

SCHEME OF 'POST-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP' FOR STUDENTS BELONGING TO THE MINORITY COMMUNITIES

1. BACKGROUND

The Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities was announced in June, 2006. It provides that a post-matric scholarship scheme for meritorious students from minority communities would be implemented.

2. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the scheme is to award scholarships to meritorious students belonging to economically weaker sections of minority community so as to provide them better opportunities for higher education, increase their rate of attainment in higher education and enhance their employability.

3. SCOPE

The scholarship is to be awarded for studies in India in a government or private higher secondary school/college/university, including such residential institutes of the Government and eligible private institutes selected and notified in a transparent manner by the State Government/Union Territory Administration concerned. It will also cover technical and vocational courses in Industrial Training Institutes/ Industrial Training Centres affiliated with the National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT) of classes XI and XII level including Polytechnics and other courses (any course of less than one year duration is not covered under this scheme; Certificate courses are also not covered).

4. ELIGIBILITY

Scholarship will be awarded to the students who have secured not less than 50% marks or equivalent grade in the previous final examination and the annual income of whose parents/guardians from all sources does not exceed Rs.2.00 lakh.

11. DISTRIBUTION

Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists, Jain and Zoroastrians (Parsis) have been notified as minority communities under Section 2 (c) of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992. A total of five (05) lakh scholarships are targeted to be distributed as 'Fresh' Scholarships, besides, Renewal scholarships. The distribution of scholarship among the States/Union Territories will be made on the basis of population of minorities in the States/Union Territories as per Census 2001 for 2017-18 and as per the population of minorities in the States/Union Territories of Census 2011 for 2018-19 and 2019-20 (as per Appendices- A & B).

6. EARMARKING

- i) 30% scholarship is earmarked for girls students of each minority community in a State/UT which is transferable to male students of that community in case of non-availability of female students in that community in the concerned State/UT. 30% is the floor and not the ceiling for eligible girl students.
- ii) If the physical target of scholarship for a particular minority community in a state/UT is not utilized, it will be distributed among the same minority

community in other States/UTs strictly in accordance with merit and without disturbing the national ratio. Any unutilized community quota shall be distributed amongst other communities again in accordance with merit and without affecting the overall national quota.

- iii) A student residing in a particular State/UT will be entitled for scholarship under the quota of that State/UT only irrespective of his/her place of study.

7. SELECTION PROCEDURE

Fresh - As the number of scholarships for minorities available in a year is fixed and limited, it is necessary to lay down preference for selection. Inter-se selection weightage is to be given to poverty rather than marks (the applicant is required to submit an income certificate as per para-11(ii)). In case of same income, merit shall be generated from 'Date of Birth' criteria of applicant (senior is preferred).

Renewal - There is no merit list generation for renewal cases. Renewal applicant will get the scholarship if one has obtained 50% in his/her previous year's examinations (at the same institute and in same course) and his/her application is verified by all authorities (as designated by Ministry of Minority Affairs) and approved by State Governments/UTs.

8. DURATION

The scholarships shall be provided for the entire course of the academic year. Maintenance allowance will be given as fixed lump sum amount in an academic year (as per para-9 below) for 2017-18 to 2019-20.

9. RATES OF SCHOLARSHIP

Actual financial assistance will be provided for admission & course /tuition fee and maintenance allowance as given below subject to a maximum ceiling indicated against item concerned for 2017-20. The details of the scheme interventions for 2017-18 to 2019-20 are as under:

(Amount in Rs.)

Item	Rate of Scholarship
Rate of Scholarship Admission + Tuition Fee	Admission and tuition fee Class XI & XII: Rs. 7,000/- per annum subject to actuals (both Hosteller & Day Scholar)
	Admission and course/tuition fee for technical and vocational courses of XI and XII level (Courses of one or more year of duration): Rs. 10,000/- per annum subject to actuals (both Hosteller & Day Scholar)
	Admission and tuition fee for UG & PG level: Rs. 3,000/- per annum subject to actuals (both Hosteller & Day Scholar)
Maintenance Allowance	For Class XI & XII including Tech. & Voc. Course*: Rs. 380/- per month for Hosteller & Rs. 230/- per month for Day Scholar

	For Courses other than Tech. & Prof. courses at UG & PG level*: Rs. 570/- per month for Hosteller & Rs. 300/- per month for Day Scholar
	For M.Phil & Ph.D.*: Rs. 1,200/- per month for Hosteller & Rs. 550/- per month for Day Scholar

* For 10 months in an academic year.

10. IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

The scheme is being implemented/funded by Ministry of Minority Affairs through the States/UT's Administration.

11. CONDITIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIP

- (i) Scholarship will be awarded to the students studying in Classes XI and XII including technical and vocational courses of this level including Polytechnics, ITIs, and other courses.
- (ii) An Income Certificate, issued from a Competent Authority in the State/UT Governments is required in respect of parent/guardian of the student.
- (iii) A Self-Certified Community Certificate is required from the student who has attained 18 years of age. For others the Community Certificate certified by parent/guardian of the student is required.
- (iv) The continuance of award (for Renewal applicants) will be subject to securing 50% marks in the previous year's examination (provided the students pursues the same course and same Institute/School).
- (v) Maintenance allowance will be provided to hostellers and day scholars.
- (vi) Scholarship will not be given to more than two students from a family (applicable for all Scholarship schemes meant for minorities under this Ministry taken together).
- (vii) Students should be regular in attendance for which the yardstick will be decided by the competent authority of the school.
- (viii) The school/institute will certify the claim of student of being an outstation student not residing in hostel of the school/institute concerned on the basis of permanent address and parents' address.
- (ix) Migration of students from one school/institute to another is not allowed for renewal applicants during the period of academic course.
- (x) If a student violates school discipline or any other terms and conditions of the scholarship, scholarship may be suspended or cancelled. The State Government/Union Territory Administration can also directly cancel the award if duly satisfied of the reasons of violation of these regulations governing the scheme:
- (xi) If a student is found to have obtained a scholarship by false statement, his/her scholarship will be cancelled forthwith and the amount of the scholarship paid will be recovered by the concerned State/UT Govt.
- (xii) The course/tuition fees and maintenance allowance will be credited to the student's account directly under Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode.
- (xiii) The student obtaining benefits under this scheme shall not be allowed to avail of benefits under any other scheme for this purpose.
- (xiv) **A student shall be eligible for only one scholarship out of all the available Scholarships of Central Government meant for SC/ST/OBC/ minority.**
- (xv) The amount of Administrative Expenses (@ 2%) for States/UTs in subsequent

- year shall be released after receiving the utilization certificate for the previous years.
- (xvi) The scheme will be evaluated at regular intervals by the Ministry or any other agency designated by the Ministry and the cost of the evaluation will be borne by the Ministry of Minority Affairs under the provision of the scheme.
 - (xvii) The State/Union Territory shall place all relevant details of financial and physical achievements on their website.
 - (xviii) The regulations can be changed at any time at the discretion of the Government of India.
 - (xix) It will be necessary for the eligible applicants to provide Aadhaar number while applying for the scholarship and in case, an individual does not possess Aadhaar one can provide the details of alternative identification documents, as stated in the Gazette Notification- S.O. No. 1284 (E) No. 1137, dated 21.04.2017 (as per Appendix-C).
 - (xx) Students who have entered Aadhaar in their online application correctly and Aadhaar seeded with any of their bank account, in such cases the amount of scholarship will be credited to Aadhaar seeded bank account only (though student has mentioned any other non-seeded bank account in online application).

12. ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

As the magnitude of data to be entered and processed would be enormous as the scheme gets implemented over the years, there would be a need to engage qualified skilled personnel right from the beginning to ensure that the data based computerized systems are operational. Qualified skilled personnel possessing requisite expertise to operate computer programme designed for this purpose, enter, process, analyse, monitor, retrieve and transfer data should be engaged on contract basis as per need. Data provided by the States/Union Territories will be maintained and managed by the Ministry with personnel of similar expertise to be engaged on contract basis.

A provision not exceeding 2% of the total budget will be made to meet the administrative and allied costs viz. expenditure of the States/Union Territories and the Ministry for office equipments including computers and accessories, furniture, printing of application forms, advertisements, engagement of personnel, etc. This provision will also be used for evaluation and monitoring of the scheme, through outside reputed institutions/agencies engaged by the Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India and the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

13. RENEWAL OF SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship, once awarded, may be renewed during the next academic year of the course on the production of certificate that the student has secured 50% marks in the previous year's examination (provided the students pursues the same course and same Institute/School).

14. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEME

The scheme will be announced by the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration well in time, through advertisements in the leading language newspapers and local dailies and by using other suitable publicity media.

15. MODE OF APPLYING

The scheme is implemented through the National Scholarship Portal (NSP). It is mandatory for all students to apply online on the website i.e. www.scholarships.gov.in.

16. PATTERN OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The scheme is Central Sector Scheme and 100% funding is provided by the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

17. MONITORING & TRANSPARENCY

The State/Union Territory shall maintain year-wise details of the students receiving scholarship, indicating school/institute, location of school/institute, government or private, class, gender, new or renewal, permanent address and parents' address. The States/ Union Territories shall place relevant physical and financial details in their official website

18. EVALUATION

The monitoring of the financial and physical performance of the scheme will be evaluated by assigning evaluation/impact studies to reputed institutions/agencies by the Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India.

19. INSTRUCTIONS RELATED TO BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS (to be filled by the students in online application form are as under):

- (i) Students must select their bank/branch name carefully from the drop down list.
- (ii) Thereafter the complete account no. must be entered correctly. Students are suggested to get their account number verified by their concerned Bank Branch including Bank account number and IFS Code.
- (iii) Disclaimer (*If bank details entered by students are found incorrect or not validated by the student's bank, the scholarship will be canceled/amount will not be transferred even though the application is approved for scholarship).
- (iv) Bank Account holders must check their 'Know your Customer' (KYC) status from bank and if required the KYC must be done for successful transaction of scholarship amount.
- (v) Bank Account must be operational/active till the scholarship is disbursed.
- (vi) Bank Account must be preferably in any scheduled Bank with core banking facility and proper IFS Code.
- (vii) Bank Account must be in the name of the student/applicant only.

20. MODIFICATION (if any, during 2017-18 to 2019-20)

Minor modifications, if any, in the scheme having no financial implications may be made by the Competent Authority in the Ministry of Minority Affairs without seeking recourse to SFC/EFC/Cabinet. However, Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure would be consulted.



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CENTRAL SECTOR SCHEME NATIONAL MEANS-CUM-MERIT
SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

1.0 The Scheme:

- 1.1 Under this scheme, 100,000 scholarships are awarded to the gifted or meritorious students whose parental income is not more than Rs. 1,50,000/- per annum from all sources. Each State /UT have fixed quota of scholarship as given at Annexure of concerned age group of class VII and VIII. The scheme would provide reservation to different categories of students as per the State/UT norms; as different States/UTs have their own norms of reservation.
- 1.2 These scholarships will be provided on yearly basis to the students studying as regular students in class IX in a Government, Government-aided and local body schools which will be renewed for classes X, XI and XII. Thus the scholarships will be for a maximum period of four years.
- 1.3 The amount of scholarship will be Rs. 12000/- per annum @ Rs. 1000 per month.
- 1.4 A separate examination shall be conducted by the State Governments/UT Administrations for selection of students for the award of the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarships in the States/UTs.

2.0 Procedure for Selection of Awardee Students:

- 2.1 Each State/UT will conduct its own test for selection of students for the award of the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship. The State Level Examination may consist of the following two tests:
 - (i) Mental Ability Test (MAT)
 - (ii) Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)
- 2.2 The students shall have minimum of 55 % marks or equivalent grade in Class VII examination for appearing in selection test for award of scholarship (relax able by 5% for SC/ST students). The students should be studying as regular student in a Government, Government-aided and local body schools.
- 2.3 **Mental Ability Test** may consist of 90 multiple-choice questions testing verbal and non-verbal meta-cognitive abilities like reasoning and critical thinking. The questions in the test may be on analogy, classification, numerical series, pattern perception, hidden figure etc.
- 2.4 **Scholastic Aptitude Test** may consist of 90 multiple-choice questions covering subjects namely, science, social studies and mathematics as taught in classes VII and VIII.

2.5 **Duration of the Test**

Each test will be of 90 minutes duration. Children with disability will be given extra time, as applicable.

3.0 **Declaration of Results**

3.1 For selecting the students, the following conditions may apply:

- (i) The students must pass both the tests i.e. MAT and SAT with at least 40 % marks in aggregate taken together for these two tests. For the SC/ST students, this cut off will be 32% marks.
- (ii) At the time of selection for the award of scholarship the student must have scored at least 55% mark or equivalent grade in Class VIII examination. There will be 5 % relaxation for SC/ST students.
- (iii) The awardees should satisfy the eligibilities and the conditions mentioned in the scheme.

4.0 **Disbursement of Scholarships**

- 4.1 A student can avail only one Scholarship under any scheme.
- 4.2 The awardees will be required to open bank accounts preferably in SBI, or any public sector bank or any scheduled bank which has core banking facility.
- 4.3 The State Governments / UT Administrations shall normally send the proposals/ list of beneficiaries on-line on the Scholarship Portal. The Ministry will scrutinize the proposal and sanction funds from Annual Budget Provision for releasing them to SBI, the implementing bank for scheme for disbursal of scholarships to students directly into their bank accounts by electronic transfer.
- 4.4 The awardees should get minimum of 55% marks in Class IX and XI and 60% in Class X for continuance of scholarship (relaxable by 5% for SC/ST candidates) in next higher classes.
- 4.5 SBI will ensure that the scholarship is paid to awardees in one go (Rs. 12000) immediately after getting the funds and the lists from the Ministry.
- 4.6 SBI will instruct some of its branches to coordinate with the State Education Department in connection with the payment of scholarships.

5. **General Eligibility Conditions**

5.1 An awardee is eligible for the scholarship provided he/she:

- i. takes up studies in approved courses.

- ii. maintains good conduct as certified by the Head of the College/Institution and continues his/her studies as a regular student in a Government/Government-aided /Local Body school.
 - iii. does not absent himself/herself without proper leave.
 - iv. takes up studies on a whole time basis.
 - v. does not take up any job.
- 5.2 No scholarship shall be available for studies abroad for any course.
- 5.3 No claim for scholarship arrears will be entertained after the expiry of 12 months of the academic session for which one has applied for the claim.
- 5.4 In case any awardee leaves his/her course of study within one month of registration/admission, no scholarship shall be paid to him/her.
- 5.5 In case awardee is not able to appear at the annual examination due to serious illness, one should send the medical certificate through the Head of the Institution within three months of one's falling ill. The duration of illness should be clearly certified by a specialist, who is a Registered Medical Practitioner. The facility will be available to the awardee to continue the same course in which one is studying provided the principal or the head of the institution certifies that the overall performance of the awardee during the year is 50% or above.
- 5.6 The awardee must join the next class/desired course within 3 months of the declaration of the result of the previous class/course.
- 5.7 Scholarship shall be deemed to be discontinued with any gap of one academic session in studies at any time due to any reason.
- 5.8 Scholarship once discontinued on the basis of the rules of disbursement of scholarship cannot be revived under any circumstances.
- 5.9 All rules are subject to change from time to time, as and when required, which will be binding on all awardees.
- 6.0 **Eligibility and other conditions for starting and continuing of Scholarship at Secondary and Higher Secondary Stage**
- 6.1 The awardees should get clear promotion from class VIII to Class IX for being eligible for starting the scholarship.
- 6.2 The scholarship at the secondary and higher secondary stage or equivalent classes IX to XII is payable for a maximum period of four years for studies in India only.
- 6.3 No scholarship at this stage is payable for studying diploma/certificate level courses.
- 6.4 For continuing the scholarship in class X and XII, the awardees should get clear promotion from class IX to class X and from class XI to class XII in the first attempt with 55% marks (relaxable by 5% for SC/ST students)



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- 6.5 The awardees must obtain a minimum of 60 per cent marks in Class X (relaxable by 5% for SC/ST students) examination or equivalent examination for continuation of the scholarship at higher secondary stage.
- 6.6 In case an institution/school does not conduct an examination at the end of Class IX and / or Class XI, the scholarship for the second year will be continued on the submission of a certificate to this effect from the Head of the Institution/School.
- 7.0 The scheme will be further in operation beyond March 2017 from the financial year 2017-18 and the selection test for the awarded of scholarship will be conducted for Class IX students in November every year as a separate test by the State Governments/UT Administrations.
- 8.0 A Technical Support Group (TSG) consisting of Consultants / support staff etc. may be constituted for assisting in effective implementation and monitoring of the scheme.
- 9.0 The scheme will be monitored in the Department at regular intervals with the concerned Stake holders.
- 10.0 The scheme may be reviewed after three years.

Eligibility and other conditions for starting and extension of Scholarship at Secondary and Higher Secondary Stage

6.1 The awardees should get their promotion from class VIII to Class IX for being eligible for starting the scholarship.

6.2 The scholarship at the secondary and higher secondary stage or equivalent class IX to XII is payable for a maximum period of four years for students in India only.

6.3 The scholarship at this stage is payable for study of diploma/certificate level courses.

6.4 For continuing the scholarship at class X and XII, the awardees should get their promotion from class IX to class X and from class XI to class XII in the following manner: marks (relaxable by 5% for SC/ST students)

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