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(FORUM 3)

Scholarships in China: Chinese Government Scholarship

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Background

There are various scholarship offers available in china. A few among these scholarships are: **Chinese Government Scholarship**, **Presidential Scholarship**, **Provincial Scholarship**, **University Scholarship**, **Organisational Scholarship**—with the main difference among the Chinese scholarships being pronounced in the benefits attached.

Fully funded scholarships, most times, will only cover for tuition, accommodation, living allowance (this varies a lot; some can get up to 3000RMB/month or more, while others can get as low as 1000RMB/month. Ultimately, it depends on which of the scholarship offer you get), health insurance. Note that flight Ticket is not always covered; there are exceptional cases though, but only applies to Asian countries.

The University scholarships are almost the easiest to get, and they could be fully or partly funded—partial scholarships will mostly cover tuition and health insurance; you will have to secure accommodation and living expenses by other means.

Basic Requirements for Scholarship

The following documents are normally required: International passport, Degree Certificate, MOI/TOEFL, Recommendation Letter, CV, SOP/LOI/LOM, Transcript and any other document which may scale up your chances.

Scholarship Application

Get the **link** to the particular scholarship online, and **create** an account. **Confirm** the account via e-mail, Fill all required information correctly and **Submit** your application. Scholarship offers last from November to May (different offers with their respective deadlines).

The following **tips** will be crucial to your application:

- ❖ Before applying, gather information about the school, the faculty, the department, the lecturers (at least find the contact of two or more lecturers in your research field. This can be sufficiently accomplished through a search engine.
- ❖ Use the information of the research field you got from the school website to develop your motivational letter/SOP.
- ❖ When writing your motivational letter, dwell more on your strengths—things like: academic excellence/ performance, research skills, conferences attended, paper published (here you can emphasize on your undergraduate project, stating the topic and what was carried out. Don't forget to mention that it has not been published i.e. if you don't have a publication), ability to work with team under little or no supervision, awards received (either academic or of good conducts) leadership ability, etc. Note that this part is a major determinant.
- ❖ In the course of seeking a supervisor. Consider using/creating a wechat or QQ account—lack of response to e-mails on the part of a potential supervisor is usually due to the use of platforms other than the aforementioned.
- ❖ when you send an e- mail to a supervisor, or to other parties, perhaps in a bid to make enquiries; construct your sentences properly in English language, then use google translator to translate it to chinese (simplified). Copy the translated version and send it. You may send both the Chinese and English version, but give the Chinese version more priority.
- ❖ Do not use a mobile phone while applying—a lot of people miss out because of this.

As for Chinese Government Scholarship, you will apply to your school of choice as well as for the Chinese Government Scholarship, that is, separate applications. Same or different approach might apply to other offers—more information on this is best gotten on the internet.

Generic Questions and Answers

Q. Does the scholarship allow for one to work/stay after studies?

A. In some cities you may be permitted to work part-time, but most cities do not allow this.

Q. Between the wechat and QQ, which one is more suitable for use?

A. Use QQ for a start. QQ can work like your normal yahoo and gmail.

Q. I will be applying to different schools; must my choice of programme be the same for all schools?

A. No, with strong motivational letters which are the main determinants, you can get multiple offers.

Q. Is it okay to use the same study plan for two different universities?

A. Not appropriate! Uniqueness in each write-up is better appreciate.