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CENTRALLY-SPONSORED  
SCHEME OF  
POST MATRIC SCHOLARSHIPS  
FOR TRANSGENDER STUDENTS  
(XIth and above)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE &  
EMPOWERMENT

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CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEME OF POST MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP  
FOR TRANSGENDER STUDENTS FOR STUDIES IN INDIA

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## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

### MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWEMENT

#### SCHEME OF POST MATRIC SCHOLARSHIPS FOR TRANSGENDER STUDENTS FOR STUDIES IN INDIA

#### 1. BACKGROUND

Article 14 guarantees to all persons equality before law. Article 19(1) ensures for all citizens freedom of speech by expression. Article 21 guarantees life of dignity to all persons. Article 15(1), 15(2), and 16(2) in express terms prohibit discrimination on the ground of sex. In view of above, education is common to all which is to be made available to persons of all genders including transgender persons. Hence, educational scholarship to transgender students who are living in different parts of the country has been planned.

#### II. Objective

The objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to the Transgender students studying at post matriculation or post-secondary stage to enable them to complete their education.

#### III. Scope

These scholarships are available for studies in India only and are awarded by State Governments /Union Territories where the applicant is studying.

#### IV. Conditions of Eligibility

- i. The scholarships are open to nationals of India.
- ii. These scholarships will be given for the study of all recognized post-matriculation or post-secondary courses pursued in recognized institutions with the **following exceptions:**  
  
"Scholarships are not awarded for training courses like Aircraft Maintenance Engineer's Courses and Private Pilot license Courses. Courses at Training - Ship Dufferin (Now Rajendra), courses of training at the Military College, Dehradun, courses at Pre-examination Training Centres of all India and State levels."
- iii. Only those candidates, who are transgender and who have passed the Matriculation or Higher Secondary or any higher examination of a recognised University or Board of Secondary Education, will be eligible.
- iv. Candidates who after passing one stage of education are studying in the same stage of education in different subject e.g. I.Sc. after I.A. or B.Com. after B.A. or M.A. in other subject will not be eligible.

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- v. Students who, after having completed their educational career in one professional line, e.g. L.L.B. after B.T./B.Ed. will not be eligible.
  - vi. Students studying in Class XI of the Higher Secondary School courses of the XII Class of the Multipurpose High School will not be eligible for it being a continuous school course. However, in cases where X<sup>th</sup> class examination of such courses is treated as equivalent to Matriculation and students who after passing X<sup>th</sup> class join other courses, such students will be treated as post-matric students and will be eligible for the award of scholarships.
  - vii. Students pursuing Post Graduate courses in medicine will be eligible if they are not allowed to practice during the period of their course.
  - viii. Students who after failing or passing the under graduate/post-graduate examinations in Arts/Science/Commerce join any recognised professional or Technical certificate/diploma/degree courses will be awarded scholarships if otherwise eligible. No subsequent failure will be condoned except courses in Group 'I'.
  - ix. Students who pursue their studies through correspondence courses are also eligible. The term correspondence includes distant and continuing education.
  - x. Employed students whose income combined with the income of their parents/guardians does not exceed the maximum prescribed income ceiling are made eligible to post-matric scholarships to the extent of reimbursement of all compulsorily payable non-refundable fees.
  - xi. All children of the same parents/guardians will be entitled to receive benefits of the scheme.
  - xii. A scholarship holder under this scheme will not hold any other scholarship/stipend. If awarded any other scholarship/stipend, the student can exercise his/her option for either of the two scholarships/stipends, whichever is more beneficial to him/her and should inform the awarding authority through the Head of the Institution about the option made. No scholarship will be paid to the student under this scheme from the date he/she accepts another scholarship/stipend. The student can however, accept free lodging or a grant or adhoc monetary help from the State Government or any other source for the purchase of books, equipment or for meeting the expenses on board and lodging in addition to the scholarship amount paid under this scheme.
  - xiii. Scholarship holders who are receiving coaching in any of the pre-examination training centres with financial assistance from the Central Government/ State Government will not be eligible for stipend under the coaching schemes for the duration of the coaching programme.

**Note 1:** It is mentioned under the item IV (conditions of eligibility) of this scheme that the scholarship will be given for the study of all recognised post-matriculation or post-secondary courses pursued in recognised institutions, the list of courses grouped (I to IV) below is only illustrative and not exhaustive. The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations are themselves competent to decide the appropriate grouping of courses at their level.

## V. Annual Parental/Guardian's Income

**Scholarships will be paid to the students whose parents'/guardians' annual income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 2,50,000/- (Rupees Two lacs fifty thousand only).**

**Note 1:** So long as either of the parents is alive, only income of the parents, as the case may be, from all sources has to be taken into account only and of no other member even though they may be earning. In the form of income declaration, income is to be declared on this basis. Only in the case where both the parents (or husband in the case of married but unemployed girl student) have died, the income of the guardian who is supporting the student in his/her studies has to be taken. Such students whose parent's income is affected due to unfortunate death of one of earning parents and resultantly comes within the income ceiling prescribed under the scheme, shall become eligible for scholarship, subject to their fulfilling other conditions of eligibility, from the month in which such sad incident takes place.

Applications for scholarships from such students can be considered even after lapse of the last date of receipt of applications, on compassionate grounds.

**Note 2:** House rent allowance received by the parents of a student shall be exempted from the computation of 'income' if the same has been permitted to be exempted for the purpose of Income tax.

**Note 3:** Income certificate is required to be taken once only i.e. at the time of admission to courses which are continuing for more than one year.

**Note 4:** Income Ceiling would be revised once in every two years linking it with Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers for the month of October of the year, preceding the year of revision and will be made effective from April.

### VI. Value of Scholarship

The value of scholarship includes the following for complete duration of the course:-

- i. maintenance allowance,
  - ii. reimbursement of compulsory non-refundable fees,
- (i) The maintenance allowance for hostellers and day scholars **per month** will be as follows :

Item	Day Scholars	Hostellers
The study of all recognized post-matriculation or post-secondary courses in recognized institutions in India only (list mentioned in group I to IV below is only illustrative, not exhaustive)	550	1200

#### Groups

<p><b>Group I</b></p> <p>(i) Degree and Post Graduate level courses in Medicine (Allopathic, Indian and other recognized systems of medicines), Engineering, Technology, Planning, Architecture, Design, Fashion Technology, Agriculture, Veterinary &amp; Allied Sciences, Management, Business Finance /Administration, Computer Science/ Applications.</p> <p>(ii) Commercial Pilot License (including helicopter pilot and multiengine rating) course.</p>
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- (iii) Post Graduate Diploma courses in various branches of management & medicine.  
(iv) C.A./I.C.W.A./C.S./I.C.F.A. etc.  
(v) M. Phil., Ph.D. and Post Doctoral Programmes (D. Litt., D.Sc. etc.), Group I, Group II and Group III courses  
(vi) L.L.M.

### **Group II**

- (i) Professional Courses leading to Degree, Diploma, Certificate in areas like Pharmacy (B Pharma), Nursing (B Nursing), LLB, BFS, other para-medical branches like rehabilitation, diagnostics etc., Mass Communication, Hotel Management & Catering, Travel/Tourism/Hospitality Management, Interior Decoration, Nutrition & Dietetics, Commercial Art, Financial Services (e.g. Banking, Insurance, Taxation etc.) for which entrance qualification is minimum Sr. Secondary(10+2).  
(ii) Post Graduate courses not covered under Group I eg. MA/M Sc/M.Com/M Ed./M. Pharma etc.

### **Group III**

All other courses leading to a graduate degree not covered under Group I & II eg. BA/B Sc/B Com etc.

### **Group IV**

All post-matriculation level non-degree courses for which entrance qualification is High School (Class X), e.g. senior secondary certificate (class XI and XII); both general and vocational stream, ITI courses, 3 year diploma courses in Polytechnics, etc.

**Note 1:** Normally the term 'Hostel' is applicable to a common residential building and a common mess for the students run under the supervision of the educational institution authorities. In case the college authorities are unable to provide accommodation in the college Hostel, an approved place of residence can also be treated as Hostel for the purpose of this scheme. The place will be approved by the Head of the Institution after due inspection and keeping in view the rules and regulations laid down by the University, if any. In such a case, a certificate to the effect that the student is residing in an approved place of residence, as he is unable to get accommodation in the college hostel should be furnished by the Head of the Institution.

It is further clarified that such deemed hostels should consist of such accommodation as is hired at least by a group of 5(five) students living together, usually with common mess arrangements.

### **(ii) Reimbursement of compulsory non-refundable Fees**

Scholars will be paid enrolment/registration, tuition, games, Union, Library, Magazine, Medical Examination and such other fees compulsorily payable by the scholar to the institution or University/Board. Refundable deposits like caution money, security deposit will, however, be excluded.

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**Note :** Compulsory non-refundable fee charged by recognised institutions against free and paid seats of recognised courses can be fully reimbursed as per the fee structure approved by the competent State/Central Government authority. However, while sanctioning scholarship against paid seats, State Governments should make the income verification compulsory.

## VII. Selection of Candidates

- i. All the eligible Transgender candidates will be given scholarships subject to eligibility conditions as mentioned in para IV and V above.
- ii. Candidates belonging to one State but studying in other State will be awarded scholarships by the State/UT in which they are studying.

## VIII. Duration and Renewal of Awards

- i. The award once made will be tenable from the stage at which it is given to the completion of course subject to good conduct and regularity in attendance. It will be renewed from year to year provided that within a course which is continuous for a number of years, the scholar secures promotion to the next higher class irrespective of the fact whether such examinations are conducted by a University or the Institution.
- ii. If a transgender scholar pursuing any of the Group I courses fails in the examination for the first time, the award may be renewed. For second and subsequent failure in any class, the student shall bear his/her own expenses until he/she secures promotion to the next higher class.
- iii. If a transgender scholar is unable to appear in the annual examination owing to illness and or on account of any other unforeseeable event, the award may be renewed for the next academic year on submission of medical certificate and/or other required sufficient proof to the satisfaction of the Head of the Institution and his/her certifying that the scholar would have passed had he appeared in the examination.
- iv. If according to the Regulations of a University/Institution, a transgender student is promoted to the next higher class even though he/she may not have actually passed in lower class and is required to take examination of the junior class again after sometime, he/she will be entitled to scholarship for the class to which he/she is promoted if the student is otherwise eligible for scholarship.

## IX. Payment

- i. Maintenance allowance is payable from 1<sup>st</sup> April or from the month of admission, whichever is later, to the month in which the examinations are completed, at the end of the academic year (including maintenance allowance during holidays), provided that if the transgender scholar secures admission after the 20th day of a month, the amount will be paid from the month following the month of admission.
- ii. In case of renewal of scholarships awarded in the previous years, maintenance allowance will be paid from the month following the month upto which scholarship was paid in the previous year, if the course of study is continuous.
- iii. The State Government /Union Territory Administration, where the students are studying, in accordance with the procedure laid down by them in this regard, will pay the scholarship money to the selected students.
- iv. Scholarship will not be paid for the period of internship/housemanship in the M.B.B.S. course or for a practical training in other course if the student is in receipt of some remuneration

during the internship period or some allowance/stipend during the practical training in other course.

## **X. MODE OF DISBURSAL OF SCHOLARSHIP**

In order to ensure timely payment of scholarship amount to the transgender beneficiaries, the State Government/UT administrations are requested to avoid cash payment of scholarship amount and are required to issue instructions to all concerned that payment of scholarship should be made to transgender beneficiaries through their accounts in post offices/banks.

## **XI. Other Conditions for the Award**

- i. The scholarship is dependent on the satisfactory progress and conduct of the scholar. If it is reported by the Head of the Institution at any time that a scholar has by reasons of his/her own act of default failed to make satisfactory progress or has been guilty of misconduct such as resorting to or participating in strikes, irregularity in attendance without the permission of the authorities concerned etc., the authority sanctioning the scholarship may either cancel the scholarships or stop or withhold further payment for such period as it may think fit.
- ii. If a transgender student is found to have obtained a scholarship by false statements, his/her scholarship will be cancelled forthwith and the amount of the scholarship paid will be recovered, at the discretion of the concerned State Government/UT. The transgender student concerned will be blacklisted and debarred for scholarship in any scheme forever.
- iii. A scholarship awarded may be cancelled if the scholar changes the subject of the course of study for which the scholarship was originally awarded or changes the Institution of study, without prior approval of the State Government/UT. The Head of the Institution shall report such cases to them and stop payment of the scholarship money. The amount already paid may also be recovered at the discretion of the concerned State Government/UT.
- iv. A transgender scholar is liable to refund the scholarship amount at the discretion of the State Government, if during the course of the year, the studies for which the scholarship has been awarded, is discontinued by the transgender person.
- v. The provisions of this scheme can be changed at anytime at the discretion of the Government of India.

## **XII. Announcement of the Scheme**

All the State Governments/UT Administrations will announce in May-June, the details of the scheme and invite applications by issuing an advertisement in the leading newspapers of the State and through their respective websites and other media outfits. All requests for application forms and other particulars should be addressed to the State Government/Union Territory Administration in which the transgender scholars are studying. The applicant should submit the completed application to the prescribed authority before the last date prescribed for receipt of applications.

## **XIII. Procedure for Applying**

- i. An application for scholarship should comprise:
  - a. One copy of the application for scholarship in the prescribed form (separate application forms should be prescribed for 'fresh' cases and renewal of scholarship by the concerned States/UTs).

- b. One copy of the passport size photograph with signatures of the transgender student thereon (for fresh scholarship).
- c. One attested copy of certificates, diploma, degree etc. in respect of all examinations passed.
- d. A self declaration by the transgender candidate that he/she is a transgender person if he/she is 18 years or above, or a declaration by the transgender person's parents/guardians if the student is below 18 years of age.
- e. An income declaration by the self-employed parents/guardians, stating definite income from all sources by way of an affidavit on non-judicial stamp paper. Employed parents/guardians are required to obtain income certificate from their employer and for any additional income from other sources, they would furnish declaration by way of an affidavit on non-judicial stamp paper.
- f. A receipt in acknowledgement of the scholarship in the previous year on the form attached to the application only duly counter-signed by the Head of the Institution concerned, if the application was in receipt of a scholarship under this scheme in the preceding year.
- ii. Application complete in all respects shall be submitted to the Head of the Institution, being attended or last attended by the candidates and shall be addressed to an officer specified for this purpose by the Government of State/Union Territory where the student is studying, in accordance with the instructions issued by them from time to time.

#### **XIV. Funding Pattern of the Scheme**

The Scheme is implemented by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, which will receive 75% central assistance from Government of India for the total expenditure under the scheme. The remaining 25% is to be borne by concerned States/UTs. Hence, they are required to make provision in their own budget. The Central Government will release 50% of the Central share on allocation of the budget in a beginning of the financial year and the remaining 50% (after taking into account unspent balance, if any) will be released on receipt of proposal from States/UTs and utilization certificate of the assistance provided in the previous Financial Year.

All the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations implementing the scheme will:

- i. Furnish data of beneficiaries and expenditure under the scheme, to the Government of India, regularly in the half yearly Reports. Financial assistance given under the scheme shall not be utilized for any other purpose.
- ii. Designate Grievance Redressal Officers (GROs) at the State and District levels to redress transgender students' scholarship-related grievances.