GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
AUDITOR-GENERAL OF PAKISTAN
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No.124-HRM-I/MISC. NOCS-0004 **Islamabad, the 17th August , 2026**

From

Bismah Farrukh Khan
Director (HRM)

To

1- Deputy Auditor General (FAO), AGP, Islamabad
2- Deputy Auditor General (DSA), AGP, Islamabad
3- Deputy Auditor-General (Policy), AGP, Islamabad
4- Military Accountant General, MAG, Rawalpindi
5- Controller General of Accounts, CGA, Islamabad
6- Deputy Auditor-General (SSA/RRA), AGP, Islamabad
7- Deputy Auditor-General (C&EA), AGP, Islamabad
8- Dy. Auditor General (Central), DAGCentLhr, Lahore
9- Deputy Auditor General (North), DAGKPN, Peshawar Cantt
10- Deputy Auditor General, DAGSOUTHKHI, Karachi.
11- Rector (Pakistan Audit & Accounts Academy), PAAALhr, Lahore
12- Director General, AGPLHR, Lahore

Rashid Iqbal
Audit Officer (HRM-I)
17 August, 2026, 12:10:12 PM

SUBJECT: INVITATION OF APPLICATIONS FOR US-PAKISTAN KNOWLEDGE CORRIDOR FOR PH.D. STUDIES IN TOP 100 QS WORLD RANKED U.S. UNIVERSITATES

Reference the subject , the Director General HEC vide letter, dated 12.08.2026 has intimated that US Pakistan Knowledge Corridor, a flagship scholarship initiative, is now open for Spring/Summer 2027 and Fall 2027 intake for outstanding Pakistani students to pursue Ph.Ds. programmes. Last dates to apply are 30.10.2026 and 30.03.2027, respectively. Complete information of the programme is available on HEC website on following link:

https://www.hec.gov.pk/english/scholarshipsgrants/US-Pakcorridor/Pages/default.aspx

The subject area are given by HEC . However, applications from suitable officers/officials are invited to pursue Ph.D. programmes, preferably in priority areas of this office . The interested officers/officials are requested to forward their applications, only through proper channel, to HRM Wing latest by 01.10.2026 for Spring/Summar 2027 intake and by 01.03.2027 for Fall 2027 intake for grant of NOC to apply. Officers/officials against whom disciplinary proceedings are pending/in process or who are under surety bond period are not eligible to apply. It is clarified that there will be no financial liability, whatsoever, on part of DAGP.

The controlling officers are requested to dissiminate this information to all subordinate offices under their control.

(***Instructions for AAO-IT: Please upload on DAGP website alongwith all hyperlinked documents***)

Bismah Farrukh Khan
Director (HRM)
Ph:03095368159

Copy for information to:-

1- Deputy Auditor General (A&C), AGP, Islamabad
2- Assistant Audit Officer (IT), AGP, Islamabad

Bismah Farrukh Khan
Director (HRM)
Ph:03095368159

Rashid Iqbal
Audit Officer (HRM-I)
17 August , 2026, 12:16:12 PM

HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

H-9, Islamabad, Pakistan, Website: http://www.hec.gov.pk
051-90808003-90808000

Director General

Ref No: /HRD/HEC/USPK/2026
August 12, 2026

Subject: CALL OF APPLICATIONS OF US-PAKISTAN KNOWLEDGE CORRIDOR FOR PH.D STUDIES IN TOP 100 QS WORLD RANKED U.S UNIVERSITIES

Respected Sir/Madam,

US Pakistan Knowledge Corridor is a flagship scholarship initiative of the Government of Pakistan designed to develop a highly qualified pool of human resource. Through this program, outstanding Pakistani students are supported in pursuing PhD studies at the top 100 QS world ranked U.S universities. Currently, the applications intake for Spring /Summer 2027 and Fall 2027 are open (**https://scholarship.hec.gov.pk/**). HEC requests to support dissemination of information regarding this scholarship opportunity.

2. By helping HEC to reach outstanding candidates from diverse backgrounds, Pakistan's brightest minds can gain access to exceptional academic opportunities in U.S, that will ultimately benefit country's higher education system and long-term national development. Aligned with the vision of Government of Pakistan, upon returning, graduates are expected to strengthen Pakistan's academic institutions, contribute to innovation, support evidence-based policymaking, and help uplift the country's scientific and technological capacity.

3- For queries, please reach out to Mr. Rao Muhammad Azhar, Project Director (maakhan@hec.gov.pk;)

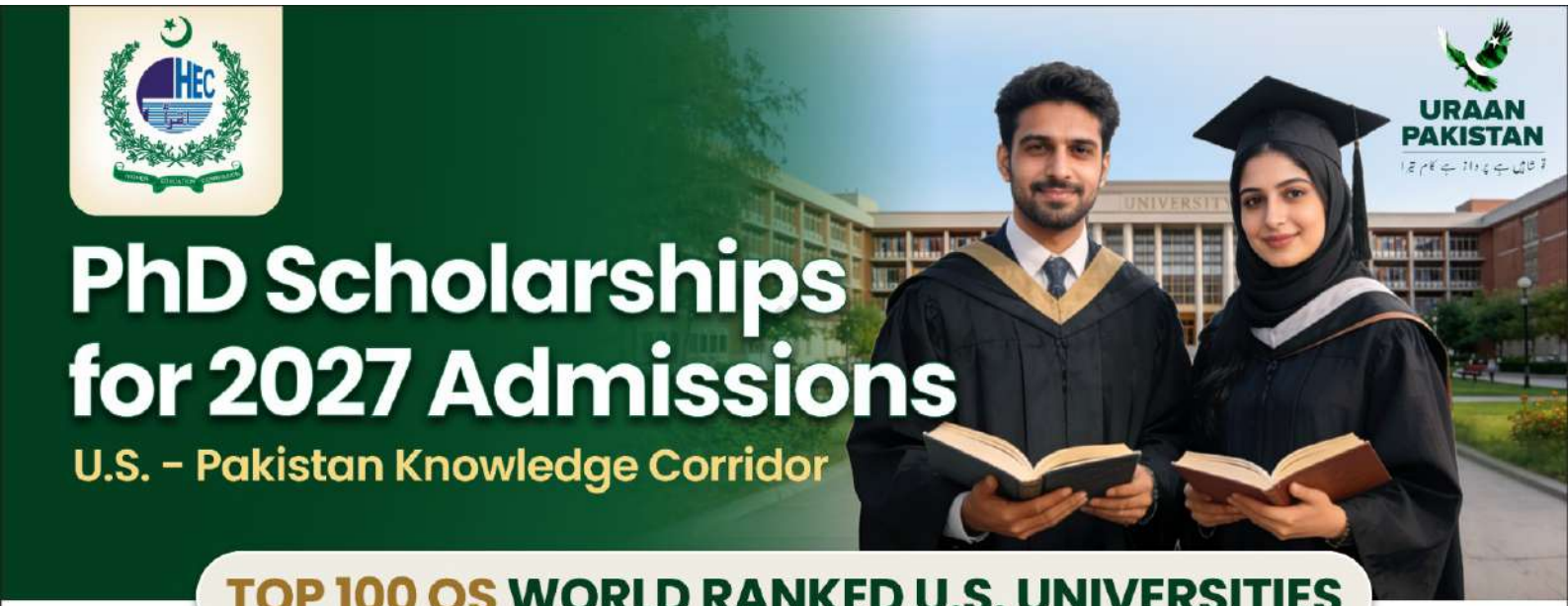
Yours sincerely,

Aayesha Ikram

(Aayesha Ikram)
Director General HRD/
Global Engagement

Cc

- The Secretaries, All Ministries and Divisions, Islamabad/Rawalpindi
- Chairman Federal Board of Revenue, Islamabad
- The Auditor General of Pakistan
- Director General, Civil Services Academy, Lahore
- Directorate of Public Instruction (Colleges), Punjab
- Director General Colleges, Sindh
- Higher Education Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
- Higher & Technical Education Department, Balochistan
- Directorate of Higher Education, Gilgit Baltistan
- Office Copy



PhD Scholarships for 2027 Admissions

U.S. – Pakistan Knowledge Corridor

TOP 100 QS WORLD RANKED U.S. UNIVERSITIES

- The scholarship is only for the PhD Program and does not include Masters/MS Leading to PhD.
- Preference shall be given to applicants having admission in preferred subject areas as mentioned on HEC website:
  http://www.hec.gov.pk/site/US-PAK-KCSA
- Applications for scholarship shall be submitted online through HEC scholarship portal at:
  https://scholarship.hec.gov.pk/

Applicants are strongly encouraged to secure university's funding to meet any differential amount if may occur.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

a. Pakistani/AJK nationals
b. Minimum 4 years Bachelor's degree (BS/BSc. /BE/16 years formal education)
c. No 2nd or 3rd Division in entire academic career for category – I & II scholarship.
d. Maximum age on the closing date shall not exceed:
   - 40 years in case of regular Government employees/regular faculty members of public sector universities & Government colleges/regular researchers of approved R&D organizations.
   - 35 years in all other cases.
e. Must not be availing any other scholarship.

SPECIFIC ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

CATEGORY I

TOP 50 QS WORLD RANKED US UNIVERSITIES OVERALL RANKING

- Tuition Fee as per University Invoice
- Stipend $19,200 per annum
- $2000 Health Insurance per annum

The prospective applicants must have:

- Secured admission in top 50 QS World Ranked US University
- Valid GRE – General Score (Minimum 300 in total) OR HEC HAT Score (Minimum 60%)

CATEGORY II

51-100 QS WORLD RANKED US UNIVERSITIES OVERALL

- A tuition fee of up to USD 12,000/- per annum
- Stipend $19,200 per annum
- $2000 Health Insurance per annum

The prospective applicants must have:

- Secured admission in top 51-100 QS World Ranked US University.
- Valid GRE – General Score (Minimum 300 in total) OR HAT Score (Minimum 60%).

SPRING/SUMMER 2027 INTAKE
30 OCTOBER 2026

FALL 2027 INTAKE
30 MARCH 2027

For more details, please visit HEC Website **www.hec.gov.pk/site/US-PAK-KC**

IMPORTANT NOTE

a. Applications for scholarships are invited from those prospective applicants who satisfy both general and specific eligibility criteria.
b. There will be no binding on HEC to provide scholarships to all selectees. HEC will select only best of the best among this lot on merit.
c. The latest QS Ranking (2027) shall apply. **www.topuniversities.com** website will be used as a reference for QS Ranking.
d. Applications must be submitted on the HEC online portal



Project Management Unit
US – Pakistan Knowledge Corridor

HRD Division, Higher Education Commission
Sector H – 8, Islamabad.

UAN: 051-111-119-432 &
0334-1119432

hec.gov.pk

PRIORITY SUBJECT AREAS

Following is the list of preferred subject areas/subjects in which scholarship under US – Pak Knowledge Corridor is offered effective Fall 2025, Spring/Summer 2026 and Fall 2026

S. No	Broad Subject Area	Specific Research Area
1	Life Sciences and Medicines	1. Crop Production, Soil and Environmental Sciences, Agricultural Biotechnology 2. Breeding, Nutrition, Reproduction, Health, Dairy Science, and Veterinary Biotechnology 3. Computational Biology and Bioinformatics 4. Medical Biotechnology 5. Cancer Biology 6. Pharmacology 7. Nanotechnology (Nano Medicines; application to cancer research) 8. Pharmacetuical Sciences 9. Biotechnology 10. Industrial Biotechnology
2	Natural Sciences	-
3	Engineering and Technology	1. Water Management and Sustainability 2. Sustainable Energy System Engineering 3. Urban Planning 4. Climate Change and Environmental Engineering 5. Bioengineering 6. Land and Water Resource Engineering 7. Agricultural Production Engineering. 8. Automotive Engineering 9. Metallurgical Engineering 10. Chemical Engineering 11. Software Engineering 12. Mining Engineering 13. Architecture Building and Planning 14. Computer Science and IT 15. AI/Robotics

4	**Social Sciences and Management**	1. Rural Development Studies 2. Urban Planning 3. Water Management and Sustainability 4. Sustainable Energy 5. Education 6. Public Policy
5	**Arts and Humanities**	1. Creative Art and Design

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Contact Information

Head Office, Sector H-9, East Service Road, Islamabad

Phone: UAN: (051) 111-119-432

Services & Facilities

Degree Attestation
Equivalence Certificate
Grievance Addressal
PM Laptop Scheme
Library & Utilities
Services for Students
Services for Faculty
Services for Universities

Scholarships & Funds

Foreign Scholarship
National Scholarship
Learning Opportunities
Support Program
Approved PhD Supervisors
Interim PhD Placement
International Research Support

Initiatives & Research

Research Grants
HEC Research Priority Areas
HEC Research Awards
HEC Recognized Journals
HEC Digital Library
Research for Innovation
Scientific Review Panels
Capacity Building Initiatives

Universities

Illegal and Legal
Accredited
Ranked
Recognised Campuses
Universities Statistics
Foreign Collaboration Institutes
Grievance Redressal Portal
Services for Universities

Privacy Policy
Terms & Conditions

APPROVED LIST OF PRIORITY AREAS OF STUDY

AUDIT PRIORITY AREAS:

➢ Forensic Auditing ➢ Environmental Auditing ➢ Project Auditing ➢ Privatization Auditing ➢ Energy Sector Auditing ➢ Water Resources Auditing ➢ Petroleum & Natural Resources Auditing	➢ Infrastructure/Civil Works Auditing ➢ Contracts/Procurement Auditing ➢ Gender Auditing ➢ Human Resource Auditing ➢ Performance Auditing ➢ Risk Based Auditing	➢ Disaster Management Program Auditing ➢ Audit of Grants & Subsidies ➢ Audit of Poverty Alleviation Programs ➢ Audit Planning, Strategy & Implementation ➢ Audit of Banks & Financial Institutions ➢ Audit of Commercial Entities

ACCOUNTS PRIORITY AREAS:

➢ Forensic Accounting ➢ Environmental Accounting	➢ Project Accounting ➢ Public Sector Financial Management	➢ Financial Management ➢ Accounting & Finance ➢ IPSAS

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PRIORITY AREAS:

➢ Information Systems ➢ Information Technology/E-Governance ➢ Data Science **	➢ Cyber Security ➢ Computer Forensics ➢ Artificial Intelligence**

GENERAL PRIORITY AREAS:

➢ Environmental Management ➢ Project Management ➢ Privatization ➢ Energy Sector Management/Engineering ➢ Water Resources Management/Engineering ➢ Petroleum & Natural Resources Management/Engineering ➢ Infrastructure/Civil Works Management/Engineering	➢ Contracts/Procurement Management ➢ Economic Development/Management ➢ Public Private Partnership ➢ Debt Management/Youth Loan ➢ Occupational Health & Safety ➢ Investment/Banking/Fund ➢ Certified Financial Analyst	➢ Public Policy Analysis ➢ Food Security/Safety ➢ Data Analysis/Big Data ➢ Disaster Management ➢ Human Resource Management* ➢ Law * ➢ Climate Change ***

***** **Discipline added as per approval of AGP vide Para. 35/n, Note P.10/N, File No. 367/HRM-I/Meeting Minutes/SSC/Vol-II, dated 16.11.2022**

****** **Discipline added as per approval of AGP vide Para. 29/n, Note P. 12/N, File No. 367/HRM-I/Meeting Minutes/SSC/Vol-V, dated 02.11.2023**

******* **Discipline added as per approval of AGP vide Para. 301/n, Note P. 73/N, File No. 368/Training Criteria/HRM-I, dated 28.03.2024**

Original Approval No. 248-HR/AUSAid/Vol-VII/C/319, Dated: 13 .11.2018