# Scotland Pakistan Scholarship Scheme for Young Women and Girls 2025-26

In Collaboration with the British Council & Scottish Government

### **Announcement**

We are pleased to announce that applications for the **Scotland Pakistan Scholarship Scheme for Young Women and Girls 2025-26** are now open!

Launched in 2013 by the **British Council in collaboration with the Scottish Government**, this program aims to **promote higher education among Pakistani women**, especially those from **financially disadvantaged backgrounds**.

So far, the scheme has supported **over 2,000 students** in achieving their educational ambitions.

## **Who Can Apply?**

The scholarships are offered to **female students** enrolled in **Bachelor's** and **Master's** programmes in areas of **critical importance to Pakistan**:

- Education
- Agriculture & Food Security
- Sustainable Energy
- Health Sciences (excluding Medical Sciences)
- Climate Change
- STEM Engineering (only applicable at Master's level)

## **Scholarship Benefits**

Award holders will receive:

- Full **Tuition fees** (Bachelor's or Master's level in eligible fields)
- University hostel costs (where applicable)
- **Travel allowance** (to and from home to university, 2 times a year for on-campus residents)

## Important Dates

- **Application Deadline:** August 31, 2025
- **Shortlisting of Candidates:** End of September Early October
- **Interviews:** Mid-October Early November
- **Final Award Announcement:** End of November Early December

(Timeline is tentative and subject to change)

## **How to Apply**

- 1. Visit the Alhamd Information office: (access the portal)
- 2. Select the appropriate application form: **Bachelor's** or **Master's/MPhil**
- 3. Complete the form and upload all required **supporting documents**:
  - o CNIC/Form B (Applicant & Parent/Guardian)
  - o Salary slips/proof of income (Parent/Guardian)
  - o Certificate/result sheet of last completed degree
  - o Admission/Offer Letter from HEC-recognized university
  - Fee schedule (tuition + hostel, if applicable)
  - o Disability certificate/medical proof (if applicable)

 $\triangle$  Incomplete applications will **not** be considered.

## ? Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

#### 1. How can I apply for this scholarship?

To apply for this scholarship, please visit our scholarship page **here.** Once you are on this page, expand the section titled "Scotland Pakistan Scholarships for Young Women and Girls 2025-26". You may select for Master's/MPhil application form or bachelor's application form depending on what you are applying for. Deadline is **31-August-2025.** Please be sure to submit all supporting documentation as well. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

#### 2. Is the GRE required?

The GRE is not required for this scholarship.

#### 3. Is IELTS required?

IELTS is not required for this scholarship.

#### 4. What programmes fall under health science?

Examples of some programmes that fall under health sciences are as follows:

- Nutrition majors
- Public health
- Biochemistry and more

#### 5. What programmes fall under education?

Some programmes that fall under the field of Education are as follows:

- Master's in education
- Education leadership
- TESOL
- TEFL
- MEd etc.

#### 6. What is STEM?

STEM engineering includes fields related to Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics. Some examples include:

- Biotechnology
- Biosciences/Applied Biosciences
- Environmental Engineering
- Aeronautical Engineering
- Mathematics and more

#### 7. How can I track my application?

Currently, the British Council does not have an application tracking system. However please note that after the applications close on **31-August-2025**, we will review and shortlist candidates tentatively by the end of September/early October. Shortlisted candidates will then be interviewed, after which successful candidates will be awarded the scholarship by the end of December to early January (tentative timeline).

#### 8. When will a final decision regarding the scholarship be made?

The following tentative timeline will be followed:

- Application deadline: 31-August-2025
- Candidates shortlisted for first round of interviews: End of September/early October
- Candidates invited for first round of interviews: Mid-October to early November

Scholarship awarded: End of November to early December

Please note these are tentative timelines and are subject to slight changes.

#### 9. Will all candidates be informed of the decision or only successful candidates?

Only successful candidates will be informed of the decision. If you have not heard back by the end of September/early October, it is safe to assume that you have not been shortlisted.

#### 10. What are the timelines for this scholarship?

- The deadline to apply for this scholarship is **31-August-2025**
- Candidates will be shortlisted and contacted towards the end of September.
- Shortlisted candidates will be invited for interviews early mid-October.
- The final grant will be disbursed by end of November to early December.

Please note these are tentative timelines and are subject to slight changes.

#### 11. If my parent/guardian is employed in the informal sector what kind of proof of employment can I provide?

If your parent/guardian is employed in the informal sector (e.g., farmer etc.) then please mention it on your application and provide a rough estimate of their monthly income. Please be sure to provide full contact details and a copy of the CNIC/B Form so that we may verify the details you have provided.

#### 12. What supporting documents do I need to provide along with the application form?

For a complete scholarship application, the following documents must be submitted along with a duly filled out application form:

- Copy of CNIC/ Form B (Applicant)
- Copy of CNIC/ Form B (Parent/Guardian)
- Salary slips of Parent/Guardian (You may also choose to submit a pension slip or any proof of parent's/guardian's employment status)
- Copy of certificate or result sheet of most recently completed educational degree
- Copy of letter of confirmation of admission from a university/college
- Copy of tuition fee schedule for the programme you are pursuing. (If you need to utilize hostel facilities, please be sure to present a fee schedule for the hostel costs as well).
- Scanned copy of disability certificate/or any medical proof (This is required only for students with disabilities)

#### 13. What subject areas is this scholarship being offered?

The Scotland Pakistan Scholarship is being offered to students pursuing a master's/MPhil in any one of the following fields:

#### Master's/MPhil:

- Education
- Sustainable Energy
- Food Security and Agriculture
- Health Sciences (Medical Sciences are not included)
- STEM Engineering (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics)
- Climate Change

#### Bachelor's:

- Education
- Sustainable Energy
- Food Security and Agriculture
- Health Sciences (Medical Sciences are not included)
- Climate Change

This scholarship is currently not being offered to candidates pursuing master's in social sciences such as economics, business studies, psychology, sociology, anthropology, history and so on.

#### 14. What does this scholarship cover?

Scotland Pakistan Scholarship Scheme will facilitate award-holders with the following:

- Tuition fees for master's or bachelor's courses
- University hostel costs
- Travel to and from home to university two times a year for students staying in on-campus hostels

#### 15. What is an HEC recognized university?

HEC recognized universities include Public or Private sector universities that are recognized and affiliated with Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan.

#### 16. Is there an age limit for this scholarship?

No, there is no age limit for this scholarship. Any Pakistani woman who wants to pursue a master's/MPhil or bachelor's degree is encouraged to apply.

#### 17. Do I need a new admission letter, or can I use one from last year?

The Scotland Pakistan Scholarship will only be offered to candidates who can prove they have been accepted into a university or are already enrolled in a master's or bachelor's programme; therefore, your admission letter must be valid, or you must be able to present alternative proof of enrolment in the university.

You can only use your previous admission letter if you are currently enrolled in a master's or bachelor's programme or have deferred your admission to the following year. If you were previously accepted into a university but did not accept the offer, then you must apply to a university again and submit a new admission letter.

# 18. When is the last date to apply for this scholarship? What if the university intake is after the scholarship deadline?

The deadline to submit your application is **31-August-2025**. If your university of choice announces admissions after the scholarship deadline, then you may submit your scholarship application without an admission letter. If you are shortlisted based on merit and financial need, then we will place you a **conditional offer.** This conditional offer however will only be confirmed when you submit an admission offer letter. If you are unable to provide proof of admission, your application will be disqualified.

#### 19. How are candidates shortlisted for the scholarship?

Candidates who fulfil all basic eligibility criteria are shortlisted based on academic merit and financial needs. The basic eligibility criterion is as follows:

- You are a Pakistani woman, currently residing in Pakistan
- The master's degree you want to pursue is **no longer than** 2 years (i.e., the program you are applying for can be no longer than 2 years. If the programme is longer than 2 years, then you are not eligible for the scholarship)
- The bachelor's degree you want to pursue is **no longer than** 4 years (i.e., the program you are applying for can be no longer than 4 years. If the programme is longer than 4 years, then you are not eligible for the scholarship)
- You have a confirmed offer/admission from an HEC recognized university. (i.e., you must have applied for a master's degree or bachelor's degree and received an offer from a university, admitting you to a programme in their institution)

#### 20. What level of education is this scholarship for?

The Scotland Pakistan Scholarship **does not** fund PhD programmes.

#### 21. How do I secure an offer letter?

To secure an offer letter, you must apply to an HEC recognized university of your choice for master's degree in the following fields:

Education

- Sustainable Energy
- Food Security and Agriculture
- Health Sciences (Medical Sciences are not included)
- STEM Engineering (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics)
- Climate Change

Once the university offers you an admission, you can submit the letter as proof.

#### 22. What is proof of admission?

Proof of admission is any document that confirms that you have been admitted into a university. It will also hold the name of your department, what programme you are pursuing, when you started the programme, and what year your degree will commence.

# 23. I want to pursue a master's or bachelor's in an international university. Am I eligible to apply for this scholarship?

The Scotland Pakistan Scholarship for Young Women and Girls is only being offered to female candidates who are pursuing a master's/MPhil or bachelor's in a Pakistani university. This scholarship is not for international studies.

#### 24. Does this scholarship cover full course?

The scholarship will be covering the tuition fee of the semester that the student is currently enrolled in and their coming semesters. Amount for previous semesters will not be reimbursed.