

## Call for Proposals from UK Universities

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# Scholarships for English language teachers in India and Pakistan

### Background

The British Council's work in English for Education Systems (EES) aims for transformational change in English language policy and practice. We believe that better teaching and learning of English increases academic and career opportunities and enables people to participate actively in a global society. We support language teaching and learning in a multilingual world, helping to ensure inclusive and equitable quality language education in line with UN Sustainable Development Goal 4.

In India and Pakistan we engage directly with hundreds of thousands of teachers and indirectly with millions of learners each year within government basic education systems. We work closely with our government partners and national, international and UK organisations and institutions who share our goal to provide all teachers and students with access to high quality English language resources and instruction.

Building capacity of practitioners is a core part of our work and through this scholarships programme we aim to identify and support a select group of high-performing English language teachers and/or teacher educators to further their skills and knowledge. In 2022 we also mark the occasion of 75 years of independence in both India and Pakistan with a programme of activities under our Arts, Education and English portfolios: India-UK Season and Pakistan-UK

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Season. The proposed scholarship programme will be a flagship element of these programmes in each country. Towards this we would like to propose the English language teaching scholarships are co-branded using the 75 years British Council logo developed in each country, which will be launched soon. This will help us profile the scholarships and awardees through the Season's activities, bringing more focus and publicity to the opportunity and the stories that will emerge from it.

## Objectives

The intention of this scholarships programme is to offer fully funded placements for students from India and Pakistan to either attend in person or study online towards an **MA in English Language Teaching with an emphasis on the use of technology**. The main activity in the UK will be coupled with a wraparound programme of alumni activity (facilitated by the British Council) to increase the chances of longer-term engagement and wider impact.

While the programme will immediately impact on the lives of only a small number of individuals, there is clear evidence that with careful selection and support, recipients of scholarships can make important contributions to the future of the English language teaching sector in both countries.

A focus on technology and its role in English language teaching and learning is stipulated due to the increasing role that educational technologies have been playing in Pakistan and India in recent years. Access to devices and the Internet is growing rapidly, and we anticipate that it will continue to be integrated into school systems as well in individual homes in the coming years. Individuals with expertise and understanding of how technology can be most effectively implemented into teaching and learning programmes will be critical to ensure its appropriate and successful integration.

The anticipated outcomes of this scholarship programme are therefore:

- Scholars from India and Pakistan have increased knowledge and understanding in the field of English language teaching, with particular focus on appropriate technologies to enhance teaching and learning.
- These individuals act as ambassadors for UK postgraduate education in this field, sharing positive experiences within their professional community. Equally, they bring their knowledge and experience from Pakistan and India and share this within the student community at the host universities.
- Longer term, these individuals support the development and improvement of English language teaching in their respective communities and ideally within the wider sector.

In particular this project aims to:

- Offer MA study opportunities through either a face-to-face or online mode in order to include individuals who are unable to travel to the UK for the duration of a face-to-face MA programme.
- Ensure scholar selection will be based on an individual's academic profile **and** on their professional capacity as an English language teaching practitioner in India or Pakistan –

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preferably within the government sector **and** on their demonstrated commitment to returning to this sector to apply the knowledge and skills gained through the MA.

- Enable individuals to promote and enhance the field of English language teaching and learning in their home country through their exposure to the UK's expertise in this area.
- Ensure scholars create strong and lasting connections with the UK through active engagement in the alumni network.
- Provide a platform for the English language teaching professionals from Pakistan and India to contribute to the global body of knowledge and expertise and communities of practice.

## Opportunity for UK universities

This programme consists of:

- up to 6 full bursaries, covering all academic and living expenses, to study full-time, a 1-year Master's programme in the UK, beginning in Sept/Oct 2022:
  - 3 scholars from India
  - 3 scholars from Pakistan
- up to 6 fully funded places on online part-time Masters' programmes offered by UK universities, preferably with a short face-to-face component in the UK with all expenses paid for by a bursary, beginning in Sept/Oct 2022:
  - 3 scholars from India
  - 3 scholars from Pakistan

This call seeks proposals from UK institutions, with a commitment to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) values, who wish to host **a minimum of three Masters' Scholars**, in an eligible programme focused on English language teaching with a significant component focused on the use of educational technologies.

Please consider that the programmes selected should meet the [spirit of ODA](#), with the potential to focus on outcomes that promote the long-term sustainable growth of countries on the OECD DAC list (both countries included in this Call are on the DAC list).

Please note that all clarification questions must be received via the centralised form (<https://forms.office.com/r/AZQ4uWdiHp>) by 23.59 UK time 24 November 2021. There will be an information webinar held on 25 November from 12.00-1.00pm UK time to answer queries and provide support.

Responses to all clarification questions will also be published on the British Council's Education Services website <https://education-services.britishcouncil.org/> by 26 November 2021.

Institutional representatives interested in attending the webinar must register to receive joining instructions on the same form linked above (<https://forms.office.com/r/AZQ4uWdiHp>).

## Budget

**Lot 1 and Lot 2 each have a value of up to £90,000**, which the British Council will pay as a one-time grant to the HEI(s) selected for each of these Lots in February 2022.

For Lot 1 and Lot 2 the HEI and the British Council will select **3 applicants each** to be recipients of full bursaries (with an average value of £30,000 per scholar) to study in the UK.

**Lot 3 and Lot 4 each have a value of up to £45,000**, which the British Council will pay as a one-time grant to the HEI(s) selected for these Lots in February 2022.

For Lot 3 and Lot 4 the HEI and the British Council will select **3 applicants each** to be recipients of full-fee bursaries (with an average value of £15,000 per scholar) to study at a distance with the option to offer a short programme of fully-funded face-to-face activity in the UK (e.g. 1-2 weeks) during the period of study. The face-to-face activity, if offered, will need to be costed in and fully funded for the awarded scholars.

The British Council may increase the number of students per Lot depending on the availability of funding. This would take the form of additional full bursaries.

The Grant is not transferable, and any underspend will need to be returned to the British Council.

**HEIs may apply for between 1 and 4 Lots** but the British Council reserves the right to award the Lots to separate institutions, with potentially four institutions involved.

Lot #	Subject of study	Nationality of eligible scholars	Mode of delivery	Number of scholarships offered	Maximum value of Lot
1 (IN F2F)	MA English language teaching with focus on educational technologies	India	Face-to-face (in UK) Full time	3	£90,000
2	MA English language teaching with focus	Pakistan	Face-to-face (in UK)	3	£90,000

(PK F2F)	on educational technologies		Full time		
3 (IN Online)	MA English language teaching with focus on educational technologies	India	Online / distance Part time Optional face-to-face component	3	£45,000
4 (PK Online)	MA English language teaching with focus on educational technologies	Pakistan	Online / distance Part time Optional face-to-face component	3	£45,000

## Expected deliverables

The grant given to the university should cover full fees and be administered as a bursary to cover the travel and living costs of the selected scholars.

### Lot 1 and Lot 2: Face-to-face mode of delivery

For Lots 1 and 2, the bursary should cover all costs associated with the programme study including:

- Tuition fees
- Up to 12-months monthly stipend at the rate of £1,133 p/month or £1,390 p/month for London metropolitan area to cover costs of living, including accommodation.
- IELTS exam fee (for scholars without a valid Test of English)
- Return economy-class travel from home country to UK
- Study-related costs, such as essential travel, materials, equipment, thesis printing etc.
- Visa and insurance / NHS surcharge costs
- Ad hoc costs (heavy baggage allowance, etc.)

Costs of any dependents will not be covered by this scholarship.

UK universities who would like to host students under this scheme would be expected to co-fund the scholarships by way of making up any shortfall in funding, if applicable, for the up-to 12-month period that the £30,000 grant does not cover. This can be cash or in-kind, such as a reduction on the tuition fees or discounted university accommodation.

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Host universities, through their international student support structures, would be expected to provide support in the lead up to and throughout the up-to 12-month term. This should include:

- Communications prior to arrival and other pre-departure support – including support for visa application, arrival to the UK etc.
- Support for the international student experience, including mentoring and welfare support
- Arranging accommodation or housing for the scholar
- General information about adapting to living in the UK
- Opportunities for skills development – including links with industry and networking
- A nominated point of contact for any issues or concerns

### **Lot 3 and Lot 4: Online / distance mode of delivery**

For Lots 3 and 4, the bursary should cover all costs (up to agreed limits for each element) associated with the programme study including:

- Tuition fees
- IELTS exam fee (for scholars without a valid Test of English)

If programme includes a short face-to-face element in the UK:

- Up to 2 weeks stipend at the rate of £1,133 p/month (pro rata) or £1,390 p/month (pro rata) for London metropolitan area to cover costs of living, including accommodation.
- Return economy-class travel from home country to UK
- Visa and insurance / NHS surcharge costs

Costs of any dependents will not be covered by this scholarship.

Host universities, through their international student support structures, would be expected to provide support in the lead up to and throughout the face-to-face component. This should include:

- Communications prior to arrival – including support for visa application, arrival to the UK etc.
- Support for the international student experience, including mentoring and welfare support
- Arranging accommodation or housing for the scholar
- A nominated point of contact for any issues or concerns

### **UK University participation criteria**

- All participating institutions must be listed on the UK Home Office Register of Student Route Sponsors (approved Education Providers) **and** QAA/OfS/SFC/HEFCW/DfE inspected and approved.

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- UK Universities should propose which 1-year Master’s programmes fit within each eligible subject area, and which meet the [spirit of ODA funding](#), and will therefore be included in the scheme
  - If a course for Lot 1 and Lot 2 lasts longer than one year, the scholarships will be offered for the first year of study only. The costs of any subsequent years of study **must be guaranteed and covered in full** by the UK institution and to the same level covered by the Scholarship programme in year 1. Online / distance MA courses which are offered part-time are expected to be funded in full by the original scholarship regardless of the length of time they take to complete.
  - UK Universities should demonstrate how they will support welfare of applicants and the “student experience”
  - For Lot 1 and Lot 2, UK Universities should demonstrate how they will connect scholars with industry partners and provide opportunities for internships, placements or networking for the students – including support for the scholar to stay in the UK via the Graduate Route, if desired and as per current UKVI rules.
  - Desirable: special consideration will be given to UK Universities that can contribute with cash or in-kind to the overall Scholarship programme (beyond making up any projected shortfall) potentially increasing the number of scholarships available in their Lot, and/or that can demonstrate added value to the overall student study and welfare experience.

## How will the programme be managed?

The British Council will pay grants for each Lot detailed above to selected UK HEI(s) in February 2022, which will then be administered as a bursary to the selected scholars by the UK HEI(s) in the academic year 2022/23.

- The selected UK Universities will advertise the scholarships and encourage applications to their selected programmes.
- The British Council will support with the wide promotion of the Scholarship programme in the eligible countries, including linking the scholarships to the Pakistan-UK and India-UK Seasons as described above and post-award press and media.
- The UK Universities will manage the application process, involving the British Council at the stage of making the selection of the scholars. It is important to note that it will be a requirement that the Universities share all Scholarship applicant data with the British Council.
- A coordinated selection panel between the HEI and the British Council will determine which applicants will be awarded the bursaries. Details of the scholar selection process will be agreed at contracting stage.
- Once successful applicants have been confirmed, the HEIs will administer the bursary to each recipient in their Lot, covering all academic and living expenses.

The British Council may be in a position to increase the number of students available in each of the Lots. This would take the form of additional grants of £30,000 for Lots 1 and 2 and £15,000

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for Lots 3 and 4. **Universities interested in hosting additional students should indicate this on their Expression of Interest online form.**

The UK Universities selected to receive scholars will go through a screening process and shall then sign a Grant Agreement with the British Council. This Grant Agreement will detail all items to be funded, payment methods, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting requirements. A Draft Grant Agreement can be found in the Annexes of this Call. Please be advised that this Draft Grant Agreement is not final. Contracts will be drafted and formalised for each grant Recipient on individual basis.

The UK Universities will also be responsible for reporting proof of enrollment in the Master's programme(s) by the end of November 2022.

**Please note that all clarification questions must be received via this form (<https://forms.office.com/r/AZQ4uWdiHp>) by 23.59 UK time 24 November 2021. There will be an information webinar held on 25 November from 12.00-1.00pm UK time to answer queries and provide support.**

**Responses to all clarification questions will also be published on the British Council's Education Services website <https://education-services.britishcouncil.org/> by 26 November 2021.**

**Institutional representatives interested in attending the webinar must register to receive joining instructions on the same form linked above (<https://forms.office.com/r/AZQ4uWdiHp>).**

## **Eligibility and selection of scholars**

A Steering Committee, composed of academic reviewers from the University and Programme Leads from the British Council will select the candidates through a points-based system, encompassing the programme's criteria.

The following guidelines should be considered for the selection of scholars. Scholars must:

- be a passport holder and permanent resident of India (for Lot 1 and Lot 3 scholarships) or Pakistan (for Lot 2 and Lot 4 scholarships)
- have an undergraduate degree that will enable them to gain entry onto one of the pre-selected postgraduate programmes at a UK university
- demonstrate the 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
- have not previously studied at degree level or higher in the UK or lived recently in the UK
- meet the English language requirement of the UK HEI
- be motivated and academically able to follow and benefit from a UK postgraduate taught course



- be working in or directly with the government education sector in their country, with a focus on English language teaching
- be active in the field with a proven interest in the proposed subject area of English language teaching and educational technologies
- be willing to demonstrate future contribution to the field of English language teaching in their country through the benefits achieved after graduating from UK higher education
- agree to be a part of British Council's global alumni network, maintain contact with the British Council and act as an ambassador for the UK and engage with activities as part of a Scholarships for English Language Teachers alumnus during and after their studies in the UK.
- demonstrate a plan and a passion to engage with the wider community working in English language teaching from their home country.
- agree to their personal data being shared with the British Council as a condition of applying for the bursary.

Scholars are not eligible for a British Council Scholarship for English language teachers if they:

- Hold dual British citizenship
  - Are an employee, a former employee, or relative (\*) of an employee of Her Majesty's Government (including British Embassies/High Commissions; the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy; 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
- (\*): Relatives are defined as parents or step-parents, siblings or step-siblings, children or step-children, 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 their 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.

## **Terms and conditions for participating HE Institutions**

- After confirmation of award, and payment transfer to the UKHEI, if the scholar decides to withdraw from the scholarship, the UKHEI can nominate a new candidate after confirmation from British Council on who will be the candidate with the same eligibility criteria within 10 working days from the date of withdrawal of the scholar. If the new scholar nomination is accepted, no extra funds will be transferred to meet higher costs of tuition.

- After confirmation of award, and payment transfer to the UKHEI, if the scholar decides to withdraw from the award, and the UKHEI is unable to nominate a new candidate, the full paid amount will be refunded to the British Council before September 30, 2022.
- Once the UKHEI and the scholar has confirmed the programme and course details, no change in course area will be permitted without prior approval from the British Council. In exceptional conditions, if a request for course change is made this must be considered and agreed by the British Council along with the UKHEI. No additional payments will be made towards higher tuition costs.
- Selected scholars cannot accept any additional funding towards tuition that will be covered by the British Council English language teaching scholarships.
- Selected candidates will need to participate in all trainings, professional development and networking opportunities provided by the British Council in their home country and the UK.
- Selected candidates must act as a brand ambassador for the British Council while in the UK. The British Council will engage with the scholars before, during and after the study period to enable this.
- Scholars are expected to engage on social media platforms during their stay in the UK and share their experiences about studying in the UK.
- Scholars will be eligible to apply for the Graduate Route on completion of their programme, subject to current UKVI rules. However on completion of the MA scholars will be expected to maintain contact with the British Council and contribute to the development of the English language teaching sector in their home country.

## Timeline

Please consider the following timeline for the implementation of this programme:

DATE	ACTION
12 November 2021	Call for proposals published
24 November 2021	Deadline for clarification questions (please submit all clarification questions here: <a href="https://forms.office.com/r/AZQ4uWdiHp">https://forms.office.com/r/AZQ4uWdiHp</a> )
25 November 2021	Responses to clarifications questions published and shared via information webinar held for interested universities ( <b>12.00pm –</b>

	<b>1.00pm UK time – please register here to receive joining instructions: <a href="https://forms.office.com/r/AZQ4uWdiHp">https://forms.office.com/r/AZQ4uWdiHp</a></b>
<b>13 December 2021</b>	<b>Deadline for submission of bids</b>
18 December 2021	The British Council to inform bidding institutions of results
20 January 2022	Institutions to provide confirmed scholarship details and any other promotional content
28 January 2022	Production of campaign promotional materials and landing pages
31 January 2022	Grant agreements signed between the British Council and participating institutions
18 February 2022	Lot funding allocation issued by the British Council to participating institutions on receipt of relevant financial documents (including bank details)
22 February 2022	Launch of the Scholarships marketing campaigns in India and Pakistan  The marketing campaigns will run in both countries until 30 April 2021
15 May 2022	Selection of bursaries in each Lot (in process which involves HEI and British Council agreeing scholars)
1 June 2021	Bursaries awarded to selected scholars
1 July 2022	Bursaries confirmed and finalised. IELTS tests taken.
July 2022	Promotion / case-studies of selected candidates (central stories coordinated by alumni programme)
September/October 2022	Course start in the UK

## Proposals and selection criteria

In order to participate in this call, UK institutions are requested to send the required supporting documents listed below to [Education.SouthAsia@britishcouncil.org](mailto:Education.SouthAsia@britishcouncil.org), with the subject line “Scholarships for EL teachers - Eol” by **13 December 2021 (12.00 GMT)**, and complete the online [Expression of Interest form](#).

The templates for your supporting documents are provided on the Education Services website (<https://education-services.britishcouncil.org/>).

- Application to Lots
- Track record (plus folder of evidence)

- Budget calculator

**UK Universities participating in the call must submit the online form (<https://forms.office.com/r/xGe6NdvfSy>) and all three supporting documents. Submissions which are incomplete or have made in a format other than the templates provided will be dismissed.**

The following selection criteria will be used:

CRITERIA	%
Selection and suitability of Master's programme(s)	40%
Holistic support offered to Scholars and university's commitment to EDI values	20%
Professional/Industry and networking opportunities for the Scholars, linked to programmes	15%
Track record in administering similar scholarship/bursary schemes	15%
Cash or in-kind contributions to the programme	10%

If eligible institutions are awarded evaluation scores within 5% of each other, the British Council reserves the right to award the grant with consideration to the geographical spread of institutions across the UK.

All participating institutions will be informed of the results of the bid, and written feedback will be provided upon request. Appeals can be received by Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2021 and will be reviewed by Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December. Any complaints will be taken seriously and processed in line with our [Global complaints policy](#).

## Annexes

Annex 1: Draft Grant Agreement

Annex 2: British Council policy statements