COMMUNIQUÉ

AWARD OF POSTGRADUATE COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM FOR YEAR 2015

Applications are invited from qualified Mauritian candidates for the nomination of up to three Commonwealth Scholarships, tenable in the United Kingdom as from October 2015 under the above-mentioned programme in the following categories:

(i) full–time one year taught Master’s Programme;
(ii) full-time PhD of up to three years duration.

2. **Course of Study**

   (i) Consideration will be given to applications that demonstrably link to the development priorities of Mauritius in line with the List of Indicative Priority Fields of Study. Such links should be made explicit in the candidate’s write up accompanying the application. Consideration will also be given by the Commonwealth Scholarships Commission (CSC), UK to candidates whose area of study addresses any of the following priorities as identified by the Department for International Development (DFID), UK:

   - Education
   - Health
   - Economic growth and the Private Sector
   - Governance and Conflict
   - Climate and Environment
   - Water and Sanitation
   - Food and Nutrition
   - Humanitarian Disasters and Emergencies

(ii) The List of Indicative Priority Fields of Study 2014-2016 which has been affixed on the Notice Board of the Ministry, Ground Floor, MITD House, Phoenix can also be consulted on the following website:

http://ministry-education.gov.mu
3. **Eligibility Requirements**

3.1 **Qualifications**

A. **For a Master’s Degree**

(i) SC/GCE ‘O’ level with credits in at least five subjects including English Language at one and the same sitting;

(ii) HSC/GCE ‘A’ Level with three subjects at Principal level or equivalent qualification obtained at one and the same sitting; and

(iii) A first degree of at least Upper Second Class Honours level or equivalent.

B. **For Ph.D**

(i) SC/GCE ‘O’ level with credits in at least five subjects including English Language at one and the same sitting;

(ii) HSC/GCE ‘A’ Level with three subjects at Principal level or equivalent qualification obtained at one and the same sitting;

(iii) A first degree of at least Second Class Honours level or equivalent; and

(iv) A relevant Master’s degree or equivalent.

3.2 **Other Requirements**

(i) **Candidates** are expected to state in their application form at least one and up to three preferred institutions along with the title of the courses intended to be followed. However, the final decision on host institutions will be made by the Commonwealth Scholarships Commission;

(ii) Candidates opting for a Master’s or doctoral study **should submit their detailed study/research plan** (of about 750 words for masters and 1500 words for PhD) along with their application;

(iii) Candidates applying for doctoral studies will be expected to provide evidence of support from a prospective supervisor in at least one of their chosen institutions at the time of the application;

(iv) Candidates close to completing a doctorate in Mauritius are **not** eligible for this award.
NOTE:

(i) Candidates who have already started their PhD in the UK may apply. The scholarship will then start in October 2015 and will end after the scholar has been registered for their PhD for 36 months;

(ii) Scholarships are not tenable under this Scheme for MBAs or for studies in the field of Medicine;

(iii) Candidates are informed that the Selection Committee in the UK may request for references to be provided as part of the final submission after nomination;

(iv) Candidates wishing to undertake extensive periods of fieldwork in Mauritius may also apply;

(v) PhD candidates are also apprised that the Commonwealth has a separate scheme for split-side PhD study. Additional information can be gathered on the following website which includes details on the direct application mechanism to be followed:

http://www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk

4. **Age Limit**

Candidates should not have reached 35 years of age (for a Master’s degree) and 45 years of age (for PhD) by **31 December 2014**.

5. **Conditions of Scholarship**

5.1 The Scholarship covers, inter alia, airfare, tuition and examination fees and living allowance.

5.2 Candidates applying for courses in Business, Management, Economics or related fields should note that a number of universities will require a nominee to demonstrate a valid GMAT or GRE score before an offer of admission can be made. Candidates should ensure this condition is met, if applicable.

5.3 Candidates are invited to also note that host institutions in the UK may require the provision of evidence of a particular level of English Language proficiency.

5.4 Candidates are reminded that being nominated by the Ministry does not automatically guarantee final selection or placement in the United Kingdom and that the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom will make the final selection according to criteria which include:

- Academic merit;
- Likely development impact that candidates will have after their award; and
- Quality of candidate’s study/research plan.
Candidates are therefore strongly advised to take the above criteria into consideration when submitting their applications.

5.5 Beneficiaries of scholarships will be required to sign an undertaking, thereby committing themselves to return to Mauritius immediately after completion of their studies and work for at least two years in the public or private sector.

5.6 Only the best qualified candidates will be nominated. Candidates who have not been informed of their nomination within eight weeks as from the closing date for application should consider that they have not been selected.

5.7 A Communiqué will be placed on the website of the Ministry to inform applicants that selection exercise has already been carried out.

5.8 Applicants are advised to start the process of identifying up to three institutions and programmes of their choice and submit applications for a seat. A list of institutions for which the scholarships are tenable can be consulted on the following website:


For further information, candidates may also wish to consult the following website:

http://www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk

6. **Mode of Application**

6.1 Applications must be made:

(i) on the prescribed form available at the Scholarships Section, Ministry of Education and Human Resources, 1st Floor, MITD House, Phoenix, or

(ii) downloaded from the Ministry’s website:

http://ministry-education.gov.mu

(iii) Applicants may also submit applications on-line on the following website:

http://citizen.gov.mu

However, applicants should submit certified copies of all supporting documents after application for the scholarship online, which should not be later than the closing date specified below.

6.2 The completed forms along with all supporting documents should be submitted to the Scholarships Section of the Ministry by Friday 07 November 2014 at 14 00 hours at latest.
6.3 Responsible parties of applicants not in Mauritius may apply on behalf of their wards.

6.4 Applicants already in employment, whether public or private, must fill in the application form in duplicate. One copy thereof along with the relevant supporting documents, should be submitted to the Scholarships Section, and one copy to the applicant’s employer to enable the latter to decide on the release of the applicant for the course, and if so, on what terms and conditions. **Such information should be available at the time of submission of application.**

6.5 All candidates should ensure that certified copies of certificates, transcripts of final university result/marksheets and all other relevant documents relating to their qualifications are submitted to the Scholarships Section, along with their applications. **Non-submission of same by the closing date will result in elimination from the selection exercise.** Certification of documents may be done at the Scholarships Section of the Ministry or at the Careers Guidance Service in Rose Hill.

16 September 2014

Ministry of Education
and Human Resources
MITD House, Phoenix