# Chevening: prepare before the next cycle opens

Chevening is the UK government's scholarship for a one-year master's in the UK. Applications open once a year, and much of what it asks for can be prepared months before the window opens.

## 0 Is your country eligible?

Check Chevening's country list for the current cycle: chevening.org/scholarships/who-can-apply/

Our list of eligible Arab countries, with the date we checked it: scholarmena.com/guides/chevening-next-cycle-preparation/#countries

If your country is not on the list, this guide is not for you this cycle.

### Chevening's eligibility rules (from its eligibility page)

- Be a citizen of a Chevening-eligible country or territory.
- Commit to returning to your home country for at least two years after the scholarship ends.
- Hold an undergraduate degree that qualifies you for a UK master's, finished at least two years before the application deadline. You need your certificate by the time of your interview.
- Have at least two years' work experience after your undergraduate degree, equal to 2,800 hours.

- Apply to three different eligible UK university courses, and hold an unconditional offer from at least one by the deadline on Chevening's timeline.

## Your preparation checklist

### Now

- [ ] **Count your hours.** List every job since your degree with start and end dates and weekly hours, and add them up to 2,800. Chevening's work experience page explains what counts.
- [ ] **Check your degree date** against the rule above for the next deadline.
- [ ] **Shortlist three one-year master's courses** in the UK, and note each one's own application deadline and English requirement.

### Before the window opens

- [ ] **Collect real examples for the four areas Chevening assesses:** leadership and influencing; building professional relationships; how your chosen course addresses challenges linked to UK priority areas; how your career plan will drive positive change. Write notes from your own experience. Write your final answers only when the questions are published.
- [ ] **Write every answer yourself.** Chevening states: "The use of AI software to generate answers in Chevening applications is strictly prohibited."
- [ ] **Line up your referees early.** Our reference request emails help.

- [ ] **Gather your documents.** Use our document checklist.

### When the window opens

- [ ] Read the application guidance and your country page, and check the deadline. Chevening's deadlines are at 11:00 UTC; convert it to your time with our S01 guide.
- [ ] Check the partner awards for your field.
- [ ] Apply early.

Chevening's timeline, with the months of each stage: chevening.org/scholarships/application-timeline/

Last cycle's dates and the current status, checked by our editors: scholarmena.com/guides/chevening-next-cycle-preparation/

---

### Sources

Our editors read these official pages on 10 Nov 2026. If anything differs, the official page is the reference.


1. Citizenship; return two years; degree two years before deadline; certificate by interview; 2,800 hours after the degree; three courses; unconditional offer by the timeline deadline
   https://www.chevening.org/resource-hub/guidance/eligibility/
2. Four assessment areas; AI-generated answers strictly prohibited
   https://www.chevening.org/resource-hub/guidance/application-criteria/
3. Country list incl. Oman; five Gulf states absent
   https://www.chevening.org/scholarships/who-can-apply/
4. Timeline, 11:00 UTC, offer deadline
   https://www.chevening.org/scholarships/application-timeline/
5. Work experience: what counts
   https://www.chevening.org/scholarships/who-can-apply/work-experience/