

# HEC Scholarship Details-Grad and Post-Grad funding opportunities Abroad!

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The Human Resource Development (HRD) Division of the Higher Education Commission (HEC) constitutes a foundation of Pakistan's higher education landscape by contributing to the development of a highly skilled and trained manpower. Through the provision of diverse scholarship opportunities both Indigenous and Overseas at undergraduate, graduate, and post-doctoral levels, the Division ensures alignment with national development priorities while simultaneously fostering competencies required to engage with the demands of a rapidly evolving, knowledge-based global economy. At present, a wide array of indigenous and international scholarships is being implemented under the HRD Division:

- *Learning Opportunities Abroad*
- *HEC-Foreign Funded Scholarships*
- *HEC-Local/Indigenous Scholarships*

#### *Strategic Initiatives of Government of Pakistan through HEC*

*All HRD scholarships are announced every year through HEC website with eligibility criteria & deadline to apply online.*

*Students are encouraged to visit HEC website especially scholarships regularly (once in a week) to avail opportunities.*

## **Undergraduate Studies Admission Test (USAT) & HEC Aptitude Test (HAT)**

The USAT is a compulsory test for those applying to undergraduate programs, while the HAT is required for admissions in MS/MPhil and PhD programs, as well as for different higher education scholarships.

Take the first step towards the global scholarships to register for HAT & USAT, advertised by HEC regularly through website.

\*All applicants applying for scholarships must provide a valid HAT/USAT score with scholarship application.

- For HAT (MS, MPhil, PhD) & USAT registration: <https://etc.hec.gov.pk/#/webpage>
  - Students can visit the ETC test calendar at  
<https://www.hec.gov.pk/english/services/students/etc/Pages/Test-Calendar.aspx>



Test Samples, Syllabus, and Content Weightages can be seen at:

<https://www.hec.gov.pk/english/services/students/etc/Pages/default.aspx>

<b>SN</b>	<b>Title of Scholarship</b>
1	<i>Commonwealth Scholarships for Masters &amp; PhD</i>
2	<i>Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship Program</i>
3	<i>Erasmus Mundus Scholarship (Funded by European Union)</i>
4	<i>Chinese Government Scholarship Program</i>
5	<i>Moroccan Government Scholarships</i>
6	<i>Azerbaijan Government Scholarships Heydar Aliyev – International Educational Grant Program</i>
7	<i>Cuban Government Scholarship</i>
8	<i>Scholarship Opportunity of the University Politehnica Bucharest</i>
9	<i>Post-Graduate Scholarship Program by Chulabhorn Graduate Institute</i>

## Commonwealth Scholarships for Masters & PhD

The Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the UK (CSC) provides the UK government's Commonwealth scholarship scheme led by international development objectives.

- HEC endorses equal opportunity; females are encouraged to apply. Gender balance shall be followed in nominations as per Commonwealth requirement.
- HEC has only facilitation role in nomination process, as final selection will be made by the donor country.

***26 nominations are available for Master's, and 30 nominations are available for General PhD.***

**The deadline for HEC scholarship portal is October 14, 2025, at 4:00 PM (Pakistan Standard Time).**

### How to apply online at HEC & CSC (Commonwealth Portal)?

Step- 1 (Commonwealth Online Application)

Step - 2 (HEC Online application)

- Applicants are required to obtain minimum 60% marks in Higher Education Aptitude Test (HAT) for consideration towards nomination.
- To see the eligibility criteria, application procedure, and FAQs, please visit the following link:

<https://www.hec.gov.pk/english/scholarshipsgrants/lao/cwgs/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Eligibility Criteria**

- Be a Pakistani/AJ&K national and permanent resident of Pakistan /AJ&K. Dual nationals are not eligible.
- For Master scholarship, an applicant must hold a first division in 16 years Bachelors/master's degree in the relevant field of study.
- For PhD scholarship, an applicant must hold a first division in 17/18 years Masters/MS/MPhil degree in the relevant field of study.

- Merit shall be strictly based on HAT score. (HEC reserves the right to modify the merit criteria).
- For CSC eligibility criteria in addition to HEC, please visit the CSC website.
- **Q: What is age limit for Masters/PhD?**
- There is no age limit.
- **Q: Is there any fee to apply for Commonwealth Scholarship?**
- No, there isn't any application fee for Commonwealth Scholarship. However, the applicant may be required to pay for ETC-HAT test.
- **Q: Is there any Important Information related to scholarship?**
- HEC has only facilitation role in nomination process, as final selection will be made by the donor country. Further, HEC will have no financial liability regarding this scholarship.

## Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship Program

The Higher Education Commission (HEC) invites applications from Pakistani/AJ&K nationals for the Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship Programme, launched by the Hungarian Government for Bachelor's, One-Tier Master's, Master's and PhD studies.

- Applicants are required to submit online applications via HEC scholarships portal.
- After successful departure to Hungary, the scholars will be eligible for the ticket reimbursement. HEC will reimburse the ticket amount for both departure and arrival (after completion of studies).

***All applicants are required to provide HAT or USAT test scores. Applicant must have obtained a minimum score of 50% out of total marks in HAT or USAT test. The test validity for HAT is 02 years and USAT is 01 year.***

**Usually advertise around November each year.**

### **Scholarship Types:**

- Bachelor's Degree
- One-Tier Master's Degree



- **Master's Degree**
- **PhD Degree**

To see the eligibility criteria, financial coverage, available programs, and FAQs, please visit the following link:

<https://www.hec.gov.pk/english/scholarshipsgrants/lao/SHSP/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Eligibility Criteria**

- Applicants enrolled in the last year of their existing study programs/degrees and result awaiting candidates are allowed to apply.
- Some Hungarian universities may require IELTS/TOEFL scores, whereas most of the institutions require English proficiency certificate for the admissions (attained from your respected college or universities).
- There is no upper age limit.
- It is the sole responsibility of students applying for any professional degree to confirm its accreditation from the respective Councils.
- **Financial Coverage:**
- Tuition fees are covered by Tempus Public Foundation. Accommodation and health funding provisions are only a contribution to the living expenses of the scholarship holders. It means that it does not fully cover all the costs of living, and the students need to add their own financial resources to cover all living expenses in Hungary.
- **Candidates are selected by keeping in view the following factors:**
- i. Academic Background
- ii. Written test score-at least 50%
- iii. Approved Federal Government quota
- iv. Test/Interview by Hungarian Authorities

## Chinese Government Scholarship Program

With a view to enhance educational cooperation between China and Pakistan, the Chinese Scholarship Council, Government of China is offering around 75 scholarships to Pakistani students/scholars to study and conduct research in Chinese Universities.

- Chinese Government Scholarship Program sponsor international students, teachers, and scholars to undertake degree studies (**Undergraduate, Masters & PhD**) including preparatory Chinese language studies for one year in some degree programs.
- Apply online at HEC portal, after registering and filling your profile, please select "Learning Opportunities Abroad".
- Submit online application at CGSP web portal at <http://www.campuschina.org/>

***Applicants must submit a valid score of USAT/HAT on HEC portal during application submission for consideration.***

**Usually advertise around December each year.**

To see the eligibility criteria, program offered, financial coverage, and application procedure, please visit the following link:

<https://www.hec.gov.pk/english/scholarshipsgrants/lao/CGSP/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Eligibility Criteria**

- Applicants with incomplete degrees on closing date of application are not allowed to apply.
- Applicants for Undergraduate/Bachelors program must have intermediate/A-level/FA-FSC (12 years) of education and be under the age of 25 at the time of application.
- Applicants for Masters program must have a Bachelors degree (16 years) and be under the age of 35 at the time of application.
- Applicants for PhD/Doctoral program must have a Masters degree MS/MPhil and be under the age of 40 years at the time of application.

- Meet the application requirement as prescribed on China Scholarship Council website & portal.
- Meet the admission requirements of the applied universities in terms of academic eligibility, language proficiency and other relevant criteria.
- **Financial Coverage:**
- **Tuition Funds:** Tuition funds will be covered by host university that include, education, administration costs, health insurance and expenditures to support student activities.
- **Accommodation:** Free university dormitory or accommodation subsidy to each awardee.
- **Stipend:** As per China Govt. Scholarship policy.
- **Travel Expenditure:** Travel expenditure would be borne by the scholarship winners themselves. HEC will have no financial liability in any case.

## Moroccan Government Scholarships

The Kingdom of Morocco offers (around 10) scholarships slots to the Pakistani students for admission in the Moroccan Public Institutions of Higher, Technical and Professional Education.

**The Moroccan Government shall only consider applications in following programs for Undergraduate, Master, and PhD.**

- Medical Studies
- Paramedical Science
- Commercial and Management Science
- Engineering and Technological Science
- Agronomic and Veterinary Science and Architecture
  - ❑ A minimum of 12 years of education (FSC/A-level) Degree for Undergraduate program, with maximum age of 23 years.



- A minimum of 16 years of education in relevant fields of study for Master's program.
- A minimum of 18 years of education in the relevant field of study for admission in PhD program in respective Moroccan University.

***All applicants are required to provide the valid HAT or USAT test score.***

To see the eligibility criteria, scholarship coverage, and application procedure, please visit the following link:

<https://www.hec.gov.pk/english/scholarshipsgrants/lao/AMCI/Pages/default.aspx>

## Azerbaijan Government Scholarships Heydar Aliyev – International Educational Grant Program

The Government Republic of Azerbaijan provides few scholarship slots for Pakistan/AJ&K national in bachelor, master and doctoral under **“Heydar Aliyev – International Educational Grant Program.”**

To be eligible for the scholarship; the applicant must meet the following basic criteria:

### **Age Requirements:**

- **Undergraduate** – Applicant must be below 35 years on or before the given deadline.
- **Graduate** – Applicant must be below 40 years on or before the given deadline.
- **Doctoral Programs** - Applicant must be below 45 years on or before the given deadline.

### **The Government of Azerbaijan will provide following:**

- Tuition fee
- International flight (Once a year, economy class)
- Monthly stipend for meals, accommodation and utilities costs (800 AZN)
- Medical insurance (200 AZN)
- Visa and registration costs



**All applicants are required to provide the valid USAT/HAT test score.**

**Nomination criteria is based on USAT/HAT test score. Final selection will be based on USAT/HAT test score only after fulfillment of above basic eligibility criteria.**

To see the eligibility criteria, scholarship coverage, and application procedure, please visit the following link:

<https://www.hec.gov.pk/english/scholarshipsgrants/lao/AZS/Pages/default.aspx>

## Cuban Government Scholarship

The Government of Cuba offers 03 undergraduate scholarships in field of Medicine for Pakistani nationals.

### **BASIC ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:**

- At least 70% or above marks in F.Sc. /A level (Pre-Medical) & 60% or above marks in SSC/Matric (O level).
- Result awaiting candidates are not eligible to apply.
- All Pakistani/AJK nationals, aged between 18-25 years as on closing dates of application are eligible to apply.
- Passed MDCAT with at least 50% marks as per PMDC for seeking admission abroad.

### **The Government of Cuba will provide following:**

- a. Tuition fee and access to books.
- b. Hostel accommodation & toiletries
- c. Food (as per rules of Cuban Government)
- d. Contribution to living expenses in form of Stipend (limited amount is provided by Cuban government in form of Cuban Pesos)

*The HEC will provide return ticket (once) during studies for joining university at Cuba and after concluding studies and returning to Pakistan.*



To see the eligibility criteria, funding details, and application procedure, please visit the following link:

<https://www.hec.gov.pk/english/scholarshipsgrants/lao/CGS/Pages/default.aspx>

## Scholarship Opportunity of the University Politehnica Bucharest

The Higher Education Commission (HEC) invites applications from Pakistani/AJ&K nationals for the scholarship offer of the University of Politehnica, launched by the Romanian Government for Master's and PhD studies in the fields of Engineering and Information Technology.

- Applicants with incomplete degrees on closing date of application are not allowed to apply.
- Applicants for Masters program must have a Bachelors degree (16 years) and be under the age of 35 at the time of application.
- Applicants for PhD/Doctoral program must have a Masters degree MS/MPhil (17/18 years) and be under the age of 40 years at the time of application.
- All applicants are required to provide the valid HAT test score. HEC reserves the right to change or modify the nomination criteria.

Following programs of Master's studies are offered by the University of POLITEHNICA Bucharest, Romania.

*Chemical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Energy Engineering, Electronic Engineering, Telecommunication and Information Technology, Aerospace Engineering, Transportation Engineering, Computer & Information Technology, System Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Applied Engineering Science, Engineering and Management.*

To see the eligibility criteria, funding details, and application procedure, please visit the following link:

<https://www.hec.gov.pk/english/scholarshipsgrants/lao/upb/Pages/default.aspx>

## Erasmus Mundus Scholarship (Funded by European Union)

Higher Education Commission (HEC), Pakistan has played a vital role in facilitating the Erasmus+ Programme since it began operations in Pakistan in 2014, with HEC's support formally offered in 2016.

**Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters** are prestigious international masters, jointly designed and delivered by a group of higher education institutions.

- They involve at least 3 institutions from at least 3 different countries, and multiple associated partners from the academic and non-academic world.
- Scholarships cover your participation costs and contribute to travel, visa, and a living allowance.

### **Type of degree awarded**

- *a joint degree (i.e., one single degree certificate issued on behalf of at least two higher education institutions)*
- *multiple degrees (i.e., at least two-degree certificates issued by two higher education institutions of the consortium)*

To see the details, please visit the following link:

<https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/opportunities/opportunities-for-individuals/students/erasmus-mundus-joint-masters>

## HEC-FOREIGN FUNDED SCHOLARSHIPS

SN	<i>Title of Scholarship</i>
1	US-PAKISTAN Knowledge Corridor PhD Scholarship Programme PhD
2	Post-Doctoral Fellowships Programme (Phase III)
3	Fulbright Scholarship Support Program HEC-USEFP (Phase III)
4	Overseas Scholarships for PhD in Selected Fields (Phase III )
5	International Research Support Initiative Program (IRSIP) for PhD Scholars
6	Faculty Development Program for Pakistani Universities

### US-PAKISTAN Knowledge Corridor PhD Scholarship Program

The United States and Pakistan established an Education, Science and Technology Working Group (ESTWG) to establish US-Pakistan Knowledge Corridor.



## Scholarship Categories:

### Category I – Scholarship (Top 50 QS World Ranked US Universities)

- Secured admission in top 50 QS World Ranked US University.
- Valid GRE – General Score (Minimum 300 in total) OR HAT Score (Minimum 60% Score)

### Category II -Scholarship (Top 300 QS World Ranked US Universities)

- Secured admission in top 300 QS World Ranked US University.
- Valid GRE – General Score (Minimum 300 in total) OR HAT Score (Minimum 60% Score).

#### **What is the maximum age limit?**

I. 40 Years in case of **regular Government Employees**/ regular Faculty members of Public Sector

Universities & Government Colleges/ regular Researchers of approved R & D Organizations

II. 35 Years in all other cases

#### **The last date for application submission, mentioned in the advertisement:**

**20th July 2025 for Fall 2025 session, 15th November 2025 for Spring/Summer 2026 session, 30th April 2026 for Fall 2026 session.**

To see the eligibility criteria, priority subject areas, general & specific instructions and application procedure, please visit the following link:

<https://www.hec.gov.pk/english/scholarshipsgrants/US-Pakcorridor/Pages/default.aspx>

#### **General Eligibility Criteria**

- Pakistani/AJK nationals
- Minimum 4 years bachelor's degree (B.S/B.Sc./B.E/16 years formal education)
- No 2nd or 3rd Division in entire academic career is acceptable for both Category – I & II.
- Maximum age on the closing date shall not exceed:

- 40 Years in case of regular Government Employees/regular Faculty members of Public Sector Universities & Government Colleges/regular Researchers of approved R & D Organizations
  - 35 Years in all other cases
  - Must not be availing any other Scholarship.
  - Those having PhD Degree are not eligible.
- **Financial Coverage**
- **Category I – Scholarship (QS 1- 50)**
- Tuition Cost                    Fully Funded
  - Annual Stipend                USD 19,200/-
  - Annual Health Insurance    USD 2,000/- (or actual, whichever is lower)
  - Return Airfare                PKR 250,000/-
- **Category – II Scholarship (QS 51-300)**
- Annual Tuition Cost        Up to USD 12,000/-
  - Annual Stipend                USD 19,200/-
  - Annual Health Insurance    USD 2,000/- (or actual, whichever is lower)
  - Return Airfare                PKR 250,000/-

### Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program (Phase III)

The project offers 1000 fellowships over a span of 5 years. These fellowships are offered on open merit at the national level.

- Hold Ph.D. degree from HEC recognized local or international university (in possession of HEC attested Ph.D. degree or HEC Equivalence Certificate for foreign Ph.D.).

- Be a regular employee of public/private sector HEC recognized university/degree awarding institution or public sector R&D organization (recognized by Pakistan Council of Science & Technology).

***Not be more than 45 years of age on the date mentioned in the advertisement.***

- Selected scholars will have to ensure that entire research is carried out abroad. They must be physically present in the same University/department for which approval is granted.
- The minimum duration for stay abroad is nine months. The selected scholar cannot come back to Pakistan during fellowship period except with prior permission from HEC.
- HEC will sponsor Postdoc for a period of 9 months. However, based on compelling genuine reasons duly supported by Host supervisor, the fellowship can be extended for another 3 months without funding.

**The last date for application submission is 30<sup>th</sup> October 2025.**

To see the eligibility criteria, TORs, financial support, and application procedure, please visit the following link:

<https://www.hec.gov.pk/english/scholarshipsgrants/postdoc/Pages/default.aspx>

## Fulbright Scholarship Support Program HEC-USEFP

The Fulbright Master's and PhD Program funds graduate study in the United States. Funded by the United States Department of State, these grants cover tuition, required textbooks, airfare, a living stipend, and health insurance. USEFP also assists with the visa process.

**For the Master's degree program**, eligible candidates will have either a four-year Bachelor's degree or a Bachelor's and Master's combination totaling 16 years of formal education from an accredited university.

*Recent graduates are strongly encouraged to apply, except for MBA and Public Policy/Administration applicants, who require 2 years of work experience.*



**For the PhD degree program**, eligible applicants will have a Master's, M.Phil. or comparable degree (a minimum of 18 years of formal education) from an accredited university.

*The Graduate Record Examination (GRE General) is required for all applicants. Under the new scoring system, a minimum score of 145 is required on each section of the GRE examination, with a higher score on the section most applicable to your field of study.*

*The selected candidates will be required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).*

*Pakistani citizens with strong academic histories, residing (throughout the process) in Pakistan and committed to returning and serving Pakistan are welcome to apply.*

*Applications are accepted each year in early December and the deadline to submit application is around early March.*

*To see the details, please visit the following link:*

<https://usefp.org/scholarships/fulbright-degree.cfm>

## International Research Support Initiative Program (IRSIP) for PhD Scholars

Higher Education Commission of Pakistan is offering a six-month research fellowship abroad to those students who are enrolled in full time PhD programs in Pakistan.

- Scholar is eligible to apply after 18 months of enrollment and maximum up to 3 years in PhD program.
- Passed the local GAT subject test OR University Admission Test at the time of registration/enrollment in PhD Studies/Program.

*Those Scholars who are already availing any other HEC scholarship are also eligible to apply provided they submit NOC from their concerned HEC dealing officer.*

***The last date to submit applications for the 58th batch is September 30, 2025.***

**The Fellowship package of IRSIP is as under:**

- Travel allowance



- Economy class return airfare is provided up to USD 1300/- for once. IRSIP-HEC will arrange the tickets.

- **Living Allowance**

- **Bench Fee**

- Two or more applicants supervised by the same local supervisor must have different foreign supervisors or different universities.

To see the eligibility criteria, terms & conditions, and application procedure, please visit the following link:

<https://www.hec.gov.pk/english/scholarshipsgrants/IRSIP/Pages/default.aspx>