

CHINESE GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP (CGS) - Bilateral Program

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

To promote mutual understanding, cooperation, and exchanges in various fields between China and other countries, the Chinese government has set up a series of scholarship programs which sponsor international students to study in 289 designated Chinese universities. Please visit www.campuschina.org for information about CGS programs. The CGS-Bilateral Program is one of those programs which provide scholarship to both degree and non-degree students.

ELIGIBILITY

- a citizen of a country other than the People's Republic of China, and be in good health.
- High school graduate under the age of 25 (undergraduate degree programs)
- Bachelor's degree holder under 35 (master's degree programs)
- Master's degree holder under 40 (doctoral degree programs)
- Under 45 and at least two years of undergraduate study (general scholar programs, non-degree)
- Master's degree holder or an associate professor (or above) under 50 (senior scholar programs, non-degree)

SCHOLARSHIP COVERAGE

- 1) Tuition waiver:** most universities' tuition can be completely waived. Some majors such as business management, global trade and politics in top universities may charge higher than the waived tuition. Please check specific university's website or confirm with university officials if you will need to pay remaining tuition.
- 2) Accommodation:** Usually a twin dormitory room if on campus living is required. If the host university permits students to live off campus, the university will provide a monthly accommodation subsidy (undergraduate and master's students CNY 700; doctoral students CNY 1000)
- 3) Monthly Stipend:** undergrads CNY 2500; master's CNY 3000; doctoral students CNY 3500
- 4) Medical Insurance:** visit www.campuschina.org and refer to Comprehensive Insurance & Protection Scheme for Foreigners in China for insurance policy

* Scholarships do not cover visa fees, international travel fees and application fees.

DURATION OF STUDY

- One semester: fall semester (September - January); spring semester (March - July)
- One-year Chinese language and culture study
- Degree programs (Bachelor, Master's and Doctoral Degree programs)

*CGS-Bilateral Program cannot sponsor terms shorter than one semester

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

- Graduate and non-degree scholarship applicants can register for Chinese-taught or English-taught programs. Undergraduate scholarship applicants must register for Chinese-taught credit courses.
- If you choose Chinese-taught programs, you need to meet the host university's language requirements and provide language qualification certificate such as HSK certificates, IELTS or TOFEL report.

APPLICATION GUIDELINE

DEADLINE: January 31

The online platform www.campuschina.org is open for application throughout the year.

STEP 1: SELECT UNIVERSITY AND MAJOR

1. Visit www.campuschina.org
2. Click “Scholarships” to learn more information about CGS
3. Click “Universities & Programs” to find top three universities and majors you are most interested in.

* Only the listed Chinese higher education institutions in the Directory are available for your study in China. It currently only covers universities in mainland China.

* To find your most desired university, you can look on each university’s website, search for the programs, and see if they are taught in English. Please make sure the name of program is correct before you apply.

* Majors should be based on your actual educational background. The duration of the Major study should match the program you apply for.

* If you are applying for senior scholar programs, the major you choose should be the same as or closely related to the major of Master’s degree.

* You have to select a discipline before choosing majors. You can refer to the Disciplines Index (under “Help”).

STEP 2: REGISTER ONLINE

1. Visit www.campuschina.org
 - * Use Firefox or IE 11.0 (menu selection functions may not work in other browsers)
 - * Only Chinese and English are accepted languages to complete the online application
2. Click “*Scholarship Application Online for International Students*” to create an account
3. Activate your account by clicking the link sent to your mail (The link will only be valid for 7 days and it might be sent to spam box)
4. Sign in and Click “*Registration online*” for registration
5. Fill in the correct **Program Category: Type A**

Fill in the correct **Agency Number: 8401** (the name of the agency will automatically show)

6. Follow the steps listed on the left of the page and fill in Online Application Form,

please make sure:

* your information on the application form should be consistent with your information on your passport. This is very important for later visa application.

* your home address should be an American address If you want to apply for a VISA in the U.S.

* you can always be reached by permanent contact information. Notices for interview and award letter will be sent to your email. Please check your mailbox regularly and reply ASAP; otherwise you may lose your opportunity. Permanent contact information will be used to deliver Admission package (usually by UPS).

* to fill in the contact information of your family member if you have no contact in China

STEP3: PREPARE AND UPLOAD SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. **Copy of Passport Home Page/Visa Style Photo** Applicant shall submit a clear scanned copy of his/her ordinary passport with the validity of at least 6 months. If the validity of the current passport does not meet the requirement, please apply for a new passport before submitting the

application. For applicant who couldn't get a new passport before submitting applications, with the permission of dispatching authorities, you may submit a scanned copy of identity certificates or official documents containing the applicants' "English name, Gender, Nationality, Date of Birth" and other information.

2. Certificates of Highest Education

3. Academic transcripts of Highest Education

4. A Study Plan or Research Proposal to show strong motivation, achievable study goals, relevance between the program you are applying and previous/future study/career and a clear pathway to fulfill it. Comprehensive capacities, such as social skills, critical thinking or leadership abilities are also encouraged to be shown in study plan or recommendation letters.

5. A photocopy of the Foreigner Physical Examination Form (see attachment) completed in English. keep the original for your records as you will need it for the visa application. Please select the appropriate time to take physical examination as the result is valid for only 6 months.

6. Two letters of recommendation from (associate) professors if applying for senior scholars or graduate programs. Recommendation letters for language or undergraduate programs are not mandatory, however, providing letters increases your chances of being selected.

7. Example of Art (6 color pictures) and **Music Work** (1 audio tape) (Only for the applicants for Fine Arts and Music)

8. Valid documents of your legal guardians in China (If under 18 years old)

9. Pre-admission Letter from designated universities (is encouraged if available)

10. Valid HSK 4 or higher-level Certificate (Chinese Proficiency Test), IELTS or TOFEL report (if required)

11. If already enrolled in a Chinese university in current academic year, include a permission letter to continue your study (issued by your host university)

- Click "*Submit*" to submit your Application. Once submitted, amendment cannot be made on "Personal Details" and "Application information".

- Make changes to your application by clicking "*Withdraw and Edit the Application*" on the top of the page. But make sure to submit it again by clicking "*Submit*" after making the changes.

- Download the completed Application Form by clicking "*Print the Application Form*"

*** Hard copies are no longer required. The submitted documents will be the only reference for the applied universities to confirm admission, so please make sure all the documents are truthful, correct and complete.**

*** Documents in languages other than Chinese or English must have notarized Chinese or English translations.**

*** The Study plan and recommendation letters (even not mandatory) are very important for review panelists to make decisions.**

STEP 4: PLACEMENT AND SCHOLARSHIP CONFIRMATION

1. January 31: Deadline for receiving online applications. Early application will lead to early result.

2. February: Education office of the Embassy of China in the U.S will organize a group of review panelists to select CGS candidates and send an "Award Letter" to them. If you haven't received any letter by the end of April, that probably means you have not been selected as a candidate.

* You can use the Award Letter, which proves that you are eligible for CGS program, to directly contact your

targeted Chinese universities for pre-admission. As soon as you receive the pre-admission letter(s), please upload to the online application and send a scanned copy back to Education office of the Chinese Embassy (specify your name and CSC number in your letter for quick search).

3. April: China Scholarship Council (CSC) in Beijing will forward the application to universities for placement approval

* pre-admission letter is not a mandatory document. Some universities do not issue pre-admission letter.

Applications with a specific pre-admission letter will be sent directly to the universities which issued that letter.

* Applications without pre-admission letter(s) will be sent to universities based on the order of your preference.

Acceptance into the preferred universities can't be guaranteed. The CSC reserves the right to make necessary adjustments to the candidate's host university, field of study, and duration of the scholarship, especially when candidates are rejected by all preferred universities.

4. May: If you are a scholarship winner, you will receive your scholarship confirmation from Education office of the Embassy of China in the U.S. The admission package, including the formal Admission Letter and the original Student-visa Application Form JW 201 will be delivered from CSC to Education Office first and then to your permanent address. Candidates should inform Education Office in advance if there is any change to their contact information.

STEP 5: APPLY FOR VISA

Apply for a visa at the Chinese embassy or consulate-general with the original documents and photocopies of the admission letter, visa application (JW201), Foreigner Physical Examination Form and a valid passport (X1 visa for more than 6 months in China, or X2 visa for up to 6 months)

* Find more information at <http://www.china-embassy.org/eng/visas/>

* Apply for a visa at a Chinese Embassy or Consulate General based on your State of residence. (Check service area at <http://www.china-embassy.org/eng/zmzlljs/t84229.htm>). Sending your visa application or document(s) to the incorrect office may result in complication or delay in processing or even denial of application.

Without a X visa, you won't be able to register with institutions, nor will you be able to apply for the residence permit in China.

STEP 6: UPON ARRIVAL IN CHINA

Register at the host university: You must register at your host university before the deadline as specified in the original Admission Letter. If you couldn't be able to register on time, please communicate with your host university as early as possible, otherwise you will automatically lose your scholarship.

Health verification: If staying in China for more than 6 months you must submit the original documents (passport, Admission Letter, Foreigner Physical Examination Form, and Blood Test Report to the local health quarantine office to have your physical examination report verified. If you do not meet this requirement you will be required to re-take the physical examination.

Residence permit: You must apply for a residence permit at the local police authority within 30 days upon arrival. Required documents are passport, Admission Letter, Visa Form (JW201), verified health report, and a photo that meets the image requirements of the authority. Staying without registration is illegal and will lead to fines.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. When can I start online application?

The online application platform is open all over the year. You can apply any time before the deadline. Since it takes time to prepare supporting documents, we suggest you start as early as possible.

2. If I am not a U.S. citizen/ an international student in the U.S., can I apply for this scholarship?

The scholarships offered by the Education office of the Embassy of China in the U.S are generally for U.S. citizens only. We have similar scholarship programs in some other countries as well. If you are not a U.S. citizen, we recommend you contact the Chinese Embassy in your country of origin. If you are an international student in U.S. universities, you can apply for this scholarship, but it might bring you extra work when preparing supporting documents or applying for VISA.

3. What is the highest diploma if I am a university/colleague student?

You can provide a certificate of enrollment or a letter from your university (with stamp of the school or signature of director/president/dean), together with the diploma of high school.

4. What if I will get my bachelor/master degrees in the coming June or July?

If you are getting your diploma in the coming June or July, please enclose a certificate/letter from your school (with stamps of the school or signature of director/president/dean), together with the academic transcript which can prove you will graduate soon.

5. Is the physical examination necessary?

Yes. Some tests are required to prevent infectious diseases. For example, chest X-ray is required for tuberculosis, blood test for AIDs and Syphilis and other epidemic diseases. Mental health is also very important for foreign students to complete studies in a new environment. In some columns, doctors can describe it as “normal” or “good”, or specify details if it is not good.

- Applicants who are already in China and hold student visa need no extra physical exam if you had one already. Please upload one copy of your residence permits in China to the application system.
- **The form will be invalid** without a sealed photograph of the applicant, a doctor/nurse practitioner’s signature or the stamp of a hospital.
- If you cannot upload physical exam form on time due to very special situations, please upload a written note explaining the reason instead and send it to Education office ASAP. Otherwise, you will not be considered as a candidate.

6. Do I have to transfer application fee to university when asking for pre-admission letters?

It is up to each university.

7. What should be included in my Study Plan or Research Proposal?

You must state in detail your motivation to study in China, interest in learning/researching the targeted subject, early studies on the subject, what you plan to learn/research in the following years, the academic fit of your targeted university in China. A good plan shows your academic competency and the right attitude proving you are the right candidate (minimum of 300 words for undergraduates, 500 words for non-degree students, and 800 words for postgraduates).