

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

To provide some clarification of the eligibility criteria and application process, and based on real questions we've received in the past, we trust that these FAQs help.

If you are still unsure if your application will be considered you may contact the CCSF as directed on our website (www.canadianscholarshipfund.co.uk) but please note that we volunteer our time to the CCSF, and it may take several days to prepare a response to your query.

FAQ 1: I am currently enrolled on a one year Masters course in the UK and may do a PhD in future. Can I apply for CCSF funding now so that the money can be used to help with my PhD fees?

No. The CCSF will only look at applications for students who are currently undertaking a full-time, multi-year postgraduate programme.

Students enrolled on a one year Masters programme are not eligible. Even if you have obtained assurance of a place for your PhD, you can apply only once you have started.

FAQ 2: I am doing a two-year postgraduate programme and will finish in June. I understand that although interviews are held in May or June, funds aren't awarded until September. Am I still eligible?

No. To be eligible, applicants must be returning to their current programme of study the next academic year.

FAQ 3: One of my referees is doing fieldwork abroad and may not be able to return the questionnaire and letter before the deadline because of unreliable postal services. Can it be sent by email?

No. We ask that referees add their signature to Page 6 of the application form together with any additional letter they wish to write. If your absent referee wishes to send us the information electronically, he/she can do so but the original documents must still reach us by the deadline.

You may wish to gather more than two references if you think one may be late, but please only submit two.

FAQ 4: The website says that students must be available for interview in London at a specific time, but I'm not sure if I can commit to that at the moment as I'm based outside London. Can interviews be held using Skype or via videoconferencing?

A face to face interview is a fundamental requirement for eligibility. Remote interviews are not permitted. The CCSF will refund travel expenses from the short-listed candidates UK study location to the interview location in Central London. We ask that all candidates endeavour to secure the best possible travel fares. If you cannot attend the interview, you are more than welcome to apply again in future.

FAQ 5: I meet all the eligibility requirements and will apply, but I am having financial problems now. When will the CCSF notify successful applicants and can the CCSF help with emergency funds?

Suggest we add: The CCSF is not able to provide emergency funds. Students should contact their course advisors to discuss options for obtaining emergency financial assistance.

Approximately one month after the closing date for applications, short-listed students will be invited to attend an interview, scheduled for late May/early June. Successful students will be notified by the end of June. Payment of the award will be made in September.

FAQ 6: I have seen the website but the deadline for applications hasn't yet been announced. Can I start the process by using the application form from last year?

The revised application form, together with the deadline date is publicised on the CCSF website in November. Please note that eligibility rules may also be adjusted at that time so it is imperative that you read all information available. The deadline is likely to be early March.

FAQ 7: I have undertaken several undergraduate degrees. Do you need official transcripts for all past degrees completed?

It is sufficient if you (or your university/institution) provide us with official transcripts for at least the most recently completed degree.

FAQ 8: Do references need to be related to my programme of study?

At least one of the two references needs to be from your current supervisor and both need to be recent. The second reference should ideally be either directly involved in your current programme of study or have been involved in your previous study.

FAQ 9: It would save me time if I could submit my standard CV but it is 7 A4 pages. I don't wish to lower the chance of my success by cutting out relevant information. Is this OK?

You'll note that on the application form, we state a preference for a short CV. Although academic CVs may be longer, it would be sufficient to state your most recent articles/exhibitions/concerts etc, with an indication of the total number over the years.