

University of Amsterdam - China Scholarship Council PhD Programme

Application instructions and fact sheet on the Call for Applications for UvA-CSC PhD Scholarship Programme 2023

Background

In 2013, the University of Amsterdam and the China Scholarship Council signed an agreement on PhD training, catering for outstanding PhD candidates from China, to pursue a PhD at the UvA on a 48-month scholarship awarded by the CSC.

PhD-candidates interested in pursuing this opportunity have to undertake a twofold procedure, comprising two tracks:

- Applying for a PhD position at the UvA
- Applying for a PhD scholarship at the CSC

This fact sheet provides information and relevant links on the procedure and can be used as a checklist by interested candidates.

Timings and deadline for the 2023-2024 scholarship programme

The CSC application deadline has been stipulated on **31 March 2023**. Applications can be submitted from 10 March 2023. For up to date information check the website of CSC.

Applicants must start the procedure of applying for a PhD position at the UvA well in advance of the CSC deadline. It may take several months to find a supervisor willing to accept the research proposal and accept the prospective PhD candidate.

The UvA has set a deadline on **6 March 2023**. This means that the candidate will need to arrange a letter of preliminary acceptance by the supervisor/the department by this date (see below).

Guidelines and procedure for prospective CSC bursary PhDs in UvA

1. The applicant must identify an appropriate research group within the University of Amsterdam matching the thematic focus of the envisaged PhD research project.
2. The applicant contacts an envisaged PhD supervisor and prepares a PhD research proposal in consultation with the envisaged supervisor. If the prospective supervisor is willing to accept the applicants proposal and act as supervisor, the applicant can proceed. If the research proposal is not accepted by a supervisor, the process ends here.

For possible supervisors in Medicine:

<https://www.amsterdamumc.org/research/researchers.htm>

For other faculties: <https://www.uva.nl/en/about-the-uva/organisation/organisation.html>

3. The applicant must submit a scan of all of academic credentials, i.e. master and bachelor diploma, all transcripts/lists of marks of bachelor and master, an extensive resumé including information on the home university, and a copy of the passport or other ID to the envisaged supervisor. This can be done by e-mail.
4. The envisaged supervisor must submit the applicants file by e-mail to the Doctorate Board for a preliminary diploma evaluation (via CvP-exemption-bb@uva.nl). The Doctorate Board will inform the envisaged supervisor of the outcome of the preliminary diploma evaluation. If the level is sufficient, the supervisor can proceed.
5. If the envisaged supervisor approves the application and decides to accept the applicant as PhD candidate, she or he must arrange approval of the director of the relevant department, who will issue a letter of preliminary acceptance. This letter states that the UvA will accept the applicant on two conditions:
 - a. At the start of the PhD trajectory, the applicant must be able to prove she or he fulfils the educational requirements (Master's degree must be completed);
 - b. The applicant must have secured the CSC scholarship.
6. The letter by the director of the department must be sent to:
 - a. The CSC applicant. The applicant needs the letter as proof to the CSC that she or he has been accepted by the University of Amsterdam. Without this proof, the candidate cannot apply for a scholarship at CSC. Note that the deadline for completing this letter and sending it to the applicant is **29 March 2023**, this will allow the applicant to apply before the deadline of 31 March. However, it is wise to arrange this letter earlier, since applications can be submitted from **10 March 2023**.
 - b. The secretariat of the Doctorate Board at the UvA (via CvP-exemption-bb@uva.nl). The Doctorate Board makes a nomination list of prospective candidates. This list will be shared with CSC after the applicants have applied for the scholarship. Please note: if the acceptance letter by the department is not sent to the secretariat of the Doctorate Board, the applicant cannot and will not be added to the nomination list. The consequence is that CSC will deny the scholarship. Note that the deadline for sending the acceptance letter to the secretariat of the Doctorate Board is **31 March 2023**.

Please note that both a. and b. procedures mentioned above must be fulfilled, otherwise the candidate will be denied the scholarship by CSC.

7. If the UvA accepts the PhD research proposal and therefore accepts the candidate AND the CSC decides to select the candidate for a PhD scholarship, the candidate can start preparing the stay in Amsterdam. This must be done in close consultation with the supervisor and the department. Please consult the UvA's Staff Immigration Office for guidance and advice and refer to: <http://www.uva.nl/en/about-the-uva/working-at-the-uva/practical-information>

8. Once the candidate arrives in the Netherlands and starts with the PhD research, the admission to the PhD programma must be formalised. Consult the website of the Doctorate Board on your admission to the PhD programme: www.uva.nl/phd.

Guidelines and procedure for prospective CSC bursary PhDs in CSC

1. The applicant must verify her/his eligibility according to the CSC guidelines and regulations via: <http://apply.csc.edu.cn/>
2. The applicant must check with the envisaged supervisor whether the English language proficiency meets the minimum requirements.
3. Upon completing steps 1 – 6 for applying for a PhD position at the UvA and obtaining a letter of acceptance, the applicant must apply to the CSC directly. For the 2023-2024 programme, the applicant is required to submit the complete application to the CSC by the deadline communicated at the CSC website.
4. The CSC will undertake to select the candidates in May – June 2023. CSC will contact the Doctorate Board of UvA to verify if the candidates have been accepted by UvA and are on the UvA nomination list. If the candidate has submitted a successful application to CSC and is on the nomination list, the CSC will notify the candidates of the outcome of the selection procedure. Please note that UvA and the envisaged supervisor are not engaged in the final decision and cannot and will not communicate about the outcome of the CSC selection. This is up to CSC.

Further information

- **CSC:**
Project Officer, Division of European Asian & African Affairs, CSC
Tel: 86-10-66093568 Fax: 86-10-66093929 Add: Level 13, Building A3, No.9
Chegongzhuang Avenue, Beijing 100044, P.R. China
- **UvA contacts on immigration, housing, etc.**
 - For PhD candidates in Faculty of Science: please contact Human Resources: pz-science@uva.nl
 - For PhD candidates in Faculty of Medicine: please contact the International Office AUMC-UvA: internationaloffice@amc.uva.nl
 - For PhD candidates in the other UvA faculties: please contact the Staff Immigration Office: Sio-ac@uva.nl +31 20 525 8492