Graduate Admission & Funding Guide for International Students

1. What we do

Our group works on systems and architecture, and on co-optimization with application algorithms. Our current focus is **Agentic AI system optimization**, and students develop an (almost) full-stack understanding from hardware to application.

LLM inference acceleration is one example of the layers we work across:

- **Algorithm layer** — learn how model architectures evolve, and understand the full path from input tokens to output tokens
- **System layer** — break down the data and control flow of these computations and the software modules that implement them
- **Hardware layer** — trace how data and instructions move between compute, memory, and network units
- **Ultimate goal** — locate the bottleneck and optimize across layers

2. Funding is recommended

We welcome motivated international applicants, and we give priority to applicants who already hold a scholarship or are in the final stage of a scholarship application.

The following channels are fully funded and share the same terms: Master's (3 years) or PhD (4 years), Chinese or English, with tuition, a monthly stipend, insurance, and on-campus housing covered.

Channel	Application deadline
Channel A — Chinese Government Scholarship: High-Level Postgraduate Program (Type B)	**Around late February**
Channel B — SWJTU "Silk Road" Chinese Government Scholarship Program (Type B)	**Around early May**

Apply through the university portal (institution no. **10613**, program type **B**): **https://admission.swjtu.edu.cn**. Other scholarship channels also exist (for example, the SWJTU Presidential Scholarship, Chengdu sister-city scholarships, and MOFCOM); you are welcome to explore them independently.

3. How to express interest

If you would like to join our group, please email the supervisor in English with:

- a one-page CV, your transcripts, and your language test score
- a short research statement (up to one page) on your interest in AI systems
- your intended degree (Master's or PhD) and intended entry year

The supervisor can then provide a willingness-to-supervise statement to support your scholarship application.

4. Important notes

Funding decisions are made by the university's expert panel and the China Scholarship Council, so the supervisor cannot guarantee a scholarship. The deadlines above are indicative and refer to the 2026/27 cycle; applications for the following cycle usually open in December. Please check the official announcements of the SWJTU School of International Education for exact dates: https://sie.swjtu.edu.cn/tzgg.htm

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