Graduate Study in the UK – Funding Your Study

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Structure of UK PG Degrees

• 1 year Master’s degrees: MA, MSc, MRes
  (Although some institutions offer two year taught courses)
• Entry requirements: Bachelor’s degree

• 3-4 year Doctoral degrees: PhD
• Entry requirements: Master’s degree or equivalent professional experience
Master’s degrees

**MA/MSc**
- Taught (modular) focus from Oct-May/June followed by research projects
- Provides variety of research experience, group work and industry contact
- **Career path:** Very flexible, providing the foundation for specialisation or diversification into a different sector/industry.

**MRes**
- Fewer taught modules with emphasis on a larger dissertation or an equivalent practice-led research project
- Deeper training in Research Methods
- Greater independence of learning and potential for increased specialisation
- **Career path:** Further research as a research assistant, PhD student or industry
Doctoral degrees

PhD

- Majority of time spent carrying out original research
- Usually 3 years of research, with 6 months for writing up
- Require a thorough understanding of the relevant academic discipline and competence in relevant techniques.
- Work closely with supervisor and research group
- Thesis of up to 100,000 words and a viva voce examination

Career path: Extremely diverse, both within and outside academia. Often followed by further research as Post Doctoral researcher within a university
National Fellowships

- **Fulbright Scholarships**
  Fulbright Postgraduate Student Awards - available for academic work in any graduate programme at any recognised UK university. These are for one year.
  2 general awards and 42 Partnership Scholarships available, some for specific courses at a UK University and others for any course at a UK University
  [http://www.fulbright.org.uk/going-to-the-uk](http://www.fulbright.org.uk/going-to-the-uk)

- **Marshall Scholarships**
  Marshall Scholarships fund study at graduate level at any UK University in any field of study. The Scholarships are for one or two years.
  Up to 40 awards offered each year.
Marshall Partnership Scholarships

The Marshall Commission partners with 37 British Universities (including all of the Russell Group). However we do not select Scholars for all of our partner institutions every year so this differs to the Fulbright partnership Scholarship where they select a Scholar for each of their partners annually.

Marshall does encourage applicants to consider our partner institutions and there are advantages to choosing a partner, including the possibility of third year funding for students planning on undertaking PhD’s.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University of Birmingham</th>
<th>King's College London</th>
<th>Royal Academy of Music</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Bristol</td>
<td>University of Leeds</td>
<td>Royal Holloway</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corpus Christi College, Oxford</td>
<td>University of Liverpool</td>
<td>Royal Northern College of Music (PhD only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cardiff University</td>
<td>London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)</td>
<td>University of Sheffield</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Dundee</td>
<td>London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)</td>
<td>Somerville College, Oxford</td>
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<tr>
<td>(College of Life Sciences) (PhD only)</td>
<td>Magdalene College, Cambridge</td>
<td>University of Southampton</td>
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<td>Durham University</td>
<td>University of Manchester</td>
<td>University of St Andrew's</td>
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<td>University of East Anglia</td>
<td>New College, Oxford</td>
<td>St John's College, Cambridge</td>
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<td>University of Edinburgh</td>
<td>Newcastle University</td>
<td>University of Surrey</td>
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<td>University of Exeter</td>
<td>University of Nottingham</td>
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<td>University of Glasgow</td>
<td>Nuffield College, Oxford</td>
<td>Trinity College, Oxford</td>
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<tr>
<td>Goldsmiths, University of London</td>
<td>Oriel College, Oxford</td>
<td>University College London (UCL)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gonville and Caius, Cambridge</td>
<td>Queen Mary University of London</td>
<td>University of Warwick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guildhall School of Music and Drama</td>
<td>Queen's University Belfast</td>
<td>University of York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imperial College London</td>
<td>Keele University</td>
<td>3rd Year Partners:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keele University</td>
<td>University of Kent</td>
<td>University of Oxford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Kent</td>
<td>King's College, Cambridge</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fulbright Partnership Scholarships

Fulbright in the UK has 44 Postgraduate/Student Awards. The All Disciplines open category is extremely competitive and they can usually only offer 2 grants. Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply for the partner awards.

The partnership agreement is one grant per year for each of the partner awards. Depending on the quality of applicants, willingness of certain partners to offer a second grant, and the Fulbright’s capability to accept more grantees, they might offer more than one grant in specific cases. Fulbright sends a Scholar to each Partner institute annually.
Fulbright Partnership Institutions

- Fulbright Anniversary in Europe Award (Migration Studies) *NEW* *2018-19 ONLY*
- All-Disciplines (Open) Award Category
- Aberystwyth University: International Relations
- Bangor University: Celtic Studies, Ocean Sciences, & Creative Writing
- University of Birmingham
- University of Bristol
- Cardiff University
- Durham University
- University of East Anglia
- University of Exeter
- Imperial College London
- John Wood LAMDA Award: Classical Acting
- King's College London
- University of Kent
- Lancaster University
- University of Leeds
- University of Leicester
- University of Liverpool
- London School of Economics
- University of Manchester
- Newcastle University
- Northumbria University: Art & Design
- University of Nottingham
- Queen Mary, University of London
- Queen's University Belfast Award in Legislative Studies (Northern Ireland Assembly)
- University of Reading
- University of Roehampton: Dance
- Royal Holloway, University of London
- Royal Veterinary College, University of London
- University of Sheffield
- SOAS, University of London
- University of Southampton
- University of Sussex
- University of St Andrews: Arts & Humanities
- University of Stirling: Health, Well-being, & Sport
- University of Strathclyde Research Awards
- Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music & Dance
- University College London Award
- University College London Award in Entrepreneurship
- University College London-Institute of Education Award
- UCL Executive Masters in Public Policy Award
- University of Warwick
- University of York
Where to look for PG funding

- [www.targetpostgrad.com/funding](http://www.targetpostgrad.com/funding)
- [www.prospects.ac.uk/funding-postgraduate-study.htm](http://www.prospects.ac.uk/funding-postgraduate-study.htm)
- [www.postgraduatestudentships.co.uk/](http://www.postgraduatestudentships.co.uk/)

Search on:
- Research Council Grants
- Scholarships
- Loans
- Employer Sponsorships
- Disability Related funding ([www.misua.org](http://www.misua.org))
- Charitable Foundations
University Funding Schemes

www.ucl.ac.uk/scholarships
http://www.gla.ac.uk/scholarships/
www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/fees-and-funding/scholarships

Search by :
• PGT / PGR
• prospective / current student
• country of domicile
• department / subject

Look at alumni funding schemes, or discounts for alumni

Don’t be afraid to contact Professors and departments directly!
### Sources of funding US students in the UK 2012/13 – 2015/16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>PGT 2012/13</th>
<th>PGT 2015/16</th>
<th>PGR 2012/13</th>
<th>PGR 2015/16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UK research councils</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK Gov / British Council</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US/UK industry &amp; commerce</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students employer</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charitable foundations</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No fees</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other 'Overseas' funding</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US loan</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Government</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provider waiver of support costs</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>465</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No award or financial backing</td>
<td>4195</td>
<td>4245</td>
<td>1170</td>
<td>1035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>5655</strong></td>
<td><strong>6145</strong></td>
<td><strong>2415</strong></td>
<td><strong>2280</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: HESA Student record 2002/03 - 2015/16
©British Council
Analysis – Stats (UCL)

Overview

• Records of 242 postgraduate US students at the UCL
• 193 Master’s Students and 49 PhD Students

• Results Demonstrate
  ➢ Established funding opportunities are becoming much more competitive, however percentage relying on FAFSA support is falling
  ➢ Very few students are solely reliant on scholarships to fund their study
Analysis – Stats (UCL)

Funding Sources

- Direct Loan: 161
- Sallie Mae: 2
- VA Benefits: 4
- Fulbright: 9
- Marshall: 1
- SFO Scholarship: 16
Analysis – Stats (UCL)

Funding Sources

- Direct Loan: 161
- Sallie Mae: 31
- VA Benefits: 4
- Fulbright: 0
- Marshall: 0
- SFO Scholarship: 0
- Unknown: 162

Legend:
- PGT
- PGR
Analysis – Stats (UCL)

Masters

- Direct Loan: 11
- Sallie Mae: 14
- VA Benefits: 26
- Fulbright: 3
- Marshall: 4
- Unknown: 162

PhD

- Direct Loan: 26
- Sallie Mae: 16
- SFO Scholarship: 31
- Fulbright: 2
- Marshall: 1
- Unknown: 161
Analysis – Stats (Glasgow)

Overview

• Survey results from 81 postgraduate US students at the University of Glasgow

• 55 Master’s Students and 26 PhD Students

• Results Demonstrate
  ➢ With increased interest from US students in completing Masters programmes abroad, finding full funding has become more difficult.
  ➢ Federal funding and savings support students completing Masters degrees
Analysis – Stats (Glasgow)

Funding Sources

- PhD
- Masters
Analysis – Stats (Glasgow)

Research Funding – Searches

Masters

- Friends/Family: 9
- Internet search: 8
- Internet search, Friends/Family: 5
- Internet search, University website: 4
- Internet search, University website, British Council: 28
- Internet search, University website, British Council, Friends/Family: 0
- Internet search, University website, British Council, Friends/Family: 0
- Internet search, University website, British Council, Friends/Family: 0
- Internet search, University website, British Council, Friends/Family: 0
- Internet search, University website, British Council, Friends/Family: 0
- Internet search, University website, British Council, Friends/Family: 6
Analysis – Stats (Glasgow)

Current US Student Advice

• “Ms. Carol Barnett is a great resource! Use her.”

• “There were relevant funded UK/EU doctoral programs but as a US citizen and not a permanent resident, I did not qualify. I acquired financing ($50,000) for military service.”

• “I received an e-mail from the department listing scholarship options and I applied and won. I relied on US government loans to cover the difference.”
Overview

• Survey results from 45 postgraduate US students at Imperial College

• 34 Master’s Students and 11 PhD Students

• Results Demonstrate
  ➢ There are numerous sources of funding prospective students look to in order to support their study in the UK
  ➢ Students most commonly look to their family and the internet in researching potential funding for their studies in the UK
Analysis – Stats (Imperial)

Funding Sources

- PhD
- Masters

- No answer/personal or family financial backing: 18
- UK loan: 4
- Imperial Scholarship: 3
- Employed: 2
- Other external funding: 2
- Multiple - Internship Scholarship: 1
- Multiple - Other MRes: 1
- Charitable Foundation: 1
- Industry & Companies: 1
- Multiple - Government: 1
- UK Research Councils/Scholarships: 1
Analysis – Stats (Imperial)

Research Funding – Searches

Master’s:
- British Council: 17
- Combination: internet search, University website, Friends/Family: 5
- Internet search: 3
- Other: 1
- Undergraduate university advisor: 1
- University website: 5

PhD:
- Combination: internet search, University website, Friends/Family: 4
- Internet search: 3
- Other: 2
- Undergraduate university advisor: 1
- University website: 1
Current US Student Advice

• “Do your research early or you're options become limited and more expensive”

• “For applicants intending to do a PhD, contact a potential supervisor well in advance who is willing to suggest funding opportunities they know of and advocate for the student”

• “The best place to look for funding for studies abroad are the university and NGO/government websites”

• “Do research on how much it is going to cost you to live and go to school in London. It is difficult to go back and request further funding and you don't request more than you need. Work out a budget and submit it accurately the first time to the US federal loan site”
Community-Based Fundraising

- Heritage Groups that have interests in specific countries (i.e., Korean-American Society)
- Civic groups (Rotary, Kiwanis, and Lions Clubs, etc.)
- Foundations or Agencies
- Travel Agencies
- High School Alumni Associations
- Professional and Business Associations
- Media (newspapers, magazines, T.V., and radio)
- Sororities and Fraternities (local and national chapters)
- Charitable, Ethnic, Religious, and Campus Organizations
Alternative Guide to PG Funding

Database for current and prospective postgraduate students (any subject, any nationality) who are looking to fund PhD, Masters, and PGCE study in the UK through grants from charities, trusts, and foundations!

Pay service or many universities have bought a license and will give applicants free access
Crowd Sourcing & Social Media

- Crowd sourcing platforms for funding your studies overseas:
  - www.fundmytravel.com
  - Scholar Match – for the Bay Area
  - GoFundMe
- Social media (facebook, twitter etc.) are increasingly used to promote scholarships and other sources of funding
Veterans & GI Bill

- Can use funding for overseas study
- Can use for blended learning with minimum in-class time
- Cannot use for online and distance learning programs
Financial Aid

Resources
- http://FAFSA.ed.gov
- https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/resources#funding
- Institutional Student Funding Offices

NB No Work-Study
Working while abroad

- Part time jobs
  Tier 4 visa – 20 hours per week during term-time, full-time during vacations.
  Up to students to manage study/work balance
  Limited availability on campus
  Careers Services

- Paid internships
  All student/Tier 4 student visa holders are permitted to undertake an internship during the Christmas and Easter holidays.
  MSc students can only complete internships in the summer if not spend more than 50% of the time on their course doing a work placement. Summer placements are only possible if the internship is assessed as part of the course
  Internships offices
Brainstorm

What methods have your students used to raise funds?
What service organizations are represented in your community or campus that have graduate funding?
Contact US

Alex Craik, UCL: a.craik@ucl.ac.uk
Joey Kirk, University of Glasgow: Joey.Kirk@glasgow.ac.uk
Ciaran Moynihan, Imperial College London: c.moynihan@imperial.ac.uk
Alicia Hayes, UC Berkeley: akhayes@berkeley.edu
Mary Denyer, Marshall Aid Commission: m.denyer@acu.ac.uk