

UNESCO/THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA - THE GREAT WALL
CO-SPONSORED FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAMME 2024-2025
Application Guidelines
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1. Introduction

With a view to promoting the human resource development and capacity building of developing countries and to enhancing international exchanges in the field of education, culture, communication, science and technology and the friendship among peoples of the world, the Government of the People's Republic of China has placed at the disposal of UNESCO for the academic year 2024-2025, under the co-sponsorship with UNESCO, **seventy-five (75)** fellowships for advanced studies at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. These fellowships will be open to candidates from 135 developing Member States in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America, Europe and Arab region.

Tenable at a selected number of Chinese universities, these fellowships are intended for students and scholars who plan to pursue advanced studies or undertake individual research with periodic guidance from the assigned supervisors in China for **a duration of one year**. The study programmes will be taught in English or Chinese, subject to the available fields of study at the selected universities. Candidates applying for the Chinese-taught programmes should have acquired certain level of Chinese proficiency before taking up research or studying in their fields of interest.

Selected candidates will undertake their studies in the host universities as **visiting scholars**, either at general or senior level. **Extension or repeated award of fellowships will be impossible under the same UNESCO fellowships programme.** Therefore, selected candidates who intend to continue their studies or pursue degrees in China will need to seek other types of funding after the completion of this one-year fellowship. For more information, please refer to <http://www.csc.edu.cn/studyinchina> or www.campuschina.org.

Given the high priority that UNESCO places on Gender Equality, Africa and SIDS, women candidates and candidates from Africa and SIDS are strongly encouraged to apply. The beneficiary countries of UNESCO-China Fund-in-Trust (CFIT) Project are encouraged to submit candidates in the relevant fields of study in Education.

2. Programme Timeline

Month/Year	Procedures
10 March 2024	Deadline for submission of candidates
Early July 2024	Award of fellowships
Late August – Early September 2024	Start of fellowship
15 July 2025	Completion of fellowship

3. Eligibility Requirements

Candidates must be the nationals from the invited Member States listed in Annex I, fulfilling the following eligibility requirements:

- Candidates applying for **General Scholar Programmes** must hold a high school diploma and should not be older than the age of forty-five (45); and those who apply for **Senior Scholar Programmes** must be master's degree holders or an associate professor (or above) and not older than the age of fifty (50).
- English proficiency is required. For those who apply for Chinese taught General / Senior programmes, his/her Chinese proficiency must reach HSK Level 3.
- Be in good health, both mentally and physically.
- Meeting the admission requirements of the applied universities in terms of academic ability, language proficiency and other relevant criteria.

4. Fields of Studies at the Selected Chinese Universities

Please visit the official webpage of China Scholarship Council (CSC) for the available fields of studies in selected Chinese universities:

<http://www.campuschina.org/universities/index.html>

5. Submission of Online Applications by Candidates

Only the candidates endorsed by the National Commission for UNESCO of the Invited Member States are acceptable by UNESCO.

Eligible candidates, after receiving the endorsement of the National Commissions for UNESCO of their home countries, must submit their online applications on the Chinese Government Scholarship Information System (<http://www.campuschina.org>) **by 10 March 2024** at the latest with the following supporting documents properly uploaded:

- (i) *Application Form for Chinese Government Scholarship* in Chinese or English (the form can be downloaded and printed after completing the online application).
- (ii) *Copy of Passport home page*: a clear scanned copy of the candidate's ordinary passport with validity later than 1 March 2024 must be submitted.
- (iii) *Notarized photocopies of highest diploma*: Prospective diploma winners must submit official proof of student status issued by their current schools. Documents in languages other than Chinese or English must be attached with notarized Chinese or English translation.

- (iv) *Academic transcripts*: transcripts in languages other than Chinese or English must be attached with notarized Chinese or English translation.
- (v) *Language qualification certificates*: Candidates should provide relevant language proficiency certificates in accordance with the universities' requirements. Candidates who apply for English-taught programmes should submit a certificate of international English proficiency tests such as IELTS or TOEFL. In the cases where a candidate cannot provide an international English certificate, it is mandatory for him/her to submit a UNESCO Certificate of Language Knowledge (Annex IV), duly signed and stamped by a certified language institution or language tutor to prove the candidate has sufficient language knowledge to attend the courses of study. Those who apply for Chinese-taught programmes must submit valid HSK reports that reach HSK Level 3.
- (vi) *A Study Plan or Research Proposal* of minimum 500 words in Chinese or English for the study or research to be undertaken in China.
- (vii) *Recommendation Letters*: Applicants for Senior Scholar Programmes must submit two letters of recommendation in Chinese or English from professors or associate professors familiar with the work of the applicants.
- (viii) *A photocopy of Foreign Physical Examination Form* (Annex III) completed in English. The physical examination must cover all the items listed in the Foreign Physical Examination Form. Incomplete records or those without the signature of the attending physician, the official stamp of the hospital or a sealed photograph, or those without the signature of the applicants are invalid. Please select the appropriate time to take physical examination, as the result is valid for 6 months. Candidates should keep the original copy of the completed form.
- (ix) *Non-criminal record report*: a valid certificate of Non-Criminal Record issued within 6 months of the application submission deadline by a local public security authority.
- (x) *Admission documents from a designated Chinese university*, such as admission notice, pre-admission letter, invitation from professors etc. Applicants with admission documents will be prioritized during the fellowship selection.

Applicants shall also submit the following documents, if applicable:

- (xi) Applicants for music studies are requested to submit a CD of their own works. Applicants for fine arts programmes must submit a CD of their own works, which include two sketches, two color paintings, and two other works.
- (xii) Applicants under the age of 18 should submit the valid documents of their legal guardians in China.

Candidates hold the responsibility to ensure the uploaded supporting documents are clear, authentic, and valid. It is highly recommended to use professional device to scan the documents. Any consequence due to unclear, or unidentifiable uploaded documents will be borne by the candidates.

6. Submission of Candidatures by the Invited Member States

Letters of nomination, as well as the copies of Application Form for Chinese Government Scholarship and passports of the nominated candidates should be submitted **by e-mail** to thegreatwall@unesco.org by **10 March 2024** at the latest.

Each invited Member States can submit two (2) candidatures at the maximum, and one of them should be woman.

The nominated candidates must submit their online applications before the required deadline. The corresponding Serial Number of online applications should also be indicated when the candidatures are submitted to UNESCO.

Candidates who do not fulfil the above-mentioned requirements or fail to submit complete application before the deadline will lose their eligibility in the selection.

7. Selection of Fellowship Recipients

The selection of fellowship recipients will be made by the concerned Chinese universities, and approved by the Chinese authorities and UNESCO taking into consideration gender equality and diversity. The National Commissions for UNESCO of the selected fellows will be duly informed by UNESCO.

Candidates who do not receive the result of their application by 15 August 2024 should consider that their applications have been rejected.

8. Facilities Offered by the Government of the People's Republic of China

- (i) *Tuition waiver;*
- (ii) *Monthly stipends:* CNY 3 000 (three thousand Chinese yuan) for General Scholars, or CNY 3 500 (three thousand five hundred Chinese yuan) for Senior Scholars to cover meals and pocket expense;
- (iii) *On-campus accommodation or accommodation subsidy¹;*
- (iv) *Comprehensive Medical Insurance and Protection Scheme for International Students² in China.*

9. Facilities Offered by UNESCO

- (i) *One round-trip international travel to and from China;*
- (ii) *Monthly pocket allowance of US\$ 80 (eighty US dollars), and*
- (iii) *A termination allowance of US\$ 200 (two hundred US dollars) to cover excess luggage charges at time of return to home country.*

Note: No allowance will be granted for financing or lodging any spouse or dependent of the fellows.

10. VISA

All fellows must obtain their visa from the Chinese Embassy or Consulate in their country before their departure to China. As it usually requires at least three weeks for the diplomatic missions to process visa application, fellows are advised to start their visa application as soon as they receive their award.

¹ In cases where the recipients are required to live on campus, they will be provided with university dormitory (usually twin-room dormitory). Where the recipients are not required to live on campus, they will receive accommodation subsidy.

² Recipients need to cover the medical expenses below the health insurance rebate threshold.



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UNESCO and the Government of the People's Republic of China provide no allowance to defray passport and visa expenses. Selected beneficiaries will have to secure their own visas themselves.

NOTE: National authorities have the responsibility to ensure that all candidates are duly informed of all these terms and conditions before they submit their applications.