

# Master's Scholarship Application Checklist

For African graduates targeting fully-funded master's programs. Plan 12–15 months ahead.

## Step-by-Step Timeline

### 15–12 months out

- Define field, country and 2–3 thesis topic angles.
- Shortlist 6–10 programs; verify scholarship eligibility line-by-line.
- Register for GRE/GMAT (if required) and IELTS/TOEFL.
- Identify 3 academic + 1 professional referee.

### 11–8 months out

- Draft Statement of Purpose tailored per program.
- Request transcripts, degree certificate, WES/ECE evaluation.
- Update CV in academic format (publications, conferences, projects).
- Open Chevening, Commonwealth, DAAD, Erasmus Mundus accounts.

### 7–4 months out

- Submit Chevening (early Nov), Commonwealth (mid-Oct), DAAD (varies).
- Submit Erasmus Mundus (mid-Jan); Fulbright (May–Sep, country-specific).
- Submit university applications + departmental funding forms.
- Send referee reminders 2 weeks + 3 days before deadline.

### 3–1 months out

- Prepare for scholarship interviews (Chevening, Commonwealth, Fulbright).
- Compare offers; secure unconditional admission letter.
- Submit visa-required medical exams + police clearance.

### Pre-departure

- Book flights via scholarship travel desk.
- Arrange UK BRP / US SEVIS / Schengen residence permit.
- Attend pre-departure orientation; settle stipend bank account.

## Document Checklist

- Bachelor's degree certificate + transcripts (certified)
- WES/ECE/UK NARIC evaluation
- GRE/GMAT score (if required)
- IELTS/TOEFL score
- Statement of Purpose (program-specific)
- Research proposal (1,000–2,000 words for some)
- Academic CV

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3 academic referees + 1 work referee

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Work experience certificates ( $\geq 2$  years for Chevening)

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Passport bio page

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