JUSTCOOL PhD Program 2027 in China

Direct PhD after a bachelor's degree – Fudan University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University and Tongji University

1. Overview

The JUSTCOOL PhD Scholarship 2027 offers outstanding international students the chance to pursue doctoral studies directly after a bachelor's degree. It is associated with three leading universities in Shanghai and focuses on Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology. Successful candidates may receive a scholarship package covering tuition, accommodation, medical insurance and a living allowance or financial support through research or teaching assistantship arrangements. Applicants should verify the exact terms of their award before accepting admission.

Programme name	JUSTCOOL PhD Program
Host country / location	China – Shanghai
Degree level	PhD / doctoral studies
Entry route	Direct PhD pathway after a bachelor's degree, subject to eligibility
Participating universities	Fudan University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Tongji University
Academic fields	Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology
Duration	Five years
Funding	Scholarship support, subject to official award conditions
Application opens	28 September 2026
Application deadline	14 November 2026
Expected start	Spring or autumn semester of 2027, depending on admission arrangements

Who should consider it? High-achieving undergraduates in mathematics, physics, chemistry or biology who want to pursue doctoral research without first completing a separate master's degree, subject to the admission rules.

2. Eligibility Criteria

1. **Bachelor's degree completion:** must be completed within the period **June 2026 to July 2027**. Students still enrolled may be eligible if they are expected to graduate within this period and can provide proof of expected graduation.

2. **Outstanding academic performance:** candidates should rank within the **top 20%** of students in their undergraduate major/programme at their home university. Prepare transcripts and any available official ranking certificate or other university-issued evidence.

3. **Relevant academic background:** Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry or Biology. Review the subject-specific requirements and examination syllabus for your field.

4. **English language proficiency:** meet at least one of the accepted routes (see below).

3. English Language Requirements

Applicants must satisfy at least one of these routes:

- English is your native language and you come from an English-speaking country.
- You completed your undergraduate education in an English-only programme.
- You achieved the minimum score in an accepted test within the two years before the application deadline.

English test	Minimum score
IELTS Academic	6.5
TOEFL iBT	90
New TOEFL	4.5
Duolingo English Test	110
PTE Academic	61

Is IELTS compulsory? No. IELTS is not the only route, but at least one requirement must be met; do not assume exemption. Students relying on English-medium education should get formal documentation from their university confirming the language of instruction. Check score validity and the minimum score.

4. Scholarship Benefits

Funding package: **Tuition + Accommodation + Medical Coverage**; living support or financial assistance through relevant teaching/research arrangements may also be available. The precise value, payment schedule and conditions should be confirmed in the official scholarship regulations and admission documents.

Benefit	Details
Tuition fees	Tuition support according to the official scholarship award.
Accommodation	Support or coverage, subject to the programme's housing arrangements.
Medical coverage	Medical insurance or healthcare coverage as specified in the award terms.
Living allowance	Living support or assistance through the applicable research or teaching assistantship arrangements.

Is it fully funded? The programme describes a full scholarship package, but exact arrangements can differ. Confirm whether accommodation is provided directly or subsidised, how the living allowance is paid, and whether any assistantship duties apply. An unspecified allowance amount is not guaranteed; read the written scholarship offer carefully before making financial or travel arrangements.

5. Available PhD Fields

- **Mathematics:** mathematical theory, methods and advanced quantitative research.
- **Physics:** advanced study of physical systems, scientific principles and research.
- **Chemistry:** chemical sciences, experimental work and related research.
- **Biology:** biological sciences and advanced scientific investigation.

Confirm the availability of research topics, laboratories and supervisors through the official programme information.

6. Required Documents

Checklist: valid passport; degree certificate or expected graduation certificate; academic transcripts; two recommendation letters; physical examination form; proof of English proficiency; police character certificate; additional supporting academic documents (where applicable). Check the portal for extra forms and file-format rules.

1. **Valid passport:** must remain valid until **1 March 2028**. Renew if necessary. You cannot apply without a passport.

2. **Degree certificate or expected graduation certificate:** graduates provide the certificate for their highest completed qualification. Students expecting to graduate by July 2027 need an official expected graduation (pre-graduation) certificate. If the final certificate is not yet issued, a provisional certificate may be accepted if permitted. Before enrolment, graduates of universities outside China may need a degree-authentication report from the Chinese Service Center for Scholarly Exchange (CSCSE). Documents not in English or Chinese may need notarised translations.

3. **Academic transcripts:** complete records showing courses, grades and performance; notarised translations if not in Chinese or English.

4. **Two recommendation letters:** from academic referees (teachers or research supervisors) who can assess your performance, ability and doctoral research potential. Give them enough time.

5. **Physical examination form:** use the correct form with all sections, signatures and medical details.

6. **English-proficiency evidence:** accepted test results or formal evidence; check validity period and minimum score.

7. **Police character certificate:** check whether it must come from a particular authority or meet validity/authentication conditions.

8. **Additional supporting documents:** award certificates, research or competition achievements, published papers and other evidence of academic excellence.

Tip: prepare clear digital copies before starting; check translation, notarisation, file-size and certification requirements individually.

7. How to Apply

1. **Review the official guidelines:** admission requirements, eligibility rules, subject information, exam details and instructions.

2. **Check your eligibility:** degree completion date, academic standing (top 20%) and English evidence.

3. **Prepare the documents:** passport, academic records, degree/expected graduation certificate, recommendation letters, medical form, language evidence, police certificate.

4. **Complete the online application** on the official portal and upload documents in the specified formats.

5. **Review and submit:** check every section and make sure uploads are readable.

6. **Prepare for the written examinations:** review the syllabus for your field. Written exams are in two subject areas related to your intended major.

7. **Attend the interview if selected:** monitor your application and email; be ready to discuss your background, subject knowledge and reasons for doctoral study.

8. Timeline and Deadline

Stage	Expected date
Application opens	28 September 2026
Application deadline	**14 November 2026**
Written examinations	12 December 2026
Written exam results	End of December 2026
Interviews	January 2027
Formal admission notices	February 2027
Classes begin	Spring or autumn semester of 2027

Note: according to the source, the application deadline was 14 November 2026, which has already passed as of 18 November 2026. Check the official website for any extension or later round, and for any changes to the exam and interview dates.

9. Written Examinations and Interviews

The written examinations carry **100 points for each of two subject areas** associated with your intended major. Consult the official website for exact subjects, syllabus, format, duration and assessment rules; do not rely only on general subject knowledge. Applicants invited to an interview should be ready to explain their academic background, reasons for choosing the subject, research interests and motivation for a PhD in China, and to discuss relevant projects or research experience.

10. Important Instructions

- Read the official admission guidelines carefully before applying.
- Confirm that your bachelor's completion date falls within June 2026 to July 2027.
- Prepare evidence of your top-20% ranking if required.
- Check accepted English routes and minimum scores; make sure your passport meets the validity requirement.
- Arrange transcripts, recommendation letters and other documents early; check translation, notarisation or degree authentication needs.
- Prepare for the exams and interview per the official syllabus and schedule; monitor the website for changes.

- Keep copies of your submitted application and confirmation messages.

11. Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Can I apply for a PhD directly after my bachelor's degree?

Yes, if you meet the degree-completion, academic performance and other requirements.

Q. Which subjects are available?

Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology only.

Q. Is it fully funded?

A package covering tuition, accommodation and medical coverage, with living support or assistantship arrangements. Confirm the precise terms in the official award regulations.

Q. Is IELTS compulsory?

No, but at least one accepted English requirement must be met.

Q. What academic performance is required?

Top 20% of your undergraduate major/programme at your home university.

Q. How long is the programme?

Five years; confirm the duration in your official offer.

Q. Where can I apply?

Through the official JUSTCOOL PhD website/portal.

12. Clarifications from the Site Admin (Comments)

Replies by the site admin to applicants' questions. These are informal and may not match the official rules exactly, so verify on the official website.

- Master's holders (e.g. M.Sc. completed 2021, M.Phil. completed 2026) cannot apply, and the admin replied "no" to a degree completed in December 2025.
- A degree completed in June 2026 is acceptable.
- Only Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology are included; other fields (e.g. Economics, Medical Laboratory Technology) are not eligible.
- If your university does not issue a top-20% ranking certificate, the admin said it is not needed and you should still apply.
- A passport is mandatory; you cannot apply without one and submit it later.
- Applicants noted that the portal asks for guardian/guarantor details to support the student financially in China; check the portal requirements.

Source: gsscholarships.com – "JUSTCOOL PhD Program 2027 in China" (published October 11, 2026; page saved November 18, 2026). Eligibility, coverage, documents and dates should be verified against the latest official JUSTCOOL announcement.