

**GRADING SYSTEM FOR ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATIONS FOR COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIPS (FUNDED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT - DFID) TENABLE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM 2011**

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

<sup>1</sup> *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.*