

University of Adelaide – China Scholarship Council PhD Scholarships

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

ELIGIBILITY:

Q: I am a current student in the final year of my bachelors degree. Can I apply for a University of Adelaide – CSC PhD Scholarship?

A: For the University of Adelaide to accept a student directly from a four year bachelors degree into a PhD we require evidence of successful publications in international journals and extensive research experience above that required as part of your core studies. Any offer will be conditional upon completion of your undergraduate degree.

Q: I am a current masters degree student who wishes to gain entry into a PhD without completing my masters degree. Can I apply for a University of Adelaide – CSC PhD Scholarship?

A: For the University of Adelaide to accept a student into a PhD without completion of a masters degree we require evidence of successful publications in international journals and extensive research experience. Without this you will be required to complete your masters degree first.

Q: I am a current masters degree student who wishes to gain entry into a PhD following completion of my masters degree. Can I apply for a University of Adelaide – CSC PhD Scholarship?

A: Yes, if your home university supports your application.

Q: I am a current PhD student. Can I apply for a University of Adelaide – CSC PhD Scholarship?

A: Yes, if your home university supports your application. Generally only students in the first year of a PhD are supported.

Q: How do I confirm eligibility at the University of Adelaide?

A: You will receive notification from the University of Adelaide following your expression of interest whether you are eligible or not. Your subsequent formal application must be received by the application closing date.

Q: I have completed my studies and am not a recent graduate of a Chinese university. Can I apply for a University of Adelaide – CSC PhD Scholarship?

A: You will need to contact the China Scholarship Council to determine whether there is a category of scholarship that you can apply for. If the CSC confirms that you can apply for an alternative type of scholarship then you will need to provide the University of Adelaide with evidence of this before we can consider your eligibility.

Q: I am not from a “985 Project” university. Can I apply for a University of Adelaide – CSC PhD Scholarship?

A: Yes. However the University of Adelaide will give priority to graduates of the Chinese universities listed as “985 Project” Universities.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY:

Q: What are the University of Adelaide's English Language Proficiency entry requirements?

A: All international applicants are required to provide evidence (IELTS or TOEFL) that they have met the following English language proficiency results:

Program	IELTS Academic test minimum score	TOEFL Academic test minimum score
General requirements Applicable to ALL research programs except those Faculties/Schools listed below	Overall score of 6.5 AND Band score of 6.5 in Writing and Speaking AND Band score of 6.0 in Listening and Reading	Paper-based: total score of 575 with minimum of 4.5 in Test of Written English (TWE) OR Internet-based: total score of 90 with minimum of 22 in Writing and Speaking and 20 in Listening and Reading
Faculty of Health Sciences Faculty of Humanities and Social Science Faculty of the Professions (except for Economics)	Overall score of 7.0 AND Band score of 7.0 in Writing and Speaking AND Band score of 6.5 in Listening and Reading	Paper-based: total score of 600 with minimum of 5.0 in Test of Written English (TWE) OR Internet-based: total score of 100 with minimum of 25 in Writing and Speaking and 22 in Listening and Reading

Q: If I don't yet have an IELTS or TOEFL test result can I apply for a University of Adelaide – CSC joint PhD Scholarship?

A: Yes but you must to provide satisfactory IELTS or TOEFL results to the University of Adelaide before applications close. The Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) requires IELTS or TOEFL results to approve a student visa.

If you do not provide satisfactory results with your formal application the University of Adelaide will provide you with a conditional offer letter. Then when your satisfactory results are provided we will issue a revised offer removing the condition.

Q: Can I enrol in Pre-enrolment English training program (PEP) at the University of Adelaide if I cannot meet the university's English Language proficiency entry requirements?

A: No because the China Scholarship Council will not approve conditional scholarship offers. All CSC applicants must demonstrate satisfactory English Language proficiency before the CSC application closing date.

PROCESS and TIMING:

Q: What is the process to apply for a University of Adelaide – CSC joint PhD Scholarship?

A: Here is a summary of how applications for a China scholarship are processed at the University of Adelaide:

1. We make a preliminary assessment of your academic record and your proposed research topic, your English language ability, and the university you are from in China (applicants from 985 and partner universities are given priority). With this information the Dean of Graduate Studies will determine whether you are eligible to formally apply for a China Scholarship at the University of Adelaide.
2. If the Dean of Graduate Studies approves then we approach potential supervisor(s) who we think are best suited and currently available to supervise your proposed research. As part of this assessment process potential supervisor(s) may need to interview you (for example, by telephone or Skype) to determine whether you are a suitable candidate and whether your research interests are aligned.
3. When potential supervision is confirmed we invite you to submit a formal application and provide you with the application forms and instructions you need.

4. When we receive your formal application it is assessed and we make a final decision. From the date that we receive your formal application the university aims to process your application and notify you of the outcome within 3 working weeks.
5. If your formal application is approved we make a letter of offer to you.
6. After the University of Adelaide's CSC application closing date we rank all CSC applicants.
7. In March we send a list to the CSC for their approval together with your University's recommendations.
8. If the CSC awards you with a scholarship the process of getting you to Australia begins.

Q: Should I approach potential supervisors before I apply?

A: No, the University of Adelaide needs to assess your eligibility to apply for a CSC scholarship first. Then we approach potential supervisor(s) on your behalf, based upon your area(s) of interest. This is essential because it means we can find the best possible match between applicants and available staff, and ensure that you receive timely responses to your enquiries.

Q: Should I prepare a research project before I apply?

A: Once we have assessed the documents and found out if you are eligible for a scholarship with us we will find a supervisor for you and you will develop a proposal in conjunction with them. In the meantime we require you to draft a proposal based on what research you have done, what interests you and what area you think you would like to specialise in. This gives the supervisor an idea of the area you have experience in. We will not approach potential supervisors without this. However you may be invited to work on an alternative project if one is available, or to revise your proposal before you and your prospective supervisor agree.

You may prefer to consider undertaking one of the available projects list which can be found on our website at: <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/graduatecentre/scholarships/postgrad/chinascholarship/projects.html>. If you find a potential project on this website please provide a statement explaining how your research experience relates to the project.

Q: Should I submit my academic transcripts and graduation certificates in Chinese language?

A: No, you should submit your records in Chinese and English languages. If your university cannot provide English translations of your academic records then you should ask a professional translation company to translate for you.

Q: How long does it take for the University of Adelaide to assess my eligibility to apply once I submit an Expression of Interest?

A: Generally from 2 to 4 weeks, depending on staff availability. Kindly note that the University of Adelaide closes for business from noon on 24 December and does not reopen until the first working day in January. Academic staff often take additional leave before and after this period so additional delays may occur depending on staff availability, so we encourage you to submit your expression of interest early.

Q: When should I apply?

A: Once the Dean of Graduate Studies determines that you are eligible and potential supervision is confirmed we will invite you to submit a formal application and provide you with the application forms and instructions you need.

Q: How long does it take until I get an offer from University of Adelaide after I submit a formal application?

A: From 2 to 4 weeks, depending on staff availability. Kindly note that the University of Adelaide closes for business from noon on 24 December and will not reopen until the first working day in January. Academic staff often take additional leave before and after this period so additional delays may occur depending on staff availability, so we encourage you to submit your formal application with the required documentation as soon as possible.