

Women in STEM Scholarships

Eligibility criteria

The following guidelines have been approved by the British Council and all participating partners and universities for the **2025-26 Scholarships for Women in STEM**.

The eligibility criteria apply to:

- British Council's Women in STEM Scholarships (multiple locations)
- ASEAN-UK SAGE Women in STEM Scholarships
- Scholarships for Women in Hong Kong (supported by Sir Tang Shiu Kin Education Trust)
- Women in STEM Scholarships, Mexico (supported by Coppel).

Scholars must:

- be or identify as a woman
- be a passport holder and permanent resident of one of the eligible countries listed
- meet the entry requirements of the UK university for the course they apply for, including academic equivalents and English language requirements.
- have completed all components of an undergraduate degree at the time of submitting the application for the scholarship – British Council can consider final awards pending on a case-by-case basis
- demonstrate a case for financial support/socio-economic need
- not be in receipt of financial support or funding towards their study programme in the UK from any other source and not be able to privately fund their UK studies
- preference should be given to candidates who:
 - have not had any international exposure prior to this scheme
 - have not previously studied at degree level or higher in the UK or lived recently in the UK - distance learning at a UK university or study at a UK branch campus in another country will also be considered as studying in the UK
- indicate their preference for course and institution in the case of applying to multiple institutions
- be motivated and academically able to follow and benefit from a UK postgraduate taught course
- be active in the field with work experience or with a proven interest in the proposed subject area
- be willing to demonstrate future contribution to capacity-building and socio-economic advancement in their home country through the benefits achieved after graduating from UK university
- demonstrate a plan and a passion to engage other women and girls in STEM within their home country
- agree to maintain contact with the British Council and act as an ambassador for the UK, and engage with activities as a Women in STEM alumnus during and after their studies in the UK.
- agree to their personal data being shared with the British Council for purposes of assessment and promotional activity, as a condition of applying for the scholarship
- agree to return to their country of citizenship for a minimum of two years after their scholarship award has ended.

Additional eligibility criteria for Scholarships for Women in Hong Kong:

- awards available in the following general study areas - economics, law, management, project planning, international relations, diplomacy, education, business administration, environmental studies, political science and social sciences.
- applicants should be permanent residents of the Hong Kong Special Region of the People's Republic of China and be holders of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region permanent identity card at the time of application.

A candidate will not be eligible for British Council Scholarships for Women in STEM if they:

- hold dual British citizenship
- are an employee, a former employee, or relative (*) of an employee of His Majesty's Government (including but not limited to British Embassies/High Commissions; Department for Business and Trade (DBT), the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) and the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT); Department for International Trade; the Ministry of Defence; and the Home Office)
- are an employee, a former employee, or relative (*) of an employee of the British Council Scholarships for Women in STEM – eligible countries.
() relatives are defined as parents or stepparents, siblings or stepsiblings, children or stepchildren, spouse, civil partner, or unmarried partner (where the couple have been in a relationship akin to marriage or civil partnership for at least two years)*
- are currently in receipt of financial support or funding towards your study programme in the UK from any other source
- have previously studied in the UK with funding from a UK government-funded scholarship or a UK institutional scholarship/financial bursary, as well as those who privately funded their UK studies.