CSC Scholarship China 2027

Chinese Government Scholarship – Fully Funded Bachelor's, Master's and PhD

1. Overview

The Chinese Government Scholarship (CSC) is widely regarded as one of the most prestigious scholarships for international students. It offers the opportunity to earn a bachelor's, master's or PhD degree from a Chinese university, with tuition coverage, monthly stipend, accommodation support and medical insurance at more than 280 participating universities.

Country	China
Funded by	Ministry of Education, People's Republic of China
Programmes	Bachelor's, Master's and PhD
IELTS	Not always required (depends on the university and programme)
Intake	September (one intake per year)
Participating universities	More than 280

2. Who Can Apply (Age Limits)

Programme	Age Limit
Bachelor's	Less than 25 years
Master's	Less than 35 years
PhD	Less than 40 years

3. Scholarship Benefits

Benefit	Details
Tuition fee	Fully covered
Monthly stipend (Bachelor's)	RMB 2,500 per month
Monthly stipend (Master's)	RMB 3,000 per month
Monthly stipend (PhD)	RMB 3,500 per month
Medical insurance	RMB 800 per year
Accommodation	The university provides a room or helps with housing. If you live outside the university, Master's students receive RMB 700 and PhD students receive RMB 1,000 for accommodation.

4. Documents You Need

Documents change from one university to another. These are the most common ones:

1. **CV/Resume:** any simple template (a Europass CV can also be used).
2. **Passport:** you cannot apply without a passport.
3. **Recent photograph.**
4. **Educational documents:** degree certificates, academic transcripts and related documents must be notarised. Photocopies should be notarised, not the originals. This can be done at any local kachehri.
5. **Study plan / research proposal:** Master's students typically need a study plan; PhD candidates need a research proposal. Standard word limits: Bachelor's minimum 200 words; Master's 500 words; PhD 1,000 words (some universities differ).
6. **Language proof:** *English-taught programmes:* if your most recent degree was entirely in English, IELTS is exempt but you must provide an official English proficiency certificate from your previous institution. Otherwise, valid IELTS or TOEFL scores are required as per university requirements. *Chinese-taught programmes:* HSK certificate is required; HSK Level 5 typically meets the minimum standard.
7. **Two recommendation letters:** from professors or associate professors at your previous university.
8. **Statement of Purpose (SOP) / motivation letter.**
9. **Physical examination form:** applicants studying in China for more than six months must submit a photocopy of the Foreigner Physical Examination Form. Validity of the results is six months only.
10. **CSCA exam score (Bachelor's applicants only):** required score varies by institution.
11. **Acceptance letter:** a university requirement, not a CSC requirement. If required, contact professors by email to obtain formal acceptance before applying.
12. **Your own work** (arts or design applicants): e.g. videos or paintings.
13. **Guardian documents** (applicants under 18): legal documents of the guardian in China.

Important: Do not prepare your application using only a general checklist. Once you have chosen a university, carefully read its requirements.

5. How to Apply

Category	Route
Category A	Apply through the embassy
Category B	Apply directly to the Chinese university
Category C	Apply through other sources or an agency

Note for Pakistani students: only two application options are available. **Type A** – application submitted through HEC. **Type B** – direct application to the university.

- With Type A you can apply to 2 universities; with Type B you can apply to only 1 university.
- The deadline for Type A is in January.

6. Deadline

Typical application window: mid-October to February/March. There is no universal closing date; each university sets its own timeline. Most universities open their portals in mid-October and keep submissions open until February, but some start earlier than others. Applicants must follow the official guidelines of both the target university and the China Scholarship Council (CSC) for the relevant admission cycle.

7. Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Is IELTS required?

Not always. It depends on the university, programme and language of teaching. Some accept an English-medium certificate; others ask for IELTS or TOEFL.

Q. Is an acceptance letter required?

It varies by university. Even when not formally required, most institutions strongly recommend getting an acceptance letter from a faculty advisor before applying.

Q. Is there an application fee?

It depends on the university. Some charge a fee (RMB 400 to 800); some do not.

Q. Can I apply if my degree is not finished yet?

Yes, most universities allow it. You must show proof of your expected graduation date and submit your final degree/certificate before enrolment in September.

Q. Which portal should I apply to first?

There is no single answer. It depends on whether you apply through Type A or Type B and on your country's and university's instructions.

Q. How many intakes does CSC have?

Only one intake (September).

Q. How many universities can I apply to?

Type B: only 1 university. Type A: 2 universities.

8. When Should You Start? (Timeline)

Period	What to do
Early October	Start emailing professors for acceptance letters (most important for Master's and PhD applicants).
October to November	Universities slowly open their applications.
November to February	Prepare and submit your university application and CSC documents before each deadline.
Before the final deadline	Make sure all documents and portal applications are complete.

9. Extra Tips

- To secure a PhD scholarship: first make a CV, then find a professor, then email the professor to request acceptance.
- Email professors who have the same major as yours.

Source: gsscholarships.com/csc-scholarship-china-2027/ (published October 6, 2026; page saved November 18, 2026). Deadlines and requirements vary by university – always check the official CSC website and your chosen university's call.