



## MASENO UNIVERSITY OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR

### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS TENABLE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IN 2022

The Commonwealth Scholarship Commission (CSC) in the United Kingdom has requested Maseno University to nominate **Two (2)** candidates for full PhD scholarships tenable in UK institutions of Higher Learning with which the Commission has a part funding agreement in 2022. More details are available at: <https://cscuk.fcdo.gov.uk/scholarships/commonwealth-phd-scholarships-for-least-developed-countries-and-fragile-states/>.

Interested and Qualified Maseno University Academic Staff are requested to express their interest on the scholarship by filling and submitting the EOI form to the University Management for evaluation, official nomination and forwarding to CSC.

The list of UK Universities or higher education institutions with which the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission has a part funding agreement for this scholarship can be found at: <http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/apply/uk-universities/part-funding/>

Candidates are required to state the CSC's six development themes they are applying under as explained at: <https://cscuk.fcdo.gov.uk/csc-development-themes/> and up to three (3) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) relevant to their development impact in their expression of interest forms.

All candidates must demonstrate explicitly in their application the direct and applied relevance of their study to the national development.

#### **Duration of scholarships:**

The Doctoral degrees will take up to three (3) years with a possible extension to four years under specific circumstances.

#### **Scholar Eligibility:**

For purposes of need based academic staff development, candidates from the following Schools are encouraged to apply:

- School of computing and Informatics
- School of Strategic and Development Studies
- School of Mathematics and Actuarial Sciences
- School of Agriculture, Food Security and Environmental Sciences

For purposes of equal representation and inclusivity, the following categories are encouraged to apply:

- Female candidates;
- Candidates from disadvantaged or marginalized backgrounds



More information on scholar eligibility is available at:

<https://cscuk.fcdo.gov.uk/scholarships/commonwealth-phd-scholarships-for-least-developed-countries-and-fragile-states/>

### **Selection Criteria**

CSC seeks candidates of the highest academic quality who demonstrate a real capacity to make a difference to their home country on completion of the scholarship award. Nominations at both the University and the CSC levels will grade the applicants based on the following criteria:

- i. Scholar eligibility
- ii. Academic merit of the candidate
- iii. Quality of the study plan
- iv. Potential impact the study area on the development of the candidate's home country
- v. Relevance to the study area to the scholarship themes
- vi. Demonstration of need

### **Application procedure:**

All eligible candidates must read and adhere to the following guidelines strictly:

1. Read through the list of the UK Universities given in the list and identify a course (s) relevant to your areas of interest that fits within the six development themes
2. Use the website of the University/Universities that you have identified to seek for potential supervisors by contacting them and requesting them to send you a statement of interest to supervise your PhD research. **(Activity 1 and 2 should start immediately for those interested in this scholarship)**
3. Download the **PRELIMINARY SCHOLARSHIPS EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM** from Maseno University website and fill it as appropriate.
4. The Deadline for electronic applications is **1<sup>st</sup> November, 2021**. All interested candidates should apply for the scholarship electronically to CSC by the deadline date by following the link: [https://fs29.formsite.com/m3nCYq/je4otvtpus/form\\_login.html](https://fs29.formsite.com/m3nCYq/je4otvtpus/form_login.html). (Sample application form for guidance is found on: <https://cscuk.fcdo.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Example-application-form-PhD.pdf>.)
5. Complete the Electronic Application System (EAS) form online **BUT DOWNLOAD AND PRINT for reference during internal evaluation** before submitting it electronically to the Commonwealth Commission.
6. Apply through your head of department by submitting four (4) sets of the **Preliminary Expression of Interest Form in hard copy together** with a copy of the EAS form, certified photocopies of ID, academic/ professional certificates, transcripts, a concept giving a brief of the research proposal and other testimonials to the **Office of the DVC-PRI, New Administration Building, Maseno University, P. O. Box 333-40105 Maseno** during working hours between 8.00 am to 5.00 pm.
7. Complete applications should reach the DVC PRI office not later than **Friday 5th November, 2021 at 5.00pm**

**NB:**

1. Only shortlisted applicants shall be contacted through e-mail for further direction.
2. To be nominated does not in any way guarantee selection or placement as the final selection will be competitively done by a committee constituted by CSC.
3. Full details of the scholarships are available at the following link:  
<http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/apply/phd-scholarships-least-developed-countries-and-fragile-states/>



**PROFESSOR JULIUS NYABUNDI**  
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