

Fellowship Information Session series

Marshall & Churchill Scholarships



2026

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INTRODUCTION



Both are fully funded awards that support exceptional students in pursuing postgraduate study at overseas universities.

Both scholarships are more than financial awards — they are opportunities to join a global community of leaders committed to making a lasting difference in the world.



MARSHALL OVERVIEW



History

Established by Act of Parliament in 1953, the Marshall Scholarship was created as Britain's thank-you for the Marshall Plan – the US-funded program that helped rebuild postwar Europe. Named for General George C. Marshall, it remains one of the most prestigious US-to-UK graduate scholarships in the world.

Info

The Marshall Scholarship aims to develop future leaders with a lasting understanding of British society who will strengthen the enduring relationship between the United States and the United Kingdom.

Awards per year ~40-50

Countries eligible US Citizens only

UK universities available any accredited UK university

Study Duration, 1-3 years

Program, ANY field of study

MARSHALL OBJECTIVES

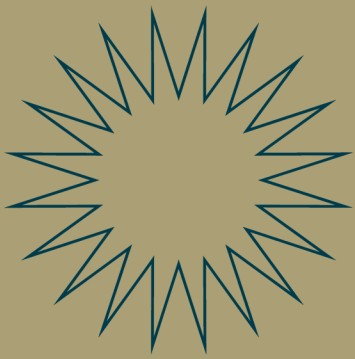


Marshall Program Objectives

- Enable outstanding young Americans to study in the UK
- Foster understanding of contemporary Britain
- Advance knowledge across disciplines
- Develop lifelong US-UK ambassadors
- Promote scholars' personal and academic fulfillment

Study Duration

- 1 or 2 years for master's study
- Up to 2 years for doctoral study (Third year extension in limited cases)
- Five flexible pathways: one or two master's degrees, a PhD, or a combination



MARSHALL FUNDING

Funding covers...

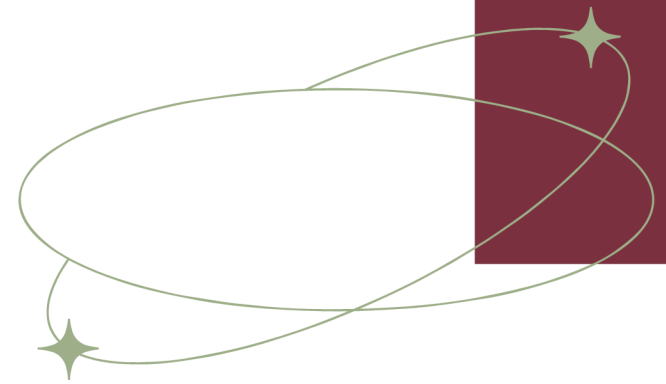
CORE COMPONENTS

- Full university tuition/course fees
- Annual living allowance (covers accommodation and living expenses)
- Return economy airfare
- Visa costs
- Books and research expenses allowance

Additional funding may include thesis, research, and travel grants, and in some cases support for a dependent spouse.

The Marshall Scholarship is fully funded and covers all primary costs of graduate study at any UK university of your choice.

CHURCHILL OVERVIEW



History

Established at Sir Winston Churchill's request in 1963 as part of the founding of Churchill College, Cambridge. The scholarship fulfills Churchill's vision of deepening the US-UK scientific partnership to advance science and technology on both sides of the Atlantic.

Info

Awards per year ~18 (16 STEM, 2 policy)

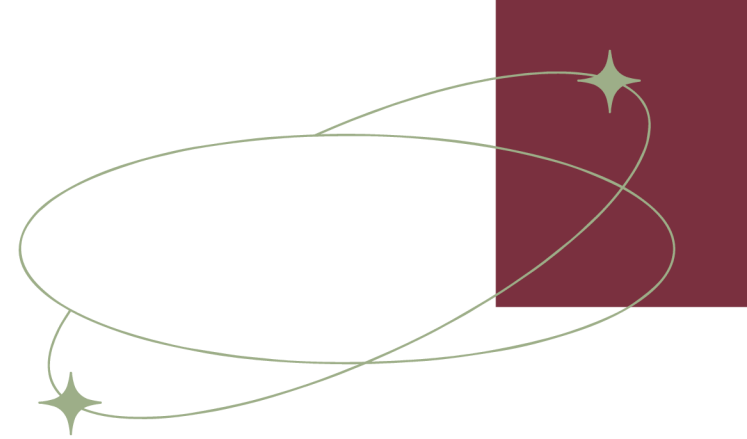
Participating US institutions 134

Eligible Programs 56

Study period 1 year

The Churchill Scholarship is a fully funded award for one year of independent graduate research at the University of Cambridge, open exclusively to US citizens in STEM fields.

CHURCHILL PURPOSE



The Churchill Scholarship was established to advance science and technology by strengthening the US-UK partnership, contributing to future global prosperity and security.

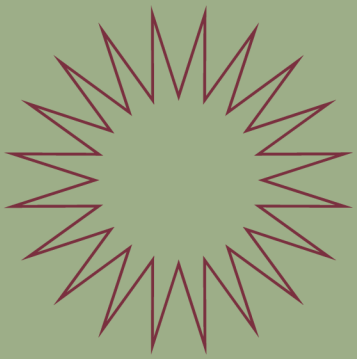
- Focus on advancing science, technology, prosperity, and security
- Emphasizes future global impact through STEM research

Degree Structure

Scholars pursue either an MPhil (research-focused) or MAST (advanced mathematics coursework with optional research).

- MPhil (research-based, thesis + oral exam)
- MAST (course-based math program, optional research essay)

Cambridge's academic structure is highly independent, with limited faculty contact and an expectation of self-directed learning.



CHURCHILL FUNDING

Funding covers...

CORE COMPONENTS

- Full University of Cambridge tuition/course fees
- Stipend set above UK Research Council standard
- Return economy airfare to the UK
- Visa fees and Immigration Health Surcharge
- Eligible for a \$4,000 special research grant

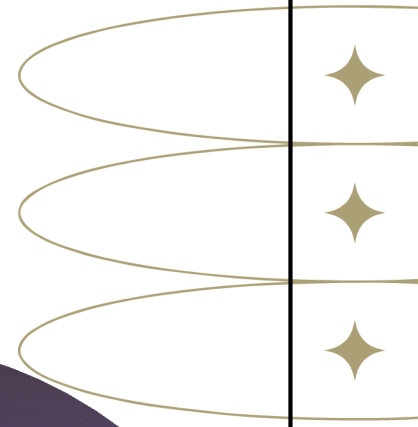
PROGRAM EXTRAS

- Science communication workshop
- Science policy seminar
- Guided visit to Chartwell (Churchill's country home)
- Visit to the Churchill War Rooms, London

The Churchill covers all primary costs of one year of master's-level research at Cambridge, plus unique professional development opportunities.

ELIGIBILITY & SELECTION

Both scholarships seek students who have excelled academically and are genuinely committed to using their education to benefit the world – not just advance their own careers.



MARSHALL

The Marshall Scholarship also has a Marshall Sherfield Fellowship for postdoctoral researchers – check the website for details.

Eligibility
Check here.

- US citizens only
- GPA of 3.7 or higher (unrounded)
- Completed first undergraduate degree from a US college or university
- Graduated after April 2023
- Must not have studied for a degree at a British university
- Requires institutional endorsement
- May only apply to one US region

CHURCHILL

Kanders Churchill
Scholarship (science policy track): available to candidates from any US college or university with a STEM background pursuing the Cambridge Master's in Public Policy – no time limit since graduation.

Eligibility
Check here.

- **US citizens only**
- **Must be enrolled at or have graduated within the past 12 months**
- **Must hold a bachelor's degree upon taking up the scholarship**
- **STEM fields only**
- **No minimum GPA stated**
- **Requires institutional nomination (nominate up to 2 applicants)**

MARSHALL

Three equally weighted criteria:

- **Academic Merit.** Exceptional academic achievement across your undergraduate career
- **Leadership Potential.** Demonstrated capacity to lead and create impact in your field
- **Ambassadorial Potential.** Ability to strengthen UK-US understanding and represent the breadth of American talent.

Selection committees seek candidates who will excel as scholars, leaders, and contributors to the transatlantic relationship.

"...talented, independent,
& personal growth."

SELECTION CRITERIA

CHURCHILL

Three core criteria:

- **Outstanding academic achievement.** Strong record in STEM courses, especially in the major; no minimum GPA but competition is high
- **Proven talent in research.** Extensive lab experience, internships, or independent work showing originality and creativity
- **Outstanding personal qualities.** The Churchill does not seek "well-rounded" applicants; instead it looks for candidates with what they call "jagged edges" – deep commitment to a few areas, intellectual independence, and passion for research.

SELECTION
CRITERIA

CHURCHILL

Important to note:

For most programs (MPhil), applicants must demonstrate confirmed correspondence with a potential supervisor as part of the application.

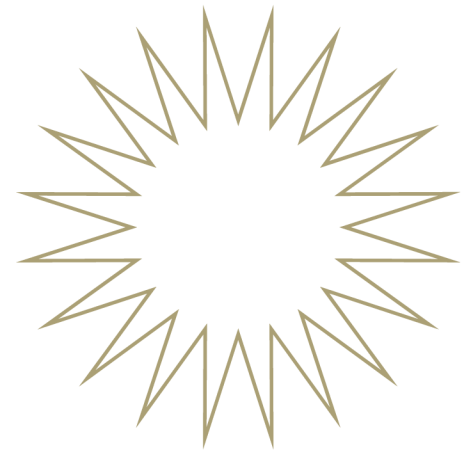
Applicants to the **MPhil**, in all cases, are required to show correspondence with a supervisor or course director to ensure that the placement is appropriate.

Applicants to the **MASt** are not required to contact a potential supervisor make sure that the degree program is a good fit.

Math applicants also have the option to find a research group for an **MPhil** in mathematics, in which case correspondence with a supervisor is necessary.

Churchill philosophy. *Selects based on academic and research excellence—not leadership. Invests in scientists to maximize long-term impact. Supports development through science communication and policy exposure.*

APPLICATION TIMELINES



2026 - 27

NEXT CYCLE: KEY DATES

Marshall

Marshall
internal deadline:
Aug 14

- **Jun-Jul 2026**
Application cycle opens;
institutional advisors begin working
with candidates
- **Oct 2026**
National application deadline —
exact date to be confirmed;
typically early-to-mid October
- **Oct - Nov 2026**
Regional interviews conducted
across 8 US regional centres
- **Nov - Dec 2026**
Tentative scholarship offers
delivered to candidates shortly
after regional interviews

NEXT CYCLE: KEY DATES

Churchill

**Churchill internal
deadline: Aug 14**

- **May 2026**
Online application portal opens
- **Oct 2026**
Cambridge application recommended by this point (rolling admissions – apply early)
- **Nov 2, 2026; 5p eastern**
institutions must submit nominations by this date
- **late Dec 2026**
Applicants notified of results

NEXT STEPS:

HOW TO GET STARTED



Marshall
marshallscholarship.org



Churchill
churchillscholarship.org

Both scholarships require significant preparation – start early, ideally in your junior year or the year before you plan to apply.



Next Steps – Marshall

Choose your UK universities and courses carefully. You may list up to two universities and three courses. Know why each is the right fit for your goals.

Articulate your interest to others. Both scholarships prioritize service and leadership with purpose – not just achievement.

Build your recommender network early. The Marshall requires three letters of recommendation, all submitted through the application portal.

Craft your ambassadorial narrative. The Marshall explicitly selects for candidates who will strengthen UK-US relations – not just academic achievement alone.

In short: Know your "why UK" story. Be intentional about your course choices. Build faculty relationships.

Next Steps – Churchill

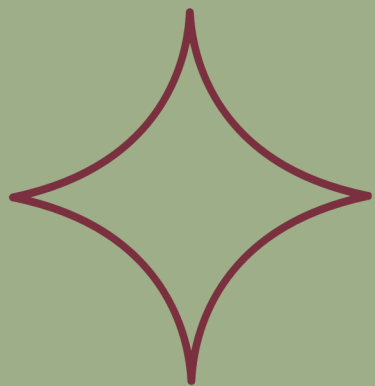
Contact a Cambridge supervisor early. For MPhil applicants in all fields, you must show correspondence with a potential supervisor on your application. This takes time – start in summer.

Choose your program carefully. Review the list of 56 eligible programs on the Churchill website. Contact the Foundation if your area of interest isn't listed – new programs are regularly added.

Apply to Cambridge in parallel. You must put Churchill College as your first choice on the Cambridge graduate application. Apply by the Gates Cambridge deadline window (typically second Wednesday in October).

Prepare four letters of recommendation from people directly familiar with your academic or research work. At least one must be external if you have done research outside your home institution.

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**CONTACT
US**



THANK
YOU



Please
take
the
survey!

