candidates** for consideration by the **Commonwealth Scholarship Commission (CSC)** for one (1) year **Master Degree courses**:

Nominations at the *PhD level is not offered* in this invitation.

Programme Themes:

- These scholarships are offered under **six (6) development themes** and all candidates must apply under **one (1) 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:

Interested applicants must:

- **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 2020**;

- **By September 2020**, hold a first degree of at least upper second class (2:1) honours standard, or a second class degree (2:2) and a relevant postgraduate qualification (a Master degree).
- **Have provided all supporting documentation in the required format;**
- **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>

Each nominating body is responsible for its own selection process and may have additional eligibility criteria.

All nominated candidates must apply using the CSC's Online 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 online no later than **16:00 Greenwich Meridian Time (GMT) on 30th October, 2019**. However, the deadline to upload all supporting documentation is **16:00 Greenwich Meridian Time (GMT) on 20th November, 2019**. This includes the following:

- Proof of citizenship or refugee status;
- Full transcripts detailing **all** your higher educational qualifications, including **to-date transcripts** for any qualification which you are currently pursuing (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).

It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the referees are able to complete the references by the deadline and that they receive the reference requests.

Supporting documentation must be uploaded to the online application system as files which are no more than 5MB in size and must be in one of the following formats: PDF, .doc, .docx, .odt, .jpg, .jpeg. Files submitted in any other format (including Zip files and PDF Portfolios) will NOT be accepted.

Awards offered by the CSC are subject to the endorsement of the nomination body. Nominations from other organization or applications directly from individuals will not be acknowledged.

Selection Process:

Each year, the **Commonwealth Scholarship Commission (CSC)** invites each nominating body to submit a specific number of nominations. **The deadline for nominating bodies to submit nominations to the CSC is 18th December, 2019.**

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's program

Each Scholarship provides:-

- 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 dependents, nor the cost of journeys made before your award is confirmed);
- Approved tuition fees;
- Stipend (living allowance) at the rate of £1,110 per month, or £1,362 per month for those at universities in the London metropolitan area (rates quoted at 2019-2020 levels);
- Warm Clothing allowance, where applicable;
- Thesis grant towards the cost of preparing a thesis or dissertation, where applicable;
- Study travel grant towards the cost of study-related travel within the UK or overseas;
- If you are widowed, divorced, or a single parent, child allowance of £476 per month will be paid for the first child, £117 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 2019-2020 levels)

The CSC's family allowances are only intended for use as a contribution towards the cost of maintain your family in the UK. The true costs are likely to be considerably higher. You must be able to supplement these allowances in order to support any family members who come to the UK with you.

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

Duly completed applications should be submitted to the Ministry of the Public Service, Energy and Public Utilities, Ground Floor, Sir Edney Cain Building, Belmopan no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Wednesday, 30th October, 2019.

Applications must also include:

- A completed application form, which can be obtained using the CSC's Online 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.

Kindly bring the contents of this Circular Memorandum to the attention of all officers.


NYSHA L. MATUTE (MS)
For CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

c: Director, Central Information Technology Office (CITO)



