

# UCL Engineering Dean's Prize

## Background

The Dean's Prize is a scholarship that supports outstanding overseas fee-paying research students by covering the cost of their fees.

[https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/scholarships/graduate/overs-res/csc\\_ucl\\_scholarships/Deans\\_Prize](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/scholarships/graduate/overs-res/csc_ucl_scholarships/Deans_Prize)

## Submitting Applications

Applications for the Dean's Prize should consist of the following:

- Short (1 page max) description of the proposed research project. This should be written by the applicant and not the prospective supervisor.
- CV of the candidate. Where the CV lists prizes and honours these should come with some context (at least an indication of whether they relate to departmental, institutional, regional, national or international awards, the number of recipients and so forth).
- An indication of the international/national ranking of the institutions/departments previously attended by the applicant, clearly stating the ranking scheme used.
- An indication of the ranking of the applicant in relation to the rest of their class for their previous higher education qualifications.
- Evidence of the award of another competitive scholarship to provide a stipend.
- For CSC related applications, confirmation that the applicant meets the eligibility criteria for a CSC award  
([http://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/scholarships/graduate/overs-res/csc\\_ucl\\_scholarships](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/scholarships/graduate/overs-res/csc_ucl_scholarships)).

All applications **must** be submitted via your prospective department. Each department will have their own internal processes for managing these applications; applicants are advised to contact the relevant Departmental Graduate Tutor (DGT) in the first instance (for a full list of DGTs please see <http://www.engineering.ucl.ac.uk/people-list/>). Departments will rank applications and any they choose to support will be forwarded to the Faculty Graduate Tutor for the consideration of the Dean's Prize Panel.

The deadline for applications is given at [https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/scholarships/graduate/overs-res/csc\\_ucl\\_scholarships/Deans\\_Prize](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/scholarships/graduate/overs-res/csc_ucl_scholarships/Deans_Prize). Please note that no late applications will be considered.

## How Applications are Judged

The Dean's Prize panel discusses all aspects of each application and there is no definitive "algorithm" used in the ranking process. However the following are all considered to be important factors in judging applications:



1. Previous academic performance (taking into account class rankings, academic distinctions, university rankings etc.)
2. Notable honours or prizes awarded to the applicant previously
3. The quality of the research proposal, to be written by the applicant and showing evidence of input from the student in shaping the direction of the research.
4. Evidence of receipt of a *competitive scholarship* to cover the stipend.
5. Evidence of publications and/or patents (will strengthen an application)
6. Evidence of relevant research experience (will strengthen an application)

## Award Decisions

- Applicants unsuccessful at the departmental stage should be notified by the Department within a month of the application deadline
- Applicants unsuccessful after review by the Faculty Dean's Prize Panel will be notified within two weeks of the panel meeting (usually by the end of February)
- Successful applicants who applied for the joint Dean's Prize/CSC scheme (see below) will be notified by UCL Student Funding.
- Successful applicants who applied only for the Dean's Prize will be notified within two weeks of the Faculty Dean's Prize Panel meeting (usually by the end of February)

## China Scholarships Council (CSC)

The CSC provides bursaries to students from China coming to study in the UK. At UCL these are linked to Dean's Prize awards with the Dean's Prize paying fees and the CSC paying a stipend. Full details can be found at:

[http://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/scholarships/graduate/overs-res/csc\\_ucl\\_scholarships](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/scholarships/graduate/overs-res/csc_ucl_scholarships)

Students intending to study in the Faculty of Engineering Sciences at UCL who wish to apply for a CSC bursary must **first** have applied successfully for a Dean's Prize.

It is important to note that selection for one of the Faculty CSC-related Dean's Prizes **DOES NOT** guarantee that the student will receive the CSC award. Being selected for the Dean's Prize is a pre-requisite for the student being allowed to apply for the CSC award – students may be refused CSC awards despite having been selected for the Dean's Prize internally.

A student who is selected for a Dean's Prize tied to a CSC application will only be eligible to receive the Dean's Prize if the CSC application is successful.

Simultaneous application for the CSC-Dean's Prize combination and the Doctoral School Overseas Research Scholarship (ORS) is discouraged. Where this does occur, should the student be selected for both the Dean's Prize and the ORS they will be deemed ineligible for the ORS and forced to apply for the CSC award.

In this document, references to CSC funding relate specifically to awards linked to the UCL Engineering Dean's Prize. A small number of CSC awards are linked to other funding at UCL. Details of these can be found here:

[http://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/scholarships/graduate/overs-res/csc\\_ucl\\_scholarships](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/scholarships/graduate/overs-res/csc_ucl_scholarships).

