

GRADING SYSTEM FOR ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATIONS FOR COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS (FUNDED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT - DFID) TENABLE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM 2010

GRADE	ACADEMIC MERIT	DEVELOPMENT IMPACT	QUALITY OF STUDY PLANS (Doctoral)	QUALITY OF STUDY PLANS (Masters)
Grading criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examination results. • Academic transcripts. • Tutors' and referees' reports. • Academic prizes or awards. • Other relevant academic achievements. • Publications, where appropriate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent to which the candidate has shown that the proposed work will have a positive impact on 'development'¹ • The way and extent to which the candidate proposes to use the experience of this award to contribute to development in his/her own country (and institution in the case of University nominations) • Evidence of past commitment to 'development' agendas through voluntary work & through leading & participating in relevant projects or programmes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality of the research proposal, including innovation, linkage to relevant literatures and clarity of expression. • Extent to which an appropriate institution and supervisor have been identified. • Relevance to current research in the chosen field • Feasibility of proposed research • Likelihood of completion within three years <p>For Split-Site Awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevance of work in UK to PhD. • Evidence of strong research link with UK institution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent to which the proposed course and institution of study have been well researched (including specific options and dissertation topics, where appropriate) and presented. • Clarity of presentation

¹ *The definition of 'development' is contentious, but can be considered to include, amongst other themes, the Millennium Development Goals, environmental issues, public health, education, governance, political, social and economic development.*