

King's-China Scholarship Council PhD Scholarship programme (K-CSC) 2021-22

King's College London and the China Scholarship Council (CSC) hold an agreement to jointly fund PhD students to pursue research degrees at King's College London.

As part of the agreement, successful students will receive a scholarship that covers the tuition fee, an annual living allowance that includes overseas student health cover, a return airfare to London and visa application fees.

Up to 100 K-CSC scholarship awards will be available for the 2021-22 competition.

Please be aware that students funded through this scheme must abide by any additional terms and conditions set by the CSC. Scholars will be required to enter into a legally binding agreement with the CSC before they are able to take up the scholarship. If there are any significant developments that could affect/hamper a scholar's expected completion of the PhD, scholars are advised to get in touch with the Education Section in the Chinese Embassy.

Key Dates

Date	Applicant Actions
From September 2020	Practice your English language skills.
	Review the university's online research portal (https://kclpure.kcl.ac.uk/portal/) and website to find a suitable supervisor.
	Contact potential supervisors about your area of research interests.
	Discuss your research ideas with your potential supervisors (some disciplines may require a research proposal) and determine the correct doctoral programme to apply for.
6 Dec 2020 (23:59 GMT)	Deadline for you to apply to King's College London for the scholarship via the online admissions system. Applications must include the name of your proposed supervisor and include a specific funding code: 2122-KCSC (see 'Application Process' section for details).
4 Jan 2021 (09:00 GMT)	Deadline for you to submit all required supporting documentation via your online admissions application, such as proof of English language proficiency, references, official transcripts and certificates, including professional/university-made translations, and if applicable: personal statement/writing sample/research proposals (see 'Application Process' section for details).
10-31 Mar 2021 (TBC by CSC)	The CSC online application opens. The application guidance will be published on the CSC official website: http://apply.csc.edu.cn/csc/main/person/login/index.jsf .

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible, you **MUST**:

- Be citizens and permanent residents of the People's Republic of China;
- Be due to commence a full-time MPhil/PhD research degree programme at King's College London in the 2021/22 academic year, i.e. from 1 October 2021, and by no later than 31 March 2022;
- Satisfy criteria set out by the CSC, e.g. relating to age, education, and employment – please visit their website for information (<http://www.csc.edu.cn>);
- Agree to return to China upon completion of your studies/research;
- Have applied to King's College London for the scholarship (as instructed in the 'Application Process' section below) by the deadline of **6 Dec 2020, 23:59 GMT**;
- By the deadline of 4 Jan 2021, 09:00 GMT, you must:
 - have submitted all the required documentation to support your admissions application;
 - have met the English language requirements for your chosen research programme;
 - ensure that your referees have submitted their reference(s) to support your admissions application
- Also, follow the separate local application procedure within China and submit the required documentation to the CSC by its stated deadlines (see <http://www.csc.edu.cn> for further details).

Please note that:

- Students who have already commenced their doctoral degree at King's are not eligible
- These scholarships cannot be held on a part-time basis
- Distance learning programmes are not eligible
- Professional doctorate degrees (such as the MD(Res) and DClinPsy) are not eligible
- Joint PhD programmes are not eligible
- Students who fail to apply to both King's and the CSC, as appropriate, will not be considered
- These scholarships cannot commence prior to October 2021

Value of Award

Successful students have their full international tuition fees covered by the university and receive, from the CSC, an annual living allowance (currently set at a rate of £1200-1350 per month) plus overseas student health cover, a return airfare to London and visa application fees. The Scholarships are valid for up to 4 years.

Bench fees are **NOT** covered by this scholarship.

For guidance on budgeting, please visit our [Money Advice webpages](#).

Application Process

Application Start: October 2020

Application Deadline: 6 Dec 2020

Applications for the K-CSC are accepted until **23:59 GMT on 6 Dec 2020**.

Please follow the instructions below.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. By the deadline of 23:59 GMT on 6 Dec 2020, you MUST:

- Apply to King's College London for a full-time MPhil/PhD degree programme with a 2021-22 start date (i.e. from 1 October 2021) using the King's online admissions application (<https://apply.kcl.ac.uk/>).*
- Have identified a King's supervisor that you would like to study under and state the proposed supervisor's name in your admissions application. Normally, your programme will sit within the same department as your proposed supervisor. If you are unsure what programme to apply for, please check this with your proposed supervisor and/or department.
- On the funding part of your KCL online Admissions Application Form, ensure you tick the box at item 5 (Award Scheme Code or Name) and enter the code: **2122-KCSC** (please copy and paste the code exactly). Students who fail to input this exact code (the bit in red) as instructed will not be picked up when we extract details from the admissions system, so it is vital that you do this correctly!

2. By the deadline of 09:00 GMT on 4 Jan 2021, you MUST:

ensure that you have submitted all the required supporting documentation as part of your online Admissions application, to include:

- Official degree transcripts and certificates, including professional/university-made translations. Please note that if your degree is from a Chinese institution, you must also provide your graduation certificate;
- Proof of English Proficiency;
- References: Some programmes will require two references, and some will only require one reference. Your online admissions application will indicate the correct number of references needed for your programme, and the admissions system will automatically submit a request to your given referee(s) once you have submitted your admissions application. Please note that it is your responsibility to ensure that your referee(s) submit the reference(s) on time;
- If applicable, you may also be required to provide a personal statement, writing sample and/or research proposal. Requirements vary between programmes so please refer to the online prospectus and admissions application for guidance about all necessary documentation.

3. Submit a separate application to the CSC by its stated deadline and follow the local application procedures in China. Please note that the local CSC application process is separate to the process run by King's College London, and their deadlines may differ.

*Students who have already applied for admissions but deferred entry to 2021/22, must update their online admissions application for 2021/22 entry and include the code **2122-KCSC**. The same deadline of 6 Dec 2020 at 23:59 GMT, applies.

PLEASE BE AWARE that material from your admissions application will be extracted and used as part of the assessment/selection process. As part of the standard admissions process, you may be contacted about missing material/documents, however this is not guaranteed and it is your responsibility to ensure that all the relevant information and supporting materials are provided in time.

Applicants who fail to apply as instructed will not be eligible for consideration.

Selection Process

Once the application deadline has passed, the Admissions Office and the Centre for Doctoral Studies (CDS) Office will gather and record the details of all the applications received that state 2122-KCSC as the Award Scheme Code.

The Admissions Office and the CDS Office will check the eligibility of all applicants, and all applications that are deemed eligible will be circulated to faculties for assessment.

The assessment of applications will be based on:

- i) Evidence and strength of academic qualifications gained (minimum entry qualification is an undergraduate 2:1 and/or a higher degree), and where applicable, professional qualifications and/or relevant experience
- ii) Strength of the research project
- iii) Match of the applicant's interests with his/her potential supervisor

Academic faculties will put forward their ranked shortlist of candidates to the CDS office by 1 March 2021. The CDS office will consider the nominations across all academic faculties and decide on the university's final list of nominees. Only those candidates who have met the English entry requirements for their programme and obtained an admissions offer will be eligible for nomination to the CSC.

As soon as the CDS office has finalised the university's list of nominees, we will notify applicants of their nomination status.

PLEASE NOTE: Candidates who are successfully chosen for nomination will be issued a 'Confirmation of Nomination' letter by the CDS office, which will confirm that King's College London agrees to waive the tuition fees for a scholar if they are eventually successful with the K-CSC scholarship. Please note that this letter is separate to the standard admissions offer letter provided by the admissions office for the degree programme.

The CDS office will also submit the university's final list of nominees to the CSC by their nomination deadline of **4 Mar 2021 (To be confirmed by the CSC)**.

The CSC will conduct a separate selection process based on the applications it receives directly within China, and they will evaluate candidates according to CSC requirements and priorities. The CSC will make the final overall decision about the awards and they will normally confirm their list of successful scholarship recipients with the CDS office towards the end of May/early June.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

- Students can only be successful with a K-CSC scholarship if they have been chosen/supported by BOTH the King's College London Centre for Doctoral Studies and the China Scholarship Council
- For those students who make it on the King's College London nominations list, their details (to include: full name, date of birth, gender, programme details, start date and end date) will be shared with the CSC as part of the nomination process for identification purposes

Announcement of Results

If your K-CSC application is deemed ineligible, i.e. due to the late or incomplete submission of information/documents, your admissions application will automatically be rejected via the online admissions portal.

If you are unsuccessful with the K-CSC award, your admissions application will also automatically be rejected via the online admissions portal. This is because the university will assume that you no longer wish to pursue your place at King's any further without K-CSC funding. However, if you decide that you do want to continue with your MPhil/PhD degree at King's, i.e. because of alternative funding or self-funding (where possible), you can get in contact with the admissions office to request that your admissions application be reinstated.

Applicants who make it on to the university's final nominations list will be informed via email as soon as possible, which is likely to be around early/mid-March.

Final decisions lie with the CSC and will normally be confirmed towards the end of May/early June. As soon as the CDS office is aware of the final outcome, they will contact the successful candidates. Unsuccessful candidates will also be informed at this point.

Candidates who are successfully offered a K-CSC award will be asked to provide a decision on acceptance/decline by a given deadline. If a successful candidate fails to respond by the given deadline or declines the offer, their award offer will automatically be withdrawn.

King's-China Scholarship Council PhD Scholarship programme (K-CSC) 2021-22 CONDITIONS & REGULATIONS OF FUNDING

- K-CSC awards are offered on the condition that the candidate has met/will meet all the conditions required for acceptance by his/her chosen Faculty of study.
- Each K-CSC award will be made on the assumption that there are adequate resources for the research project, and that the candidate's proposed course of study is acceptable to the department/division and Faculty in which they wish to study.
- The 2021-22 K-CSC awards are only valid to commence between 1 October 2021 and 31 March 2022; deferral of an award to a later academic session is not permitted.
- K-CSC awards granted for the 2021/22 academic session cannot be used retrospectively for whole or part of any earlier session.
- K-CSC awards cannot be transferred to another institution.
- K-CSC scholars must be registered as a full-time student for the length of their research degree.
- K-CSC scholars must comply with university regulations to submit their thesis within the required time frame.
- If a K-CSC scholar wishes to make a change to: a) the research project, b) the supervisor, or c) department/division specified on their application form, he/she must first seek approval from the Centre for Doctoral Studies office. The award-holder would need to outline the changes proposed and provide confirmation of i) the department/supervisor's support of such changes, and ii) the tuition fees (if they are different from the amount attached to the original research project). Failure to inform the Centre for Doctoral Studies office of such a change may impact on the continuation of an award.
- If a K-CSC scholar needs to take time out from their studies due to illness, accident, fieldwork or due to any other unforeseen circumstances, they must report this as soon as possible to the relevant Faculty Office/Record Centre to request an interruption of studies. The K-CSC scholar must also inform the Centre for Doctoral Studies office and the China Scholarship Council (via the Chinese Embassy) to request a temporary suspension of funding. If the Centre for Doctoral Studies office or China Scholarship Council are not informed and continues to pay for a student who is absent from their studies, a refund may be sought for any overpayment, and it may affect the continuation of the scholarship.
- If a K-CSC scholar is: a) financially supported by another organisation/sponsor; Or, b) secures additional funding later on during the course of their research degree, and the Centre for Doctoral Studies considers the additional funds/awards to be sufficient to cover maintenance and/or the programme tuition fees, the scholar may not be permitted to hold these funds/awards concurrently. The rule to remember is that if two funds/awards overlap in their level of support, e.g., both provide funds to cover full tuition fees, they cannot be held concurrently.
- K-CSC scholars who receive funding from alternative sources are required to disclose details of those funds to the Centre for Doctoral Studies office so that an assessment can be made regarding any potential overlap of funding.
- Applicants must be aware of all the additional financial commitments involved when attending their chosen course of study at King's. K-CSC awards are granted on the understanding that the K-CSC scholar will take responsibility for any additional expenses incurred for the duration of study.

- A K-CSC award can be terminated at any time under the following circumstances:
 - If an unsatisfactory progress report on the K-CSC scholar is received from his/her supervisor/department
 - If a K-CSC scholar ceases to be a full-time research student
 - If a K-CSC scholar is no longer required to pay fees at the full international research student rate
 - If a K-CSC scholar receives other overlapping funding

- Students who receive a China Scholarship Council funded award will also need to abide by any terms and conditions set out by the China Scholarship Council.