The Gates Cambridge Scholarships

In October 2000, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announced a donation of $210 million to the University of Cambridge to establish the Gates Cambridge Trust. Gates Cambridge Scholarships are available to outstanding young men and women from outside the United Kingdom who wish to pursue a full-time graduate degree in any subject offered at the University of Cambridge. Scholarships are awarded on intellectual ability, leadership potential, social commitment and a good match between the candidate and the University of Cambridge.

I. Eligibility
- Be citizens of any country outside the United Kingdom.
- Apply to pursue one of the following full-time residential courses of study at the University of Cambridge:
  - PhD (three year research only degree)
  - MSc or MLitt (two year research only degree)
  - One-year post-graduate course (e.g. MPhil, LLM, Diploma, MBA etc.)
- Must be admitted to one of the degrees above at Cambridge through the University's normal admission procedures. The Trust does not admit students.

II. Awards
A Gates Cambridge Scholarship covers the full cost of studying at Cambridge, namely:
- the University Composition Fee and College fees at the appropriate rate
- A maintenance allowance for a single student - £14,300/year ($22,250)
- one economy single airfare at both the beginning and end of the course
- Family allowance - up to £9,630 ($14,984) for a first child and up to £4,110 ($6,395) for a second child. No funding is provided for a partner.
- Conference attendance & Fieldwork

III. Criteria
- Academic excellence - Gates Cambridge Scholars are expected to be academically outstanding with the ability to make a significant contribution to their discipline while in Cambridge.
- Leadership potential - Successful applicants must be able to demonstrate a clear ability to lead. Evidence of leadership can be expressed in a multitude of ways but the capacity of Gates Cambridge Scholars to 'take others with them' is central to the success of the programme.
- A commitment to improving the lives of others - A defining characteristic of the Gates Cambridge Scholarships is the commitment of our Scholars to working for the greater good.
- A good fit with Cambridge - It is important that you can make a convincing argument for doing a particular postgraduate degree at Cambridge. It is therefore important that you fully research your
proposed degree using the Graduate Studies Prospectus and the website of the department to which you are applying.

IV. Application Package
- Cambridge Online Application form
  The Graduate Studies Application Form (GRADSAF) is also your application to the Gates-Cambridge Scholarship.
- Three letters of reference (two academic ones for admission and one personal reference for the scholarship application)
- Application Fee: £50 (pay online with credit card)
- University Transcript(s)

Scholarship Personal Statement (3100 characters)
“In not more than 3100 characters please explain why you are applying for a Gates Cambridge Scholarship and how you meet the four main criteria.”
*Cambridge Trust Scholarships (academic excellence & financial need)

V. Selection Process

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application Due</th>
<th>For U.S. citizen</th>
<th>For non-U.S. citizen</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reference Letters</td>
<td>14 days after submitting application</td>
<td>14 days after submitting application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Announce Finalists</td>
<td>Late December</td>
<td>Early March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finalists Interview</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inform Recipients</td>
<td>Within a week after the interview</td>
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How Competitive...

<table>
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<tr>
<th>USA</th>
<th>International</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• 800 eligible applicants apply for admission and funding</td>
<td>• 3,500 eligible applicants apply for admission and funding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 200 highly ranked by Departments</td>
<td>• 250 are highly ranked by Departments</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 100 invited to interview</td>
<td>• 110 are invited to interview</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 40 offered a Gates Cambridge Scholarship after interview</td>
<td>• 55 offered a Gates Cambridge Scholarship after interview</td>
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VI. Helpful Websites
- [http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/students/gradadmissions/prospec/](http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/students/gradadmissions/prospec/) - Graduate Students Guide
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6tf8UuU6Do](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6tf8UuU6Do) – Scholarship You Tube video