

Scholarship Finder Cheat Sheet

Country-wise scholarship types · Typical eligibility · When to start applying · March 2026

How to use this sheet: Each card covers one destination's scholarship landscape — types available, what students typically need to qualify, and the planning window you should set. Use the **Master Timeline** at the bottom to build month-by-month funding plans for your students. Share freely with families.

ANGLOPHONE DESTINATIONS — US, UK, CANADA, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND

United States
MOST SCHOLARSHIPS

TYPES Merit-based automatic (SAT/GPA triggered), university grants, need-based aid (CSS Profile), external foundations (Fulbright, Rotary), departmental awards

ELIGIBILITY SAT 1200–1500+ for merit; CSS Profile + financial docs for need-based; strong GPA (90%+) for departmental. International students can receive merit but rarely need-based aid at private unis.

RANGE \$5,000–\$72,000/year (some full-ride at liberal arts colleges)

Start 18–24 months before intake. SAT prep: June–Dec of Grade 11. Applications open Aug–Nov of Grade 12. Scholarship decisions with admission letter.

United Kingdom
STRONG MERIT POOL

TYPES Chevening (government-sponsored), Commonwealth Scholarships, university-specific (Warwick, Edinburgh, UCL), GREAT Scholarships, departmental bursaries

ELIGIBILITY Chevening: 2+ years work experience + bachelor's. University merit: 85%+ in Class 12 + conditional offer. GREAT: country-specific, no work exp needed.

RANGE £5,000–full tuition (Chevening covers fees + living + flights)

Start 15–18 months before intake. Chevening opens early Aug, closes early Oct. University scholarships open Jan–April after conditional offer.

Canada
LIMITED BUT AVAILABLE

TYPES Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships (PG only), Lester B. Pearson (U of T), University entrance awards, province-level bursaries, Aga Khan Foundation

ELIGIBILITY Pearson: outstanding academic achievement + leadership + nomination by school. Most entrance awards: 90%+ average, automatic on admission. Vanier: PG/research focus.

RANGE CAD 5,000–\$45,000/year (Pearson = full tuition + living)

Start 18 months before intake. Pearson school nominations due Oct; student application due Nov. Entrance awards automatic with application — apply early for best consideration.

Australia
GOOD MERIT OPTIONS

TYPES Australia Awards (government), Destination Australia (regional unis), university excellence scholarships (Monash, ANU, Melbourne), Research Training Program (PG)

ELIGIBILITY Australia Awards: work experience + leadership + developing country citizenship. University merit: 85%+ + conditional offer. Destination Australia: studying in regional areas.

RANGE AUD 5,000–full tuition + living (Australia Awards)

Start 18–24 months before intake. Australia Awards close ~April for Feb intake. University scholarships: apply with admission (rolling). Merit awards issued with offer letter.

New Zealand
UNDERUTILISED

TYPES NZ International Student Excellence Scholarship, university merit awards (Auckland, Victoria, Canterbury), NZ Commonwealth Scholarships, Prime Minister's Scholarship for Asia

ELIGIBILITY Excellence: outstanding academic record + conditional offer. PM Asia: for students studying in NZ with a focus on Asian engagement. Most university awards: 85%+.

RANGE NZD 5,000–\$20,000/year; some full-tuition waivers

Start 12–15 months before intake. Most NZ scholarship windows open Oct–Feb. Apply simultaneously with admission for best consideration.

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We help counsellors build scholarship pipelines and guide students from shortlisting to submission.

About us →

EUROPEAN DESTINATIONS — GERMANY, NETHERLANDS, IRELAND, FRANCE

Germany
BEST VALUE OVERALL

TYPES DAAD (most comprehensive), Heinrich Böll Foundation, Konrad Adenauer Foundation, university-specific stipends, Erasmus+ (for EU-exchanges), state government grants

ELIGIBILITY DAAD: strong academics + motivation + German/English language. Foundation scholarships: political/civic engagement + 2.0+ GPA (German scale). Blocked account of ~€11,208/year for visa — scholarships help offset living costs since tuition is near zero.

RANGE €650–€1,000/month stipend (DAAD); tuition typically €0–€3,000/semester

Start 18–24 months before intake. DAAD deadlines: Oct–Nov for following year. Language test (TestDaF/Goethe) minimum 12 months before. Foundation scholarships: apply after 2nd semester in Germany.

Netherlands
GROWING DEMAND

TYPES Holland Scholarship (most popular), Orange Tulip Scholarship, Nuffic (government coordination), university excellence grants (Delft, Leiden, Amsterdam), Orange Knowledge Programme (PG)

ELIGIBILITY Holland Scholarship: bachelor's/master's applicants outside EEA, 85%+ academic record, enrolled at a participating Dutch university. Orange Tulip: varies by university, often 80%+ + leadership. OKP: PG/professional development.

RANGE €5,000 one-time (Holland Scholarship); full tuition possible via excellence grants

Start 15–18 months before intake. Holland Scholarship deadline typically Feb 1 for September intake. Apply to university first — scholarship application is linked to admission portal.

Ireland
STRONG TECH HUB

TYPES Government of Ireland International Education Scholarship (GOI-IES), university merit awards (UCD, Trinity, UCC), Science Foundation Ireland research fellowships, Irish Aid (PG only)

ELIGIBILITY GOI-IES: exceptional academic achievement + leadership + non-EU citizenship. University merit: 85%+ + conditional offer. Trinity scholarships: separate competitive application.

RANGE €10,000/year (GOI-IES includes tuition waiver); university grants €2,000–€10,000

Start 15 months before intake. GOI-IES applications open Jan–March. University awards: apply with/after admission (April–June). Results typically May–June.

France
EMERGING CHOICE

TYPES Eiffel Excellence Scholarship (most prestigious), Campus France regional grants, Grandes Écoles merit bursaries, French Embassy scholarships, Erasmus Mundus (joint master's)

ELIGIBILITY Eiffel: master's/PhD, under 30 (master's) or 35 (PhD), nominated by French institution. Campus France: varies. Most require B2 French or B2 English (for English-taught programs). Strong academic record (85%+).

RANGE €1,181/month (Eiffel) + housing assistance; Erasmus Mundus: full tuition + stipend

Start 18–24 months before intake. Eiffel opens Oct 1, closes Jan 8. Erasmus Mundus: Oct–Jan. Language test minimum 12 months before application.

INDIA CAMPUS OPTIONS — FOR COST-CONSCIOUS FAMILIES

Foreign Universities in India
NEW CATEGORY

ILLINOIS TECH MUMBAI

Merit and need-based scholarships from Illinois Tech's global scholarship pool apply to the Mumbai campus. SAT 1200+ + strong academic record. Apply with admission.

DEAKIN / WOLLONGONG GIFT CITY

Early entry scholarships offered for inaugural batches. INR fees (~₹10–18L/yr vs ₹35–50L overseas). University website scholarships updated each intake cycle.

PLANNING NOTE

India campus programs are new — scholarship ecosystems are still building. Advise families that the cost saving is structural (INR fees, no visa, no forex), not scholarship-dependent.

MASTER PLANNING TIMELINE — WHEN TO START WHAT

Scholarship Planning Calendar (working backwards from September intake)	
GRADE 10 YEAR-END	Begin destination shortlisting. Identify scholarship-heavy markets (US, UK, Germany). Start SAT/IELTS diagnostic. Note: students need 2+ years to build a scholarship-competitive profile.
GRADE 11 JUNE–AUG	First SAT attempt. IELTS/TOEFL diagnostic. Start researching specific scholarships by destination. Identify if Chevening, DAAD, Eiffel, or Pearson is relevant — these require long lead times or prior work experience.
GRADE 11 SEP–DEC	Finalize country shortlist. Download scholarship eligibility checklists from official university portals. For US: SAT retake. For Germany: begin language test. For Chevening: note it requires 2 years work experience — plan accordingly for PG path.
GRADE 12 JUNE–SEP	Critical window: Chevening opens early Aug, closes early Oct. Eiffel opens Oct 1. Canada Pearson school nominations due Oct 10. US ED applications with scholarship consideration due Nov 1–15. Finalize financial documents for need-based aid (CSS Profile for US).
GRADE 12 OCT–DEC	Peak deadline period. US ED/EA + scholarship consideration. Pearson student app due Nov 7. Eiffel closes Jan 8. Holland Scholarship closes Feb 1. DAAD closes Oct–Nov. Submit all scholarship applications with or immediately after admission applications.
GRADE 12 JAN–MAR	UK UCAS deadline (Jan 15 for Oxford/Cambridge, Jan 31 for others). Irish GOI-IES closes March. University-specific scholarship applications (post-offer). Orange Tulip NL applications close Feb–March. Keep all financial documents updated.
GRADE 12 APR–JUNE	Most scholarship results announced April–June. Compare offers. Negotiate where possible (US universities sometimes match competing offers). Australia Awards close ~April. Confirm enrollment and process scholarship disbursement requirements (bank details, acceptance letters).

QUICK REFERENCE — SCHOLARSHIP LANDSCAPE BY DESTINATION

DESTINATION	SCHOLARSHIP VOLUME	TYPICAL VALUE	BEST FIT	WHEN TO START	KEY SOURCES
USA	Very High ●●●●●	Partial to substantial institutional aid; highly variable by university	Strong GPA, strong testing where applicable, high-need or standout applicants	12–18 months before intake; earlier for profile-building	University aid pages, CSS Profile schools list
UK	High ●●●●●	Chevening fully funded; university awards vary widely	Leadership + strong academics, especially master's applicants	12–15 months before intake	Chevening, university scholarship pages
Germany	High ●●●●●	~€992/mo (students), higher for doctoral via DAAD	STEM, research, master's, PhD	12–18 months before intake	DAAD , university/foundation portals
Australia	Medium–High ●●●●●	Full funding via Australia Awards; university scholarships vary	Applicants from eligible developing countries with leadership/development focus; also PG applicants	12–18 months before intake	Australia Awards, university scholarships
New Zealand	Medium ●●●●●	Varies by university; mostly university-led for internationals	High academic achievers across levels	12–15 months before intake	University scholarship portals, Education New Zealand
Canada	Medium ●●●●●	Pearson fully funded (UG at U of T); most others partial	Outstanding academics + leadership; separate UG and PhD tracks	12–18 months before intake	Lester B. Pearson (UG), Vanier (PhD), university portals
Netherlands	Medium ●●●●●	Holland Scholarship: €5,000 one-time; excellence grants can cover full tuition	Bachelor's & master's applicants	12–15 months before intake	Holland Scholarship, Study in NL / Nuffic-linked resources
Ireland	Growing ●●●●●	€5,000–€15,000 depending on scheme and university	Strong academics + leadership/profile	12–15 months before intake	GOI-IES, university portals
France	Lower ●●●●●	Eiffel: monthly stipend (not tuition coverage); Erasmus Mundus: full funding	Master's/PhD applicants; French ability helps but not universal requirement	12–18 months before intake	Eiffel, Erasmus Mundus, university pages

✓ COUNSELLOR PRO TIP — THE AUTOMATIC SCHOLARSHIP PLAY
Many US universities (ASU, U of Alabama, U of South Carolina, Northeastern) award automatic merit scholarships based solely on SAT score + GPA — no separate application needed. A student with SAT 1200+ submitting their application is being considered for scholarship simultaneously. Always tell students to submit their SAT score even at "test-optional" universities.

⚠ COMMON MISTAKE — APPLYING TOO LATE
Scholarship applications have their own deadlines, separate from admission. A student admitted in March may have missed a January scholarship window. Build scholarship deadlines into your planning calendar *before* the admission calendar, not after.

💡 THE CSS PROFILE — WHAT INDIAN COUNSELLORS OFTEN MISS
Some US universities offer need-based financial aid to international students and the family file the CSS Profile (College Board). This is separate from FAFSA (US citizens-only). Universities like Harvard, Princeton, MIT, and Yale meet 100% of demonstrated need for international students. A family earning ₹30L/year in India may qualify for significant aid at elite US schools — the number depends on assets, siblings in college, and specific university policies.