CHINESE GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP (CGS) - Bilateral Program

INTRODUCTION

MISSION
In order to promote the mutual understanding, cooperation, and exchanges in various fields between China and other countries, the Chinese government set up a series of scholarship programs to sponsor international students to study in one of the 289 designated Chinese universities. CGS-Bilateral Program is one of those scholarships which support undergraduate students, graduate students, general scholars and senior scholars.

ELIGIBILITY
- a citizen of a country other than the People’s Republic of China, and be in good health.
- High school graduate under the age of 25 for undergraduate programs
- Bachelor’s degree holder under 35 for master’s programs
- Master’s degree holder under 40 for doctoral programs
- Under 45 and at least two years of undergraduate study for general scholar programs
- Master’s degree holder or an associate professor (or above) under 50 for senior scholar programs

SCHOLARSHIP COVERAGE
1) Tuition waiver: most universities’ tuition can be totally waived. Some majors, such as business management, global trade and politics in Peking University, Tsinghua University, Fudan University and etc. may charge much higher than the waived tuition. Please check university website or confirm with university officials if you need to pay extra part of tuition.
2) Accommodation: Usually a twin dormitory room if on campus living is required; if the host university permits students to live off campus, the university will provide monthly accommodation subsidy (undergraduate and master’s students CNY 700; doctoral students CNY 1000)
3) Monthly Stipend: undergrads CNY 2500; master’s CNY 3000; doctoral students CNY 3500
4) Medical Insurance: visit www.campuschina.org and refer to Comprehensive Insurance & Protection Scheme for Foreigners in China for insurance policy
* Scholarships do not cover visa fees, international travel fees and application fees.

POSSIBLE DURATIONS
- One semester: fall semester (September - January); spring semester (March - July)
- One-year Chinese language and culture study
- Degree programs (Bachelor, Master’s and Doctoral Degree programs)
*Currently, CGS-Bilateral Program cannot sponsor terms shorter than one semester

INSTRUCTION LANGUAGE
- Graduate and non-degree scholarship applicants can register for Chinese-taught or English-taught program. Undergraduate scholarship applicants must register for Chinese-taught credit courses.
- If you choose Chinese-taught programs, you need to meet the host university language requirements
APPLICATION PROCEDURE

DEADLINE: before March 15. The online platform (www.campuschina.org) is open for application throughout the year.

STEP 1: SELECT UNIVERSITY AND MAJOR
1. Visit www.campuschina.org
2. Click “Scholarships” to know more information about CGS
3. Click “Universities & Programs” to find top three universities and major you are most interested in
   * Only the listed Chinese higher education institutions in the Directory are available for your study in China. It currently only covers universities in mainland China.
   * To find your most desired university, you can look on each university’s website, search for the courses, and see if they are taught in English if so desired
   * Majors should be offered by Chinese universities and be based on your actual educational background. The duration of the Major study should match the program you apply for.
   * If you are applying for senior scholar programs, the major you choose should be the same as or closely related to the major of Master’s degree.
   * You have to select a discipline before choosing majors. You can refer to the Disciplines Index (under “Help”).

STEP 2: REGISTER ONLINE
1. Visit www.campuschina.org
   * Use Firefox or IE 11.0 (menu selection functions may not work in other browsers)
   * Only Chinese and English are accepted languages to complete the online application
2. Click “Scholarship Application Online for International Students” to create an account
3. Activate your account by clicking the link sent to your mail (The link will only be valid for 7 days and it might be sent to spam box)
4. Sign in and Click “Registration online” for registration
5. Fill in the correct Program Category: Type A
   Fill in the correct Agency Number: 8401 (the name of the agency will automatically emerge)
6. Follow the steps listed on the left of the page and fill in Online Application Form, please make sure:
   * your name on the application form is consistent with your name on your passport. This is very important for the later visa application.
   * your home address should be an American address if you want to apply VISA in U.S.
   * you can always be reached by permanent contact information. Notices for interview and award letter will be sent to your email. Please check your mailbox regularly and reply ASAP; otherwise you may lose your opportunity. Permanent contact information will be used to deliver Admission package (usually by UPS).
   * to fill in the contact information of your family member if you have no contact in China
STEP 3: PREPARE AND UPLOAD SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Passport/Visa Style Photo
2. Certificates of Highest Education
3. Academic transcripts of Highest Education
4. A Study Plan or Research Proposal
5. A photocopy of the Foreigner Physical Examination Form (see attachment) completed in English. Keep the original for your records as you will need it for the visa application. Please select the appropriate time to take physical examination as the result is valid for only 6 months.
6. Two letters of recommendation from (associate) professors if applying for senior scholars or graduate programs. Recommendation letters for language or undergraduate programs are not mandatory, however, providing letters increase your chances of being selected.
7. Example of Art (6 color pictures) and Music Work (1 audio tape) (Only for the applicants for Fine Arts and Music)
8. valid documents of your legal guardians in China (If under 18 years old)
9. Pre-admission Letter from designated universities (is encouraged if available)
10. Valid HSK 4 or higher-level Certificate (Chinese Proficiency Test), IELTS or TOFEL report (if required)
11. If already enrolled in a Chinese university in current academic year, include a permission letter to continue your study (issued by your host university)

- Click “Submit” to submit your Application
- Make changes to your application by clicking “Withdraw and Edit the Application” on the top of the page. But make sure to submit it again by clicking “Submit” after making the changes.
- Download the completed Application Form by clicking “Print the Application Form”

*From this year on, hard copies are no longer required. The submitted documents will be the only reference for the applied universities to confirm admission, so please make sure all the documents are truthful, correct and complete.

* Documents in languages other than Chinese or English must have notarized Chinese or English translations.

STEP 4: PLACEMENT AND SCHOLARSHIP CONFIRMATION

1. March 15: Deadline for receiving online applications
2. April: Education office of the Embassy of China in the U.S will select CGS candidates and send an “Award Letter” to them. Face to face or internet interviews may be arranged during this time. If you haven’t received any letter by the end of April, that probably means you are not selected as a candidate.

* You can use the Award Letter, which proves that you are eligible for CGS program, to directly contact your targeted Chinese universities for pre-admission. This might result in receiving pre-admission letter(s) from Chinese universities which could increase your chances of receiving a scholarship, and getting into your preferred university. If you don’t get any pre-admission letter, that’s also fine.

* As soon as you get the pre-admission letter(s), please upload to online application system if there is still a place to upload. Meanwhile, please send the scanned copy back to Education office of the Chinese Embassy
3. May-June: China Scholarship Council (CSC) in Beijing will forward the application to universities for placement approval

- Applications with a specific pre-admission letter(s) will be sent directly to the universities which issued that letter
- Applications without pre-admission letter(s) will be sent to universities based on the order of your preference. Acceptance into the preferred universities can’t be guaranteed. The CSC reserves the right to make necessary adjustments to the candidate’s host university, field of study, and duration of the scholarship, especially when candidates are rejected by all preferred universities.

4. July: If you are a scholarship winner, you will receive your scholarship confirmation from Education Office in U.S. by the end of July. The admission package, including the formal Admission Letter and the original Student-visa Application Form JW 201 will be delivered from Beijing to Education Office first and then to your permanent address. Candidates should inform Education Office if there is any change to their contact information.

STEP 5: APPLY FOR VISA

Apply for a visa at the Chinese embassy or consulate-general with the original documents and photocopies of the admission letter, visa application (JW201), Foreigner Physical Examination Form and a valid passport (X1 visa for more than 6 months in China, or X2 visa for up to 6 months)

- Find more information at http://www.china-embassy.org/eng/visas/
- Apply for a visa at a Chinese Embassy or Consulate General based on your State of residence. (Check service area at http://www.china-embassy.org/eng/zmzjls/t84229.htm). Sending your visa application or document(s) to the incorrect office may result in complication or delay in processing or even denial of application.

Without a visa, you won’t be able to register with institutions, nor will you be able to apply for the residence permit in China

STEP 6: UPON ARRIVAL IN CHINA

Register at the host university: You must register at your host university before the deadline as specified in the original Admission Letter. If you fail to register you will automatically lose your scholarship.

Health verification: If staying in China for more than 6 months you must submit the original documents (passport, Admission Letter, Foreigner Physical Examination Form, and Blood Test Report to the local health quarantine office to have your physical examination report verified. If you do not meet this requirement you will be required to re-take the physical examination.

Residence permit: You must apply for a residence permit at the local police authority within 30 days upon arrival. Required documents are passport, Admission Letter, Visa Form (JW201), verified health report, and a photo that meets the image requirements of the authority. Staying without registration is illegal and will lead to fines.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. When can I start online application?
The online application platform is open all over the year. You can apply any time before the deadline. Since it takes time to prepare supporting documents, we suggest you start as early as possible.

2. If I am not a U.S. citizen/ an international student in the U.S., can I apply for this scholarship?
The scholarships offered by the Education office of the Embassy of China in the U.S are generally for U.S. citizens only. We have similar scholarship programs in some other countries as well. If you are not a U.S. citizen, we recommend you contact the Chinese Embassy in your country of origin. If you are an international student in U.S. universities, you can apply for this scholarship, but it might bring you extra work when preparing supporting documents or applying for VISA.

3. What is the highest diploma if I am a university/colleague student?
You can provide a certificate of enrollment or a letter from your university (with stamp of the school or signature of director/president/dean), together with the diploma of high school.

4. What if I will get my bachelor/master degrees in the coming June or July?
If you are getting your diploma in the coming June or July, please enclose a certificate/letter from your school (with stamps of the school or signature of director/president/dean), together with the academic transcript which can prove you will graduate soon.

5. Is the physical examination necessary?
Yes. Some tests are required to prevent infectious diseases. For example, chest X-ray is required for tuberculosis, blood test for AIDS and Syphilis and others epidemic diseases. Mental health is also very important for foreign students to complete studies in a new environment. In some columns, doctors can describe it as “normal” or “good”, or specify details if it is not good.

- Applicants who are already in China and hold student visa needs no extra physical exam if you had one already. Please do upload one copy of your residence permits in China to application system.
- **The form will be invalid** without a sealed photograph of the applicant, a doctor/nurse practitioner’s signature or the stamp of a hospital.
- If you cannot upload physical exam form on time due to very special situations, please upload a written note explaining the reason instead and send it to Education office ASAP. Otherwise, you will not be considered as a candidate.

6. Do I have to transfer application fee to university when asking for pre-admission letters?
It is up to each university.

7. What should be included in my Study Plan or Research Proposal?
You must state in detail your motivation to study in China, interest in learning/researching the targeted subject, early studies on the subject, what you plan to learn/research in the following years, the academic fit of your targeted university in China. A good plan shows your academic competency and the right attitude proving you are the right candidate (minimum of 300 words for undergraduates, 500 words for non-degree students, and 800 words for postgraduates).

8. Where can I find information about other scholarships?
You can find all available scholarships at www.campuschina.org